

The First Presbyterian Church *in the City of New York*

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Service for the Lord's Day

January 2nd, 2022 | 11:00 a.m.

The Session and members of First Church extend a sincere welcome to all persons regardless of race, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services, and service as an officer of the church.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“What Child Is This”
“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

arr. Richard Purvis
arr. Norah Duncan IV

PEALING OF THE CHRISTMAS BELLS

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O come, let us sing to the Lord
and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving,
singing joyful songs of praise.

HYMN 143

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

REGENT SQUARE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide,
and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us
a consuming fire of judgment.

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more
in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE: HYMN 136 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

GO TELL IT

SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

SOLO

John Jacob Niles

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die for poor ordinary people like you and like I. I wonder as I wander, out under the sky. When Mary birthed Jesus, all in a cow's stall, with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all. But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall; the promise of the ages it then did recall. If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing; a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing. Or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing, He surely could have had it, because he was the king. -John Jacob Niles

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 31:7-14

For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

SERMON

“Spot the Difference” Hannah Faye Allred, M.Div.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

Morten Lauridsen

O great mystery and wondrous sacrament, that animals should see the new-born Lord lying
in their Manger! Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

-Responsory for Matins on Christmas Day; sung in Latin

RESPONSE

OLD HUNDERETH



Traditional Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Him, all crea - tures

Inclusive Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple



here be - low; praise Him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host;

here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;



praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

COMMUNION

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

**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.**

Words of Institution

Sharing the Elements

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

HYMN 673

“Jesus, Light of Joy”

LAUDA ANIMA

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Grand Chœur”

César Franck

LEADING THIS MORNING

Hannah Faye Allred, M.Div., *Staff Associate for Mission and Social Justice*

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*

Margaret McGovern, *soloist*

Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

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