

Welcome



Order of Worship

December 13, 2020

10:00 a.m. Service

***During this time of social distancing, we ask that all singing and responsive reading be done from behind a mask.
Thank you for doing your part to keep yourself and others safe during the pandemic.***

Prelude

The Christmas Rose

Martin

Introit

Jesus Comes With Clouds Descending

Wesley/Olivers

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Jay and Kristie Swoboda

Let us pray:

O Lord, our redeemer, you lead us from languishing in sorrow's shadows into laughter's joy over your abundant restoration.

Thank you that you are coming for us to lead us home along your Way, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Call to Worship

***Hymn #8**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates, behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!
2. Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer, and love, and joy.
3. Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me Thy inner presence feel; Thy grace and love in me reveal.

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, who calls us to be the light of the world, we confess our unfaithfulness to you. Forgive our doubting minds and disobeying hearts. Transform us by your mercy and forgiveness, that we may share your love and your light with others. In Christ's name, we pray.

***Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, believe the Good News.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***Congregational Response**

Gloria Patri

Welcome and Announcements

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Pat-a-Pan

Thygerson

***Hymn #592**

The Doxology

***Prayer of Commitment 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.

***Choral Response**

Children's Pageant

***Hymn #38**

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

1. It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all gracious King":
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.
2. Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.
3. And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.
4. For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever circling years comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

Anthem

Prepare Thyself, Zion

Bach/Folts

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-7

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town.

⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Songs of the Season It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

"And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth." (Luke 2:6)

Prayers of the People

*Hymn #9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

*Charge and Benediction

*Closing Response

3. O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

*Postlude

Fantasy on Personet Hodie

Garrett Parker

*Please stand if able.

First Presbyterian Church

2727 N. Loop 336 W., Conroe, TX 77304
Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842
Website: www.fpccconroe.org



Staff

Rev. Dr. David H. Green, Senior Pastor
Dena Sowden, Director of Christian Education
Brandon Folts, Director of Music
Stephanie Cooke, Pianist
Shirley Dukes, Parish Nurse
Sharon VanSchuyver, Church Administrator
Yvonne Rose, Office Assistant

Loving God • Investing in People • Living Generously