

Welcome

PINNACLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday, December 17, 2023 | 10:00 am
Third Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Improvisation on O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Jonathan Lang, piano • Neil Hathaway, bass • Wes Hawkins, drums

arr. Shea Marshall

Words of Welcome

Leah Quarles

Lighting of the Candle of JOY

Prepare the Way of the Lord
(first sung by a Soloist, then by All)

Julie & Tom Oyan
No. 95

**Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see
The salvation of our God.**

Too often, we think joy is something big, but far more often,
we can feel joy in a hug or the squeeze of a hand.
We can see joy in a smile or hear it in laughter.
This Advent, may we look for the simple joys that peak into our lives daily.
May God open our eyes to the joy that surrounds us.

As we light our third Advent candle,
All: **We pray for hope, peace, and joy.**
As we wait, we rejoice.
All: **Come now, O Prince of Joy.**

*Opening Hymn

Soon and Very Soon

No. 384

**1 Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah,
we're going to see the King!**

**2 No more crying there: we are going to see the King.
No more crying there: we are going to see the King.
No more crying there: we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah,
we're going to see the King!**

**3 No more dying there: we are going to see the King.
No more dying there: we are going to see the King.
No more dying there: we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah,
we're going to see the King!**

4 Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah,
we're going to see the King!

Call to Confession

Michael Hegeman

Common Confession and Assurance (unison)

Michael Hegeman

Lord God, you sent us the Light of the World, yet we confess we often live as though the light has never defeated darkness. Forgive us for when we ignore the Savior you sent to be among us and to live in us, illuminating the darkened places of our hearts and world. Forgive us for when we don't make room for Jesus and rejoice in the light he brings. Now hear our silent prayers of confession. (silence)

*Congregational Response (unison)

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

No. 654

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God; do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

*Passing of the Peace

Michael Hegeman

One: The peace of our Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

Public Reception of New Members

Wes Avram, Leah Quarles, Mary Upchurch, & Mark Leinweber

Hymn

We Are One in Spirit

No. 300, vs. 1 & 2

Our Common Life

Erik Khoobyarian

For those joining us online, you may make your donation by texting
pinnaclepres to 833-245-8445 or online at pinnaclepres.org/give-now

Offertory

Musical Offering

Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child

arr. M. Hayes

Schae Chapman, soloist • Chancel Choir, Ilona Kubiaczyk-Adler, director
Jonathan Lang, piano • Neil Hathaway, bass • Wes Hawkins, drums

*Jesus, oh what a wonderful Child;
Jesus, so lowly, meek and mild:
New life, new hope, new joy He brings.
Won't you listen to the angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."*

*He was herald by the angels,
Born in a lowly manger.
The virgin Mary was His mother,
And Joseph was His earthly father.
Oh, three wise men came from afar,*

*They were guided by a shining star,
To see King Jesus where He lay
In a manger filled with hay.
Jesus, oh what a wonderful Child;
Jesus, so lowly, meek and mild:
New life, new hope, new joy He brings.
Won't you listen to the angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."*

*Doxology (REGENT SQUARE) (unison)

No. 143

**All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king!**

*Prayer of Dedication

Erik Khoobyarian

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-7

Wes Avram

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Room for Christmas

by Mark Burrows

Thomas Strawser & Samantha Jorgensen, directors

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan;
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.*

*Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.*

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what can I give him: give my heart.**

Pastoral Reflection & Prayer

Wes Avram

*Closing Hymn

Go, Tell It On The Mountain

No. 136

Refrain:

**Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain**

that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. (Refrain)

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)

3 Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

***Charge & Benediction**

Leah Quarles

***Sending Music**

Postlude on *Go, Tell It On The Mountain*
Ilona Kubiaczyk-Adler, organ

arr. Norah Duncan IV

*Please rise.

Scripture

Luke 2:1-7

The Birth of Jesus

2 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. 2 (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 And everyone went to their own town to register.

4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. 5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

New Revised Standard Version Updated (NRSV)

Welcome New Members

Charles Gallagher & Pamela Shorter

Certificate of Transfer

Jeremiah & Karen Gallivan

Reaffirmation of Faith

William & Lynn Pesch

Reaffirmation of Faith

Sasha & Kavitha Thomas

Certificate of Transfer

Lee & Heather Topping

Reaffirmation of Faith and

Certificate of Transfer

Notes of Interest

Ushers are JD Helms, Shelly & Tom McCahan, Jean Nemer, Christie Slegers, John Thompson, and Mary Upchurch; **Head Usher** is Robert Armstrong.

Hospitality hosts are Carol Baker, Renee Schenck, and Suzanne Wertz.

Children's pageant cast includes: Angel - Lia Jensen; Narrator - Nayla Thomas; Innkeeper - Gwendolyn Jensen; Mary - Annabelle Ranson; Joseph - Bruno Kmiec; Wise Man 1 - Rose Kilbridge; Wise Man 2 - Tobi Erion; Wise Man 3 - Zadie Jensen; Sheep 1 - Chelsea Garzolini; Sheep 2 - Vincent Garzolini; Sheep 3 - Oillie Bailey; Shepherd - Olive Bailey.

The Flowers are given by Carolyn & Win Holden in celebration of our family.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the following members & friends:

- For Betty, her procedure to be successful;
- For Jason & Shannon, on the anniversary of their daughter's suicide;
- For Jackie, to recover from cancer surgery;
- For Linnie, mourning the death of her son;
- For Olga, as she prepares for spinal surgery;
- For our healthcare workers, first responders, and local and federal government workers who are serving our communities;
- For the people of Haiti and Harmony Ministries;
- For our men and women in the military.

To add your prayer requests to the Pinnacle prayer list, please email prayer@pinnaclepres.org or call 480.585.9448.

If you would like to join our prayer request email list to receive a weekly list of people needing your prayers and monthly prayer guidelines, please send your name and email to prayer@pinnaclepres.org.

PINNACLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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