



Celebration of Worship on the Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday in Advent
Lessons and Carols
December 23, 2018

**Congregation Sings
† Congregation Stands

Westminster Peal

Prelude "First Noel" arr. by Steve Calderone

Welcome and Church Family Life Rev. Susan Haynes

Introit "Up Good Christen Folk and Sing" by G. R. Woodward

† **Gathering as the Children of God - Lighting of Advent Wreath**
Wendy, Bruce, and Hannah Hagenau

Draw Near to Peace by Sarah Are

One: I used to think love was a feeling.

All: That was before I knew that love is a fire – unquenchable and bright.

One: That was before I knew that love is a river – forging paths where none have gone before.

All: That was before I knew that love is a song – etching its melody into my memory.

One: I used to think that I had to find love for it to find me.

All: But that was before I knew that love is that which breathes us into beginning. That was before I knew that love had already found me, never letting me go.

One: Friends, today we light the candle of love as a reminder that it is from love that we are made,

All: It is in love that we are raised, and it is for love that we are sent.

One: You were made from love to be love, to give love.

All: We draw near to God because God, who is love, has and will always draw near to us. Amen.

†**"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (see insert) arr. David Willcocks

Prayer

Lesson 1 – Genesis 3:1-15 - Humanity enters into sin

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

E.H. Sears, ad. Arthur Sullivan

Lesson 2 – Genesis 17:1-8; 15-16 – God's promise to Abraham and Sarah

"Carol for Advent" in Carols for Two book p. 9

by Don Besig and Nancy Price
Patricia Caya and Julius Perkins, Soloists

Lesson 3 – Isaiah 9:2-7 – An Heir of David

"Unto Us is Born a Son"

G.R. Woodward, arr. David Willcocks

Lesson 4 – Micah 5:2-5a – Christ's birth in Bethlehem foretold

***"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (see insert)*

Phillips Brooks, Lewis Redner

Lesson 5 – Luke 1: 26-38 – Gabriel visits Mary

"Lute-Book Lullaby"

W. Ballet, arr. Geoffrey Shaw

Lesson 6 – Matthew 1:18-25 – Gabriel appears to Joseph

"O Come Holy Savior"

Anna Laura Page
Amy Kiley and Matthias Young, Soloists

Lesson 7 – Luke 2:8-20 – Shepherds go to the manger

***"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" (see insert)*

Nahum Tate, Este's Psalter 1592

Lesson 8 – Matthew 2:1-12 - Wise men led to Jesus by a star

"As With Gladness Men of Old"

W. Chatterton Dix, C. Kocher, arr. David Willcocks

Lesson 9 – John 1:1-5; 10-14; 16-18 – God's Word made known to us

Offertory

"Silent Night"

by Dave Brubeck

† **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

†** *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* (see insert)

C. Wesley, T. Whitefield, M. Madan, F. Mendelssohn, arr. David Willcocks

† **Benediction**

Rev. Haynes

† **Postlude**

"Good King Wenceslas"

arr. by Steve Calderone



MVPC Mission Statement
Blessed to Be a Blessing



We are a Presbyterian church filled with love and energy – an inclusive congregation committed to spiritual growth through *worship, study, fellowship, and service.*

- As **children of God**, we seek to *praise* God in worship and in all that we say and do
- As **disciples of Jesus Christ**, we *listen* to scripture, tradition, one another, and the world in order to understand God’s will for us as individuals and as a community
- As **members of a family of faith**, we strive to *love* one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles
- **Moved by the Spirit**, we *serve* our gracious God by taking that with which we have been blessed and turning it into blessings for others.

Financial Update

	Week of 12/10 - 12/16	Year to Date 2018	2018 Budget
Member Giving	\$58,030	\$645,778	\$695, 545
Loose Offering	\$144	\$4,828	\$7,000
Total	\$58,174	\$650,606	\$702, 545



Giving to MVPC is easy online
<http://mvpchurch.org/index.php/donate/>

MVPC Staff

Rev. Susan Haynes, Interim Pastor
 TJ Shirley, Minister of Worship & Arts
 Elizabeth Small, Dir. of Youth Ministry
 Rev. Ricardo Green, Pastor of Spanish Ministries
 Won-Hee An, Organist

Steve Ray, Church Finance & Operations
 Jill Thompson, Administrative Assistant
 Yvonne White, Financial Secretary
 Lauren McClintock, Communications & Membership Coord.
 Mike Gillespie, Director of Christian Education