

Welcome to
PALMA CEIA
Presbyterian Church



Traditional Service

Sunday, December 15, 2024 | 8:30 & 11:00 AM

The Third Sunday in Advent

GATHERING

Prelude: “Noel”

Daquin

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Congregational Concerns and Joys

Introit: “Alleluia” *From Cantata, Unto Us a Child is Born*

Bach

Call To Worship: (Isaiah 12:2-6)

L: On the third Sunday in Advent the church around the world gathers looking and listening for joy.

P: **The scriptures promise that God is bringing forth joy, and that we see that best in Jesus Christ, born in Bethlehem.** (The Joy candle is lit).

L: “Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid, for the LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say on that day:

P: **‘Give thanks to the LORD; call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.’”**

All: **Come Lord Jesus, come with joy! We are watching and waiting for you.**

Invocation

Hymn #23: “Angels We Have Heard On High” (verses 1-2)

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo; Gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the glad tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo; Gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

Prayer of Confession

God of Advent, God of all time, God of each season in our lives, because you are the Holy One, you know our journeys. Holy one, you know who you have called us to be, and who we have been. You know the truth. We lift our hearts in honest confession to you (silent prayer...). Have mercy on us for the sake of Jesus Christ. Help us follow your call to forgive others even as we are forgiven. Especially help us to do that in this Christmas journey. (silent prayer...). Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Greeting One Another in the Peace of Jesus Christ

Act of Praise: “Angels We Have Heard On High” (verse 3)

*Come to Bethlehem and see, Him whose birth the angels sing,
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Sacrament of Baptism: (11:00 AM)

John Whorley Palmer, son of Drew Palmer & Bri Anne McKeon Palmer

Time with the Children

Children of all ages are invited to the chancel steps. As the children come forward, the congregation may join in singing "Away in a Manger," Hymn #24: *Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.* Following the Children's Message, children Pre-K3-1st grade may be accompanied by a parent/guardian to the Godly Play room. Children 2nd grade and older are invited to remain in the sanctuary. There is also a staffed nursery on the first floor of Eastminster. As the children leave, the congregation may join in singing the 2nd verse: *The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes, But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, And stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

Junior Choir: (11:00 AM) "Sing Noel"

Sleeth

Mission Celebration: The Joy Gift Offering - Beth-El Farmworker Ministry

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: "In Dulci Jubilo"

Old German melody, Pearsall

Scripture Lesson: Hebrews 1:2-7, 14; 13:2

²But in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." ⁷Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds and his servants flames of fire."...¹⁴Are not all angels spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation? ^{13:2}Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Sermon: "Angels"

Rev. Dr. John T. DeBevoise

Preparation For Prayer: "What Child is This?"

English melody, Arr. Hopson

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Declaration 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.

SENDING

Hymn #22: “Angels, From The Realm of Glory”

Charge and Benediction: (Philippians 4:4-7)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.
Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving
let your requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Benediction Response: “Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel”

Veni Creator

Postlude: “Joy to the World”

Antioch

The Poinsettias in the courtyard are dedicated to the glory of God and are given in loving memory of Beverly Farrior by Jay, Christie, Thomas, and Mary-Evelyn Farrior.

The Isaiah passage used in the Call to Worship is the Old Testament lectionary reading today, and the Benediction is the Epistle lectionary reading. The Gospel reading is a reading for this Advent season.

Worship Participants

Pastors: Reverends John DeBevoise and John Reiter; Nancy Callahan, Music Director; Chancel Choir; Junior Choir; Ashley Greenfield, Asst. Director; Allison Kelly & Anna Shuford, Children’s Ministry; Susan Peacock, Chief Usher; Bert Chamorro, Beadle; Jackson Fowler, Beth DeBevoise, and Scott Wilson, Livestreamers.

