PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of MADISON

Welcome, we are glad you are here!

anks

December 9, 2018

WELCOME TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of MADISON

Relax. We're glad to have you, just as you are. We believe Jesus Christ teaches us that, so we really mean it. You're a child of God and you're safe here, no matter what.

Each one of us is in a different place on this life journey. The person next to you may be here for the first time, or they may have been born into a family in our church for generations. We're all continually learning, growing, and evolving as we connect in the Spirit with the rest of the world.

Children in church make squirmy joyful noises to the Lord! Babies cry! Relax about all that, too. If you wish, safe childcare is available for 4 and under. Your greeter will be happy to show you the way.

Please stick around after church for a few minutes if you have the time. We have refreshments and fellowship time in the lobby area. It's a great way to get acquainted!

Check out the box below for how it all works. We're all different, together, and God isn't finished with us. Come and see!

Scott Foster, Pastor

*Stand in body or spirit. **Bold - Everything is said in unison.** *Italics - We all sing.* After children's message, K-5 escape to Sunday School. Please share your info with us using the card in the pew. Write prayer requests in the book at the back of the church.

Visit PCMADISON.ORG for more information

ORDER of WORSHIP Second Sunday of Advent

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now." — Philippians 1:3-5 (NRSV)

THE GATHERING

Praise Music (A time of centering and preparation for worship. Please silence all electronic devices.)

Introit

Welcome

"Let us prepare our hearts to worship God..."

* O Come, O Come, Emmanuel! (v.1, 2, 3)

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.) **VERSE 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. VERSE 2: O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily: to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go. **Rejoice!** Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. VERSE 3: O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height

in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.) VFRSF 1: Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us: let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation. hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart. VFRSF 2: Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone: by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Build Your Kingdom HereRend Collective ExperimentVERSE 1:Come set Your rule and reignIn our hearts againIncrease in us we prayUnveil why we're madeCome set our hearts ablaze with hopeLike wildfire in our very souls

Holy Spirit come invade us now We are Your church We need Your pow'r in us VERSE 2: We seek Your kingdom first We hunger and we thirst Refuse to waste our lives For You're our joy and prize To see the captives' hearts released The hurt the sick the poor at peace We lav down our lives for heaven's cause We are Your church We pray revive this earth CHORUS 1: Build Your kingdom here Let the darkness fear Show Your mighty hand Heal our streets and land Set Your church on fire Win this nation back Change the atmosphere Build Your kingdom here we pray VERSE 3: Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r Reaching the near and far No force of hell can stop Your beauty changing hearts You made us for much more than this Awake the kingdom seed in us Fill us with the strength and love of Christ We are Your church We are the hope on earth

Advent Candle Lighting

The Bowen Family

One: One candle to remind us of the prophets, the second for John the Baptist, who called people to change their way of living to prepare for the coming of Christ.

The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has never put it out. God sent a messenger, a man named John, who came to tell people about the light, so that all should hear the message and believe. (John 1:5-7)

All: Disturbing God, we thank you for the witness of John the Baptist. Help us to be open to the changing power of your love, and to be true witnesses to the power of Jesus in our lives. Amen.

Call to Confession

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins together, God is faithful and just. The Lord will forgive us and wash away our unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession

Amazing Spirit, bring joy to this Advent season. Open our eyes to see Jesus, Emmanuel, You among us. We forget to thank you for everything. Forgive us our blindness and closed-mindedness. Silence in us the distracting noise of the world so we can hear your call to justice, loving-kindness and mercy. Challenge us to bring warmth to all your people. O Lord, hear our prayers...

ResponseYou Alone Can RescueRedman/MyrinWho O Lord could save themselvesTheir own soul could healOur shame was deeper than the seaYour grace is deeper still(Silence is kept for our personal prayers of confession.)

One: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed and restored!

ResponseYou Alone Can RescueRedman/MyrinYou alone can rescueYou alone can saveYou alone can lift us from the graveYou came down to find us led us out of deathTo You alone belongs the highest praise. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, open our hearts and minds to accept your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own. We have come to be filled with new insight into your word. Enlighten us. Open our minds, hearts, and eyes to new vision. Release our spirits with renewal in the Word. Amen.

