



ST. CHARLES AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Online Worship

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021 | SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

GATHERING

*Good Morning and welcome to worship at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church on this second Sunday in Epiphany.
This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Jinkins

CALL TO WORSHIP "Let us worship God."

VOLUNTARY

"Eternal Source of Light Divine"

Handel

Hallie Boh, soprano; Patti Adams, flute; Steven Blackmon, organ

PRAYER OF ADORATION (*from Psalm 139*)

Caitlin Wallace-Rowland

Gracious God, we know that there is no place we can go that you are not present. Whether we call upon you or not, you are there. And today, you are here. Open our eyes that we may see; open our hearts that we may feel, in and through all things you are with us. Amen.

HYMN

"God Himself is With Us, Let Us Now Adore Him"

ARNSBERG

God himself is with us: let us now adore him, and with awe appear before him.
God is in his temple--all within keep silence, and before him bow with rev'rence.
Him alone God we own, to our Lord and Savior; praises sing forever.

God himself is with us: whom angelic legions serve with awe in heav'nly regions.
"Holy, holy, holy"-- sing the hosts of heaven; Praise to God be ever given.
O give ear to us here: Hear, O Christ, the praises that your church now raises.

Lord, come dwell within us; While on earth we tarry; Make us your blest sanctuary.
Grant us now your presence, unto us draw nearer, and reveal yourself still clearer.
Where we are, near or far, let us see your power, ev'ry day and hour.

CALL TO CONFESSION

You know our inner hearts, O God. You do not need to be informed of our lapses. But we do need to confess, and therefore we come unto you today, praying.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

O Lord, you have searched me out and known me fully. You know when I sit down and when I rise up. You understand my thoughts long before I think them. You are acquainted with my ways, closer to me than I am to myself. Such knowledge is altogether too wonderful and too terrible for me. I cannot attain it, nor could I tolerate it, for you know even what motivates me. Wherever I go, you are present. And even in those moments when I wish you couldn't see me, or discern my thoughts, or know my motives, you are there. You know me through and through. And yet you love me. You see in me who I truly am, and you love me despite my failings. Help me to have the strength to face myself in the knowledge and full assurance that I am forgiven, accepted and loved by you. Amen.

SILENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OUR DEPENDENCE UPON GOD

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For each breath, each beat of our hearts, for every motivation to do good, and every impulse to do better, we are dependent upon you, O God, let us believe and receive your full pardon. Raise us to new life, we pray, in the assurance of your mercy, for in the name of Jesus Christ, we acknowledge also our forgiveness. Amen.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Michael Jenkins

God of light and love, help us to hear you speak through the witness of those who have come before us. Amen.

MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

Chuck Mutz

THE PSALM

Psalm 139

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"
even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.

O that you would kill the wicked, O God,
and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me—
those who speak of you maliciously,
and lift themselves up against you for evil!
Do I not hate those who hate you, O Lord?
And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?
I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies.
Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.
See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

The Gospel According to St. John 1:43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

SERMON

"Fragile Things and Precious"

Michael Jenkins

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.

GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA PATRI

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.

OFFERTORY

"Lord, Make Me an Instrument"
Tyler Smith, tenor

Willcocks

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God our Lord, In the midst of life we are in death. This our ancient witnesses tell us. And we believe it is true. But remind us too that in the midst of death we are in life.

We come to you today with hearts bruised and wounded by life and loss. We come today battered and worried, anxious and angry, longing and hoping, fearing and loving. We come to you with a whole world of burdens on our hearts.

Perhaps we have looked too much to the future to brighten our hopes, for the future lacks its bright luster in these hard days. Perhaps we have looked too much to our own desires and devices to rescue meaning from the wreckage of modern life, and we find ourselves feeling frustrated that we are unable to help ourselves.

We are reminded in this moment that the great symbol of Godlikeness is not the hero striding the world as a conqueror, but the child approaching her loving parent with sincerity and dependence. But we need your help, your Spirit, to enable us to admit to ourselves that we are in need of what we cannot supply. We require your assistance to come to you as children. Help us, we pray, to place our lives, the lives of those we love, the life of the whole world in your hands. And help us find our comfort in so doing. Amen.

**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.**

SENDING

HYMN "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" MADRID

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE "The Irish Blessing" Blackmon
SCAPC Virtual Chancel Choir

VOLUNTARY "Ein' feste burg" Walcha
Sam Garnett, organ

Videography and photos by Steven B. Blackmon