



*“Are you the one who is to come,
or are we to wait for another?”
Matthew 11:3*

December 11, 2016

The Third Sunday of Advent

Celebration of Worship

* If you are able, please stand.

Prelude

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

arr. Robert J. Powell

Marnie Kaller, cello; Kevin Graf, organ

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Laura, Julianna, and Daniella Geary

Introit

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

The Bel Canto Ringers

*** Call to Worship** (*responsively*)

The Rev. Sarah Green

Leader: Happy are those whose hope is in the Lord their God,

People: who made heaven and earth; and who keeps faith forever,

Leader: who executes justice for the oppressed and lifts up
those who are bowed down.

People: Let us praise the Lord our God for all generations!

*** Hymn 83**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Stuttgart

Confession and Pardon

The Rev. Dr. David Smazik

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Holy God, we confess that we do not walk in your light. We turn deaf ears to your prophets and cling instead to our own limited concepts of justice and righteousness. We allow our doubts, skepticism, and fear to poke holes in the hope-filled visions you give us. We too often sit in paralysis instead of stepping forward in courageous action. Forgive us, God of grace. Call us again to be creators of your justice. Reshape us into beacons of your hope for the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie: Hymn 84, v.3

Creator of the Stars of Night

Conditor Alme Siderum

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Pardon (*responsively*)

Leader: The word of the prophet is sure: the wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom.

People: **Waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.**

Leader: And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way. The redeemed shall walk there, and the ransomed of the Lord shall return.

People: **With joy and gladness, we know that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*** Response: Hymn 113, refrain**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

*** Passing of the Peace**

A Time for Young Christians

Alexandra Mead

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

Blessed Creator, in the stillness of this moment we wait and listen for your living Word. Break into our lives with your eternal light, and teach us your ways that we may walk in your paths of truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 35:1-10

(Old Testament, page 623)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

The Hands That First Held Mary's Child

Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

The Men's Chorus

Marnie Kaller, cello

The hands that first held Mary's child were hard from working wood. From boards they saved and planed and filed and splinters they withstood. This day they gripped no tool of steel, they drove no iron nail, but cradled from the head to heel our Lord, newborn and frail. When Joseph marveled at the size of that small breathing frame, and gazed upon those bright new eyes and spoke the infant's name, the angel's words he once had dreamed poured down from heaven's height, and like the host of stars that beamed blessed earth with welcome light. "This child shall be Emmanuel, not God upon the throne, but God with us, Emmanuel, as close as blood and bone." The tiny form in Joseph's palms confirmed what he had heard, and from his heart rose hymns and psalms for heaven's human word.

Second Scripture Reading:

Matthew 11:2-11

(New Testament, page 10)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"When Glory Touches Our Lives"

Rev. Green

* Hymn 92

While We Are Waiting, Come

Waiting

Greeting/Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

(Please sign and pass the friendship pad, found in the pew, to the person next to you. Offering envelopes and prayer request cards are located in the pew pockets for your convenience. Prayer cards will be collected with the offering. Donations may be made online through our website.)

Offertory

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

arr. Craig Courtney (b. 1948)

The Men's Chorus

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in His hand Christ our God to earth descending, comes our homage to demand. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood, Lord of lords in human vesture, in the body and the blood, He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way; as the Light of light descending from the realms of endless day, comes, the powers of hell to vanquish, as the darkness clears away. At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry: Alleluia, Lord Most High!

* Doxology (Hymn 606)

Old Hundredth

**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.**

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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.

*** Hymn 100**

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Star of the County Down

*** Benediction**

Postlude

Toccata in E minor

Kevin Graf, organ

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Participating in the service today are the Reverends Dr. David Smazik and Sarah Green; Alexandra Mead, Director of Christian Education; Matthew Webb, Director of Music; Julie Ramseyer, Director of Children's Music; Kevin Graf, Organ Scholar; Bel Canto; and the Men's Chorus. The acolytes are John Alessio and Elizabeth Bruen.

