

DECEMBER 4, 2016 | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



John the Baptist
Contemporary icon, 1993

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARY *NUN KOMM' DER HEIDEN HEILAND*

(NOW COME, SAVIOR OF THE HEATHENS)

RODNEY WARD, GUEST ORGANIST

(As the opening voluntary begins, please use the time to center yourself for worship.)

J. S. BACH

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

✦ When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Rodney Ward is a 2013 graduate of Appalachian State University with degrees in Sacred Music and Organ Performance. He is currently completing his Masters Degree in Organ Performance and has served churches in a variety of denominations since 2002.

RINGING OF THE BELL

✦ OPENING SENTENCES

In the season of Advent,

We watch, we wait, and we remind each other to keep awake:

Awake to the vision,

where the way of the Lord is prepared, and the table is big enough for all.

Awake to the Spirit,

For God is on the move, and Christ is coming again.

Christ has come, and Christ is coming.

Alleluia! Amen.

MOLLY MCGINNIS

For the younger ones among us:

After Jesus was grown up and just before he started his ministry, a strange character named John the Baptist showed up in the wilderness outside of Jerusalem. John seemed scary because he dressed like a wild man and ate insects and wild honey (ugh!). Also, he told everybody that they needed to start being better people. But the good news was that he came to help get everyone ready to hear what Jesus had to say.

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

MICHELLE HWANG

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Advent God, come among us.
Awaken us to your justice, and fill us with your hope.
Forgive us when our hunger for justice gives way to our hunger for power.
Forgive us when our hope for peace is swallowed by our fear of failure.
Forgive us when our songs of faith are drowned out by the shouts of the world.
Advent God, come among us, and make all things new.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

✦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✦ PASSING THE PEACE *(Please be seated following the Passing the Peace.)*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

MARY AMOS, AMY KIRKLAND, AND BILL WILSON



*As we light the Advent candles, we awaken our spirits to coming of God.
Remembering the shalom of God,
We light a candle for peace.
Leaning on the promise of God,
We light a candle for hope.
In hope we pray, and in hope we sing,
Come, O Come, Emmanuel.*

RESPONSE

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

VENI EMMANUEL

CHARLIE SUAZO, SOLOIST

O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 11:1-10

PAGE 654, OT, PEW BIBLE

SECOND READING

MATTHEW 3:1-12

PAGE 2, NT, PEW BIBLE

SERMON

"PLUM NEARLY"

DAVID COZAD

RESPONDING TO AND SEALING THE WORD

✦ HYMN No. 82

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

HYFRYDOL

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

(Please sign the Friendship Pad found at one end of your pew, and pass it along.)

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY *PREPARE THE WAY, O ZION*

KENNETH DAKE

CHANCEL CHOIR AND SHAWN PAGLIARINI, VIOLIN
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.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

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.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

✦ AT THE PRESENTATION

ADVENT DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDRETH

All praise, eternal Christ, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free;
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ANNA GEORGE TRAYNHAM

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise . . .

SANCTUS *(See insert)*

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

AMEN

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*(If you require gluten-free elements, please go to the center station to the second set of servers.
If you wish to be served in your pew, indicate your desire to an usher.)*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION HYMN NO. 90, HYMN NO. 92 *(See insert)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN No. 384

SOON AND VERY SOON

SOON AND VERY SOON

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN NO. 106, STANZA 1

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet one who come in glory, foretold in sacred story.
O blest is Christ who came, in God's most holy name.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

TOCCATA BREVIS

DANIEL GAWTHROP

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.

Many hands helped create the Advent liturgical art in the sanctuary and elsewhere in the church building:

We thank Avery West for the inspiration and the Music and Liturgical Arts committee for the creation of the Advent Star installation hanging far above your heads. John White and Steve Bacon constructed the frame, and many congregation members folded these origami stars.

We thank Berta Irwin who created the Advent banners which are hanging in the vestibule across from the Washington Street doors.