Reading from the Minor Prophets Malachi 3:1-4 (O.T. pg. 889)

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight — indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; the will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Epistle Reading Philippians 1:3-11

(N.T. pg. 196)

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Special Music Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Young People's Message

Gospel Reading Luke 3:1-6

(N.T. pg. 60)

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, 2during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, 4as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Sermon "Thanks!"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* Prepare the Way, O Zion

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.) VERSE 1: Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near! Let every hill and valley a level way appear. Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story. **REFRAIN:** O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name. VERSE 2: He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above. His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love. Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding. **REFRAIN:** O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name. VERSE 3:

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace, and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place. All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing. REFRAIN: O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

* Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

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.

(*catholic in lower case means "universal.")

Prayers of the People/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.

Announcements

Invitation to Discipleship

Offering

Offertory O Sanctissima

* Doxology

(The tune for the Doxology is at the back of this booklet.) Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all people here below; Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God whom we adore. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

* Prayer of Dedication

Amazing God of all, bless our time, talent, and resources to see lives transformed, families strengthened, and our community renewed through intentional relationship with Jesus Christ. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

* O Come, O Come, Emmanuel! (v.1,3) (Reprise)

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.) VERSE 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. VERSE 3: O come, O come, thou Lord of might,

who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the law

in cloud and majesty and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

- * Charge and Benediction (Please join hands.)
- * Passing of the Peace and Postlude

WORSHIP NOTES

Thanks to the Bowen Family for lighting our Advent candles this morning.

Thanks to the Stebbins Family for reading today, and to the PCM Worship Team of planners, players, leaders, servers, ringers, and singers.

What gifts do you bring? Share with us! Joyful worship comes from the soul of our collective Spirit. Come find your voice or vision here! Come play, sing, ring bells, read, lead, serve communion. If you have a gift of the arts such as music, drama, dance, poetry, prose, painting, or sculpting for examples, please give some thought to sharing it in worship.

What a great blessing!

About Advent

Advent marks the beginning of the Christmas season in the Christian tradition. It is the time of waiting, anticipating the coming of the Nativity of Jesus. Advent is a translation of the Latin word for coming.

The etymology works like this: Latin *adventus* is the translation of the Greek word *parousia*, commonly used to refer to the Second Coming of Christ. So, some of us approach Advent in two ways. We share in the ancient longing for the coming of the long-awaited Messiah and we stay alert for his Second Coming.

About Today's Worship

Thanks for joining us for the second in our Advent conversation series with Ann Lamott's book—*Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers.* Join us this Wednesday at 7:30 in the Parlor for a deeper dive into "Thanks."

We are developing a more blended style of worship with new contemporary worship songs and music as well as our traditional hymns and pieces. All of our hymns are from the new Presbyterian hymnal *Glory to God* printed for you in the bulletin. The choir will sing. The bell choir will play. We will hear our students. We will hear soloists. We will hear the band. It's a mix, and we may not have everything in the same day—unless you want to skip lunch. We hope it touches you.

About Today's Readings

We print the scripture readings in the bulletin, so you can follow along more easily. We also include the page numbers if you want to read from your pew Bible. Except where noted, all of our readings are usually from the New Revised Standard Version translation.

About Malachi 3:1-4

The name Malachi is translated as "my messenger" and may or may not be an historical person. There are no specific timeline references in the book, but assumptions can be made that it periodically reflects a 5th Century BCE mindset. Nevertheless, Malachi is an oracle that puts a coda on the Old Testament. The "messenger" is intentionally vague and could be foreshadowing any one or all of Elijah, John the Baptizer, and ultimately Jesus, the Christ.

About Philippians 1:3-11

Philippians is considered to be one of the authentic letters of the Apostle Paul. Paul shares a lot of affection for the Philippians, a church he personally founded (see Acts 16:11-13). In Paul's letters he is never shy about scolding his "babies," but the Philippians must be doing something right! It's hard to pinpoint the timeframe of this letter, though Paul is writing from a prison under control of the Empire which could be anywhere though Philippi is a long way from Rome.

About Luke 3:1-6

All four Gospels have a story about John the Baptizer. Clearly John's appearance on the scene is an example of Old Testament prophesies fulfilled. The Baptizer is considered a prophet in his own right and in the fourth Gospel: "the voice of one crying out in the wilderness."