GREETING YOU this morning are Lois Honigfeld and Rob Heinink, and Susan and Kevin Hubbard.

Our FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS today are Larry and Janet McMillan.

The FLOWERS in the sanctuary are given in memory of Peg and Ray Mutchler and their parents by Shirley and Dave Mutchler.

Thank you to our Sound Team that faithfully works every Sunday.

OPEN MEETINGS THIS WEEK: For a full schedule of meetings, go to our website.

Sunday, Dec 11 Third Sunday in Advent

- 7:45 a.m. Worship with Communion (Chapel)
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Seminar
- 8:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 8:45 a.m. Advent Study
- 10:00 a.m. Worship
- 6:00 p.m. Carol Sing/Tower Musical
ROGS Cookie Sale

Monday, Dec 12

- 7:00 p.m. Circle 5

Tuesday, Dec 13

- 8:00 a.m. Small Group (D. Lisco)
- 10:00 a.m. Tai Chi
- 7:00 p.m. Advent Study
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Wednesday, Dec 14

- 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
- 12:00 p.m. Worship (Chapel)
- 4:15 p.m. Middle School Youth Group
Christmas Party
- 4:15 p.m. Midweek
- 4:30 p.m. Bel Melodia (Multi-Purpose Room)
- 5:00 p.m. Advent Study
- 5:05 p.m. Bel Canto (Multi-Purpose Room)
- 6:00 p.m. Midweek Family Dinner (Sheffield Hall)

Wednesday, continued

- 6:05 p.m. Tower Choir (Multi-Purpose Room)
- 6:30 p.m. Small Group – N. Verhoef
- 7:00 p.m. High School Youth Group
Christmas Party (away)

Thursday, Dec 15

- 9:15 a.m. Christian Yoga (Parish House)
- 11:00 a.m. Advent Study
- 1:00 p.m. JAM

Friday, Dec 16

Office closes at noon.

- 9:00 a.m. AAA
- 9:30 a.m. Volunteers (IT and Bulletins)

Saturday, Dec 17

No open meetings today.

Sunday, Dec 18 Fourth Sunday in Advent

- 7:45 a.m. Worship with Communion (Chapel)
- 8:45 a.m. Advent Study
- 10:00 a.m. Worship with Chancel Choir
presenting Rutter *Gloria*

Reward: Free First Night Button! The Church and the Parish House are venues this year for First Night on Dec. 31. First Night is a safe alternative to typical New Year's Eve parties and features the arts. Please join the Morristown Community and meet new people by volunteering to be in our buildings while this celebration is taking place. We only have one slot left to fill from 10 until 11:30 P.M. in the Parish House. Your reward will be a free First Night pass, which can be used earlier in the evening. Contact Carol Knauff at 973-543-9149, ccknauff@gmail.com or see her at the What's Up Table today.

WELCOME

We are a historic church, part of a historic denomination, and we celebrate this history while exploring ways to bring passion and freshness to our worship and congregational life. Join us as we seek to discover Fresh Traditional ways to **proclaim, gather, and nurture**, all toward continuing Jesus Christ's earthly ministry of building God's Kingdom.

Visitor's Information brochures are in the stands at the entrances to assist you in finding your way around our campus.

Visiting with Children?

- **Activity materials** for young worshipers are in the drawers of the literature chests in both vestibules.
- **Infant and child care** is provided during the service in Howard House, the building to the right of the sanctuary.
- **Restrooms:** Please accompany children (under age 10) to the restrooms. (Located through the left door by the bell tables.)

Special Needs?

- **Feel free to ask** ushers and greeters for assistance if you have any questions or special needs. **Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices** are available from the ushers in the narthex at the back of the church.

Please come again

- **Sunday Worship Schedule:**
 - 7:45 a.m. Worship with Communion
 - 10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Please note a change in our Wednesday schedule:

- Wednesday, December 14, Morning Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., in the Choir Room
- Wednesday, December 14, Worship Service at Noon in the Chapel



The Presbyterian Church in Morristown

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