The paper lace banners for each Sunday of Advent, representing the traditional themes of Peace, Hope, Joy, and Love, were designed by liturgical artist Ellen Phillips, and cut by members of the Music and Liturgical Arts Committee and the congregation.

We thank the congregation members who brought Nativity sets from all over the world. The diversity of style and materials is truly wonderful.

WORSHIP NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our liturgists today are Michelle Hwang, Anna George Traynham, and Molly McGinnis.

Our lector today is Mills Rentz-Baker.

Audio recordings of sermons may be found at www.cpcast.org. You may subscribe to podcasts at that site and find us on Facebook as "Central Presbyterian Church."

Music is printed under Onelicense.net AA-710014.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

201 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-659-0274 • www.cpcatlanta.org

David Cozad	Interim Pastor
Michelle Hwang	Associate Pastor for Christian Education and Spiritual Formation
Anna George Traynham and Molly McGinnis	Associate Pastors
P. C. (Buddy) Enniss	Pastor Emeritus
David A. VanderMeer	Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministries
Leslie Boyette	Interim Organist
Michael Morgan	Organist Emeritus

MEMBERS IN PREPARATION FOR ORDINATION AS TEACHING ELDERS

Sarah Paulsen
Erin Burt

THOSE SERVING DURING WORSHIP TODAY

Ushers

Beth Grashof, captain ▪ Corie Cox
Brian Bishop ▪ Lee Ebeling
Em McNair ▪ Rick Hertzberg
Keith Pascoe ▪ Jeff Figueroa

Deacons of the Day

Becky Battle ▪ Paul Greene

Greeters

Tom Holcomb ▪ Michael Lloyd
Nancy Wilkes

Sound Engineer

Dean Hammond

Counters

Kevin Byers ▪ Tom Holcomb

Collectors of Friendship Pads

The Bliss Family
Melanie, Jason, Ally, and Tyler
Trudy Loper and Carys Barr

Bell Ringer

Chris Sciarone

Choir Guild

Doris Beachy

WELCOME VISITORS

Welcome to Central! We are glad you are here! All are invited to worship God in this place. Wherever you are on the journey of faith, may Central be a community in which you can be nurtured and supported along the way and a place where you may serve and be served in the spirit of Christ. Contact David Cozad at dcozad@cpcatlanta.org to learn more about life at Central. We hope to see you again soon!

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

Sunday, December 4

12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Lunch
12:45 p.m. Pageant Rehearsal
2:00 p.m. Amahl and the Night Visitors

Monday, December 5

1:30 p.m. Worship Staff

Tuesday, December 6

6:00 p.m. Labyrinth Open
7:15 p.m. Taizé/Silent Night Service

Wednesday, December 7

5:30 p.m. Geneva Handbell Choir
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 8

No events scheduled

Friday, December 9

No events scheduled

Saturday, December 10

2:00 p.m. Deacons' Christmas Tea
Borst Home

Sunday, December 11

9:00 a.m. Children's Choirs
9:00 a.m. Youth Handbell Choir
9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Kiva
11:00 a.m. Worship for the Lord's Day
Third Sunday of Advent
Michelle Hwang preaching
12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Lunch
12:15 p.m. Pick up shortbread cookies
12:15 p.m. Fair-Trade Coffee Sale
12:45 p.m. Jerusalem Choir
12:45 p.m. Pageant Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. Youth Christmas Party



'Tis the Season

Each year, Central offers you the opportunity to remember or honor a loved one during Advent through a gift to the Sanctuary Flower Fund. Your gift will continue to bring joy and beauty by supporting the general flower fund throughout the New Year.

You may complete a form on the CPC website (Go to the home page; follow the link to *Joy of Giving*) or complete the form below and place it in the offering plate or in Sandra McDonald's mail folder in the church office by Wednesday, December 14, along with a check payable to "Central Presbyterian Church" and designated for "Sanctuary Flower Fund." Names of donors and those being remembered or honored will be published in the worship bulletin on December 18.

Central's Sanctuary Flower Fund Donor's name: _____

This Gift is made in honor of: _____

or in memory of: _____

Amount of donation: _____