About the Affirmation of Faith

The later disproved legend was that the Apostles, under the

inspiration of the Holy Spirit, wrote this creed on the tenth day after the Ascension. It originated in Rome ca. 100 and became the common creed of Western Christendom when it took its present form ca. 700. Often used at baptism, the three articles were put to the candidate in the form of a question: "Do you believe?" After each affirmative answer, the candidate was immersed. Note that this bare-bones creed does not mention the ministry or teachings of Jesus. It's just the "facts." (Research by Charles Courtney)

Questions To Go

How do I prepare the way? What did I learn in kindergarten? What does my gratitude look like?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chancel Flowers

The flowers are purchased with your donations. The cost is \$45. Call Cathy in the office to sign up for your special dates to give flowers in memory or in honor of someone or for a special occasion.

Today's flowers are given by Andy and Becky Moody to the glory of God and in honor of their wedding anniversary on December 8th.

Angel Tree

The Madison Eagle Christmas Fund project is up and running and we expect to have a family or two to buy for starting today! Check for ornaments on the Angel Tree in the lobby and let's help do Christmas for Madison area families!

Pageant Sunday, Dec. 16th

You don't wanna miss our annual Christmas Pageant program for church next Sunday morning, Dec. 16th! Join us in the Fellowship Hall after church for brunch celebrating our new members and the kids in the Christmas Pageant! Come check out the new kitchen if you haven't already! We're looking for volunteers who can make a few breakfast casseroles (5-6 in total), fruit salads (2-3 in total), and donate a few bottles of orange juice. Please email Patrick at patrick.allred@pcmadison.org if you can help out.

Pledge Cards Due

All aboard this train! PCM Stewardship 2019 kicked off at 30%! PCM is growing and picking up steam. Church attendance is up—lots of new families and bright happy faces. The kids love their new Sunday School. Family and church mission projects impact the streets of Madison as our family ministries grow. The Fellowship Hall kitchen renovation is complete and community groups are back. 100% of our church funding for operations comes from your generosity. Let's fund this! Please turn in your pledge card now. What matters most is that we are all in, 100% all aboard!

Serve on Sunday

All are welcome, all who come in the name of the Lord! Snacks after church— check your eNews for a link to sign up.

Teach Sunday School—It's easy, really! Contact Patrick Allred.

And if you'd like to serve on our worship team on Sundays as a reader, communion server, singer, musician, bell-ringer, or greeter please do! Contact the church office for more information and we'll plug you in—973.377.1600.

Coffee with Scott

Pastor Scott hangs out at Drip Coffee every Thursday morning at 9am ('til ?). Stop by! Let's FIKA (Google it), cuss and discuss, see if you can melt an entire biscotti in a cup of tea—we might even talk about God. Crazy, right?

Mid-week Prayers/Communion

Join us in the Parlor every Wednesday morning at 7am for a come-and-go round of prayers and the Lord's Supper. It's a great mid-week touchstone, and you'll be on your way in 15 minutes. No kidding! Commuters, you'll easily make the 7:32. Pastor Scott leads.

Qur'an/Bible Jan. 15, 2019 @ 7pm

Like a book club, we're putting our sacred texts together the Qur'an and the Bible—in real, transformative, lifeapplication ways! Come share with our Muslim friends and see what we mean—you will be touched by the similarities. So far, we've covered the common Abrahamic origin of the traditions—Islam and Judeo/Christianity, who is God/ Allah, who is Mohammad/Jesus, and do we earn salvation? This time, we tackle the crucifixion of Jesus and what Mohammad (peace be upon them) has to say about it.

Feel the Breeze

Have you registered on Breeze? Patrick will be walking us through the app after church for the next few Sundays. Hang around for coffee, snacks, and he'll show you how to use Breeze. It's a whole new church management software package set up to help us communicate and do church better. Breeze is the hub for all things in PCM church life, event registration, giving statements—the whole nine. It's a breeze!

PCM Social Media

We're making more and more use of social media communication in our church. Follow the links in the eNews to Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!

Interfaith Food Pantry

PCM supports the IFP year-round with hundreds of pounds of food to serve eligible Morris County residents. Aging people on fixed incomes, low-income working families—the need is great! Doris's Care Wagon will be inside the back door of the parish house. Named for long-time member and IFP advocate Doris Weber, the wagon has served our food collection for years!

