



SERVICE of WORSHIP *with* HOLY BAPTISM
Park Street Church | The Lord's Day, December 20, 2020
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

This morning's liturgy restores congregational singing to worship, and is similar to Park Street Church's typical morning worship service. This booklet format is retained since we cannot use pew bibles and hymnals. Instructions are indicated by the traditional symbol ¶, called a "pil-crow." The postures for prayer include kneeling, reflecting the many biblical invitations to kneel before God and even to fall upon our faces in his presence.

When worship was translated into the vernacular during the Reformation, the familiar Latin titles for Psalms and other standard texts were preserved; for instance, we refer to the "Gloria Patri" not the "Glory Be to the Father;" some of these titles are used here.

Scripture lessons are taken from the English Standard Version.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

¶ *Music is played upon the organ or by the musicians, preparing us in body and mind to enter into the Lord's worship. Today's voluntary is "O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver."*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

¶ *After the candle is lit, the People stand.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

from 1 John 4

Leader Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God.

People **Whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.**

Leader In this the love of God was made manifest among us,
that God sent his only Son into the world,
so that we might live through him.

People **This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us
and sent his son to be the propitiation for our sins.
Let us worship the God of Love!**

INVOCATION

HYMN (*spoken*)

Te Deum Laudamus, 4th cent.

We praise you, O God; we acclaim you as Lord;
all creation worships you, the Father everlasting.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:
Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you took our flesh to set us free
you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come to be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.

CONFESSION OF SIN

¶ *Silence is kept. The people kneel or sit. The Leader and People say*

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker and judge of us all:

We acknowledge and lament our many sins and offenses,
which we have committed by thought, word, and deed
against your divine majesty,
provoking most justly your righteous anger against us.

We are deeply sorry for these our transgressions;
the burden of them is more than we can bear.

Have mercy upon us,

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may evermore serve and please you
in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ *The Leader alone stands and declares God's forgiveness. The People then stand for the Peace.*

THE PEACE

Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

¶ *Greet one another in the peace of Christ, refraining from handshaking and maintaining physical distancing. Following the Peace, the People are seated.*

LIFE OF THE CHURCH & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 33.18–34.9

Moses said, “Please show me your glory.”¹⁹ And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The LORD.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.”²⁰ But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.”²¹ And the LORD said, “Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock,²² and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by.”²³ Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”

34 The LORD said to Moses, “Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke.² Be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to me on the top of the mountain.³ No one shall come up with you, and let no one be seen throughout all the mountain. Let no flocks or herds graze opposite that mountain.”⁴ So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first. And he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone.⁵ The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.⁶ The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,⁷ keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and the fourth generation.”⁸ And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.⁹ And he said, “If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

¶ *The People stand to recite the Psalm antiphonally. Those on the LEFT side of the sanctuary read the REGULAR type, and those on the RIGHT side of the sanctuary read the BOLD type. ALL read the Gloria Patri.*

24

Domini est terra

The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,

**²for he has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.**

³Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

**⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.**

⁵He will receive blessing from the LORD

and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

**⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

⁷Lift up your heads, O gates!

And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

⁸Who is this King of glory?

**The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!**

⁹Lift up your heads, O gates!

And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

¹⁰Who is this King of glory?

**The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory!**

All **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

The Gloria Patri, or "lesser Doxology," is traditionally sung or recited at the end of psalms, in order to place them in an explicitly Trinitarian frame.

SECOND LESSON

John 1.9-18

⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Grace and Truth

Mark Booker

HYMN

¶ *The People stand and sing*

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (*next page*)

HYFRYDOL

1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day - spring
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose
 4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a

set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re -
 from on high, ap - pear; come, thou prom - ised Rod of -
 glo - ries knew no end; by his life he brings us
 child and yet a king, born to reign in us for -

lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!
 glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.
 ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the
 O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings
 Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our

earth thou art, dear De - sire of ev - 'ry
of a birth: "Go to him, your prais - es
cat - tle stall; this the ev - er - last - ing
hearts a - lone; by thine all - suf - fi - cient

na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Exhortation

Scripture teaches that we were all dead in our sins and trespasses, but by grace we may be saved through faith. Our Savior Jesus Christ said, "Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God"; and he commissioned the Church to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Here we ask our heavenly Father that this candidate, being baptized with water, may be filled with the Holy Spirit, born again, and received into the Church as a living member of Christ's body. Therefore, I urge you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his abundant mercy he will grant to this Candidate that which by nature she cannot have.

The Presentation of the Candidate

Leader The candidate for baptism will now be presented.

Sponsor I present (*name*) to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Leader Have you already been baptized

Candidate No.

Leader Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate I do.

¶ *The testimony of the candidate is now given.*

Profession of the One Faith

Question Do you renounce the devil and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the empty promises and deadly deceits of this world that corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the sinful desires of the flesh that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

¶ *The Leader invites God's blessing on the candidate, saying*

Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness and evil, and lead you into the light and obedience of the kingdom of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and confess him as your Lord and Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you joyfully receive the Christian Faith, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

Answer I do.

Question Will you obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in them all the days of your life?

Answer I will, with the Lord's help.

¶ *The People stand*

Leader Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to
support this woman in her life in Christ?

People **We will.**

¶ *The Leader then says*

Let us join with this Candidate to proclaim our faith in the words of the ancient
baptismal confession, the Apostles' Creed.

Leader Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

People **I do. I believe in God the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Leader Do you believe and trust in Jesus Christ?

People **I do. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Leader Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

People **I do. I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer for the Candidate

Almighty and everlasting Father, in your great mercy you saved Noah and his family in the Ark from the destruction of the flood, prefiguring the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Look mercifully upon this your servant. Wash and sanctify her through your Holy Spirit, that she may be delivered from destruction and received into the Ark of Christ's Church; and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, she may pass through the turbulent floods of this troublesome world and come into the land of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John in the River Jordan when the Holy Spirit descended upon him as a dove.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

¶ *The People sit*

The Baptism

____, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

____, do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, to fight bravely under his banner against the world, the flesh, and the devil, and to continue as his faithful soldier and servant to the end of your days. **Amen.**

¶ *After the candidate has been baptized, the Leader leads the People in prayer, closing with the Lord's Prayer said by all.*

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 coming day's bread;
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not into trial,
but deliver us from the Evil One.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

¶ *Music is played upon the organ or by the musicians.*

HYMN

¶ *The People stand and sing*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*next page*)

VENI EMMANUEL

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on
 3. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
 4. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy
 5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un -
 Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give the law in
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save, and
 draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and
 heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and

til the Son of God ap - pear.
 cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 close the path to mis - er - y.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

WORDS: Latin hymn; tr. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt.
 MUSIC: Plainsong; adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1854

VENI EMMANUEL
 LM with refrain
 Isaiah 59:20

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

¶ *The people sit. A joyous work is played upon the organ or by the musicians. The ushers will dismiss the people by rows, following the voluntary. Today's voluntary is a Toccata on "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" by Andrew Carter (b. 1939)*

SERVICE LEADERS AND PARTICIPANTS

Mark Booker, *Senior Minister*

Nathan Skinner, *Director of Music*

Nathaniel Efthimiou, *Assistant Director of Music*

ADVENT WREATH John & Barbara Carlson

ELDER Lyford Beverage

ASSISTING MINISTERS Julian L., *Minister of Missions*

Ray Kam, *Minister to Internationals*

LAY READER Chloe Booker

CANDIDATE FOR BAPTISM Zhen (*last name withheld due to security*)

A complete staff directory can be found at www.parkstreet.org/about-us/staff/



PARK STREET CHURCH
Evangelical. Congregational. International.