



ST. CHARLES AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Online Worship

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020 | FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

GATHERING

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

WELCOME TO WORSHIP & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chris Hazlaris

VOLUNTARY

"O Magnum Mysterium"
Tyler Smith, tenor

Lauridsen

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(from Psalm 148)*

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise the Lord in the heights! Praise the Lord, angels, sun and moon, all you shining stars, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens. Praise the Lord from the earth, mountains and hills, trees and wild animals, creeping things, flying birds, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, for your Creator commanded and you came into existence and lived, fulfilling the divine will. Rulers of the earth and all peoples, young women and men alike, old and young together, let us join with creation and praise the name of the Lord, for God's name alone is exalted; the Lord's glory is above earth and heaven. Amen.

HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant; O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

Refrain: O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
very God, begotten, not created! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith, let us confess our sin to God.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, which surpasses not only our understanding but also our nature, forgive us, help us turn from our ways, and grant us wisdom as to how we can move forward and make things right with ourselves and with others. Give us the strength and the courage to delight in your will above our own pride and comfortability.

SILENT CONFESSION

SASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news, friends! The saying is sure and trustworthy, that Christ Jesus, whose birth we celebrated on Christmas, came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins, body on the cross, that we might feel free to love deeply and know that God always chooses us, even when we fail to choose God.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Nicholas White

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Presentation of Sylvie DiSalvo
Introduction & Declarations of Intent
Prayer of Thanksgiving Over the Water
Baptism
Welcome

Sylvie Elise DiSalvo
Michele Murphy
Michael Jenkins

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

SERMON

“The Untold Gift”

Aiden Morriss

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

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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.

THE PEOPLES’ PRAYER AND 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.

ANTHEM

“O Holy Night”
Betsy Uschkrat, soprano

Adam, arr. Rutter

DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow”

OLD HUNDRETH

SENDING

CHARGE AND BLESSING

VOLUNTARY

“Good King Wenceslas”
Patti Adams, flute; James Atwood, percussion; Steven Blackmon, organ

trad.

**Videography and photos by Steven B. Blackmon*



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

was administered to
SYLVIE ELISE DISALVO,
daughter of Stephanie and Nick DiSalvo,
on December 15, 2020.