Our focus in December is the "white offering" of diapers and formula, in honor of the baby Jesus. The latest list from the Pantry indicates that size 6 diapers and baby wipes are most needed, but all sizes of diapers and Pull-Ups are welcome, as is Enfamil infant formula

Quarters for RAMP

Thanks to Mr. Schuszler the tube was again overflowing last month, which means over \$200 for RAMP this year. Can we fill it again by the end of December? Look for it in the lobby area while you enjoy fellowship and refreshments after worship.



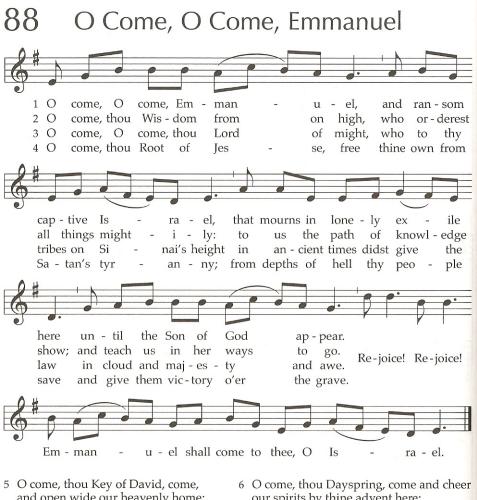
The beautiful Christmas decorations in our sanctuary, including the poinsettias that will arrive in mid-December, are a wonderful way to remember a loved one or to honor someone special.

Please complete this donation form before December 19th and include with your donation of \$30.00 or more, so your gift can be acknowledged in our bulletin.

GIVEN BY: _____

PHONE: _____ Dedication(s) to read:

Checks should be made payable to the Presbyterian Church of Madison with a note that it is for Christmas decorations. If no specific dedication is given, the donation will be listed in the bulletin as "In celebration of the birth of Christ." Please indicate if you wish to pick up a poinsettia following the 4:30PM Christmas Eve service. JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

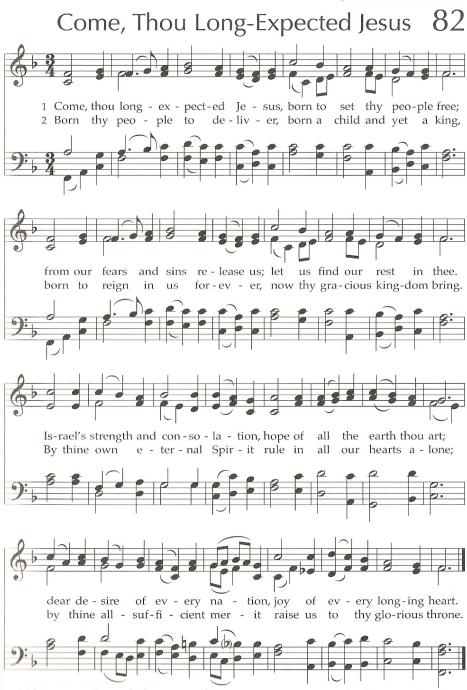


and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

7 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.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2) Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3) Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4) Dec. 20: O Key of David (5) Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6) Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7) Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)



With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This engaging Advent text based on Isaiah 40:3–5 and Psalm 24:7–10 has been in use in the Church of Sweden for almost two hundred years. It is set to a version of an even older Swedish tune, which in turn seems to be derived from a German folktune that spread to Scandinavia.

TEXT: Frans Mikael Franzen, 1812, rev. 1819; trans. Augustus Nelson, 1958; adapt. Charles P. Price, 1980, alt. MUSIC: Then Swenska Psalmboken, 1697; arr. American Lutheran Hymnal, 1930 BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN 7.6.7.6.7.7 with refrain

MUSIC: Then Swenska Psalmboken, 1697; arr. American Lutheran Hymnal Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

Doxology



VISION

To see lives transformed, families strengthened, and our community renewed through intentional relationship with Jesus Christ.

OUR VALUES

Renewed Lives Community Positive Intergenerational Family Joyful Service Presbyterian Roots

Staff

Scott Foster *Pastor* scott.foster@pcmadison.org Cathy Baillie Church Administrator catherine.baillie@pcmadison.org

Patrick Allred Director of Family Ministries patrick.allred@pcmadison.org Mike Callahan Student Ministries & Outreach mike.callahan@pcmadison.org

Anna D'Achille *Director of Musical Arts* anna.dachille@pcmadison.org

Worship

10:15AM Sunday Service

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination **pcusa.org**

ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison info@pcmadison.org (973) 377-1600

pcmadison.org