

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF SENDING #158 "Blessed Be the God of Israel"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #191 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (verse 3)

**For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
when, with the ever-circling years, shall come the time fore-told,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

*POSTLUDE "My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord"

Jean Francois D'Andrieu



**Prayers by Rev. Debra Avery, First Presbyterian Church, Oakland CA.
Sung response text by David Wood (copyright © 2012)

WELCOME VISITOR! We are delighted that you are here to share worship of our Lord Jesus this morning together with the rest of us. We want you to be well informed about the Christian faith and about the church so don't be afraid to ask. You may communicate with us in several ways. Ask a neighbor in your pew, fill out a blue first-time visitor card, add your name to the Ritual of Friendship pad and by all means do not hesitate to contact our pastor. May God bless you this morning and throughout the week.

Rev. Betsy Turner, Interim Pastor
Dorothy Clark, Organist
Tom Francis, Custodian Emeritus

Ward Gailey, Music Director
Linda Hodges, Office Manager
Nursery, Suzie Wharton & Allie Dunn

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018
11:00 a.m.



*"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill
be made low; the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together."
Luke 3:3-5*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices.)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

CHIMING THE TRINITY

PRELUDE "Carol of the Birds"

Catalonian carol, arr. Alice Jordan

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Arlene Lathrop

Please use this time for silent meditation and preparation for worship. Prayer cards are in the pew rack in front of you for submission to church prayer list.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Those who are able, please stand.

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #157 "Come Now, O Prince of Peace" (verse 1)

**Come now, O Prince of Peace, make us one body;
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP: (from Psalm 25)

Liturgist: Arlene Lathrop

One: Blessed be the Lord God:
All: who spoke through the mouths of prophets,
One: who raises up a mighty Savior for us,
All: who will show the mercy promised to our ancestors.
One: Come, let us worship and seek our savior with hope and thanksgiving!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #154 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Pass Family

Sung response (to the tune DIX)**

**Light a candle bright and tall for the Peace we wish to know.
Peace on Earth for great and small God's Good News to us bestows.
Shine within our hearts today, Come, O Peace, to us, we pray.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Refining God, you have sent us prophets, and we have not listened. You have called us to peace, but we have hurt one another. We have not always said, thought, or done what is best. We have not made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Hear now as we confess in silence the particular ways we need your grace...

[silence]

Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, I am confident of this good news: Our God remembers the holy covenant made with us. The tender mercy of the Lord is everlasting. Rejoice and be at peace.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

PROCLAIMING AND ENACTING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Ward Gailey

ANTHEM "Only a Baby Came" Natalie Sleeth

Sanctuary Choir Women

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Luke 1:67-79

Page 54, Pew Bible

One: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Luke 3:1-16

Page 56, Pew Bible

One: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Like Father, Like Son"

Rev. Betsy Turner

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

MINISTRY OF GIVING

OFFERTORY "Pastoral Symphony" (from Messiah)

George Frideric Handel

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**