



2018 Story Slam & Strolling Soirée

Sunday, December 9 • 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.



“Draw Near ...”

is our 2018 Advent theme. God has drawn near to us by taking on flesh and experiencing what it is to be human. We plead for God to draw closer to us and to the spaces in the world that are broken. We hear God charge us to draw near to God by leaning into wonder, justice, truth, and one another.

Draw Near ...

and listen to stories and songs of hope, wonder, truth, faith, justice, and joy. Take a moment to “draw near” to Advent and Christmas through the thoughts and experiences of others.

Draw Near ...

to one another after the Story Slam by enjoying the strolling soirée.



PRELUDE

Improvisation on Christmas Carols

arr. Charlie Eidelman

WELCOME

Rev. Rogers

GATHERING WORDS

Rev. Koenig-Reinke

One: From places deeply rooted,

All: we come to tell our stories,

One: From places still hidden in plain sight,

All: we hear your words through others.

One: From places yet undiscovered,

All: we sing our hymns and songs.

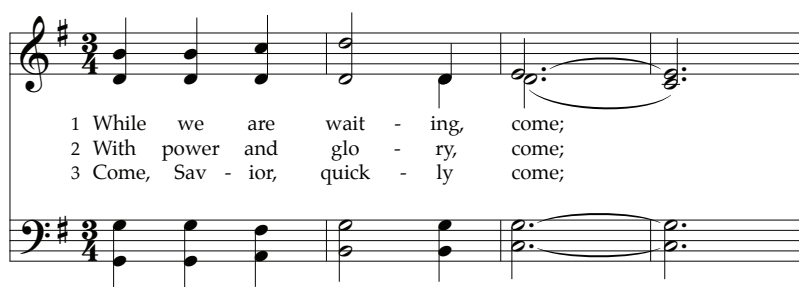
One: From places tangled with disappointment,

All: we draw near to you in prayer.

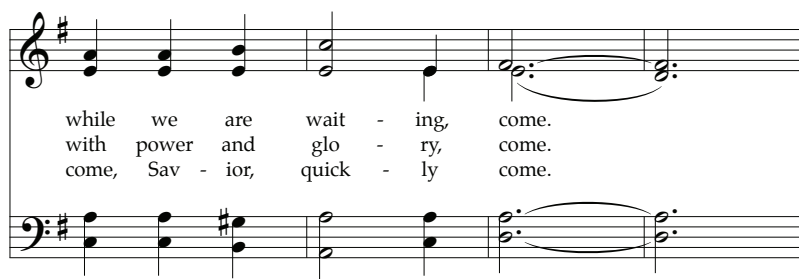
* HYMN

While We Are Waiting, Come

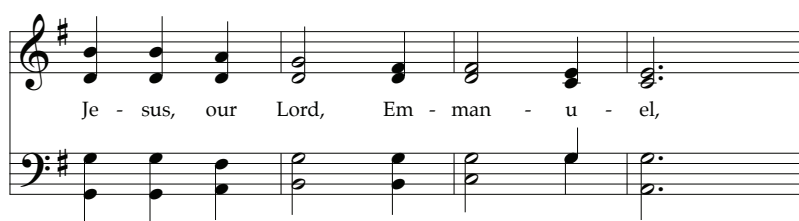
WAITING



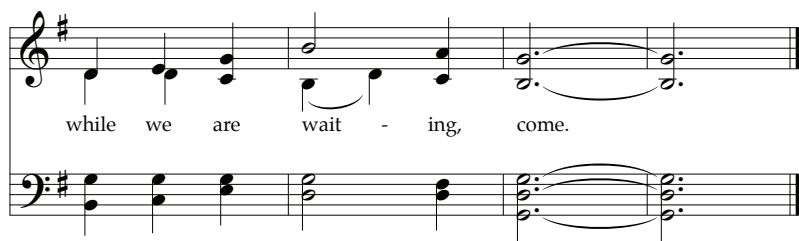
1 While we are wait - ing, come;
2 With power and glo - ry, come;
3 Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come;



while we are wait - ing, come.
with power and glo - ry, come.
come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.



Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el,



while we are wait - ing, come.

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DRAW NEAR TO HOPE & WONDER



GATHERING WORDS

Rev. Parks-Piatt

One: The coming of our Lord draws near,

All: as we draw close to Christ.

One: The coming of our Lord draws us near,

All: towards the wonder of your love.

One: The coming of our Lord draws near,

All: hopeful light in all the darkness.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 21:25–36

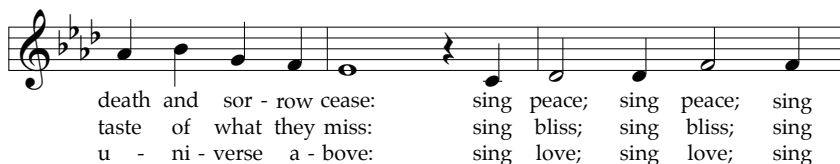
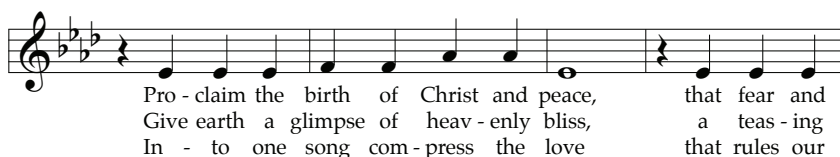
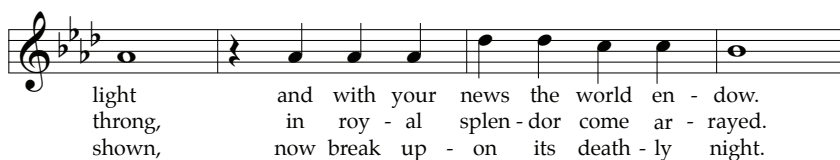
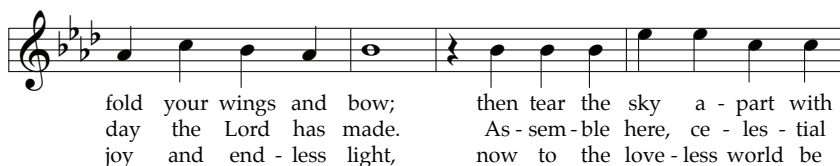
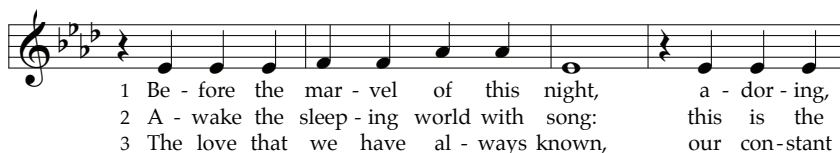
Ava Westfall

HYMN

Before the Marvel of This Night

MARVEL

Please remain seated as the soloist sings the first stanza and then stand to sing stanzas 2 and 3.



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 Music: Carl F. Schalk, 1979 © 1979 GIA Publications, Inc.; OneLicense.net #A-720542.

A STORY OF HOPE AND WONDER

ANTHEM

City Called Heaven

Josephine Poelinitz



DRAW NEAR TO TRUTH & FAITH

GATHERING WORDS

Rev. Buckley

One: The coming of our Lord draws near,

All: and we wait for God's light to shine over all the earth.

One: Draw close, Pain Bearer, Life Giver, Love Sharer.

**All: Shine through us, in us, around us;
shine for the world to see.**

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3:1-6

Grame Fairweather

* HYMN

Born in the Night, Mary's Child

MARY'S CHILD



1 Born in the night, Mar-y's Child, a long way from your home;
2 Clear shin-ing light, Mar-y's Child, your face lights up our way;
3 Truth of our life, Mar-y's Child, you tell us God is good;
4 Hope of the world, Mar-y's Child, you're com-ing soon to reign;



com - ing in need, Mar - y's Child, born in a bor - rowed room.
Light of the world, Mar - y's Child, dawn on our dark - ened day.
yes, it is true, Mar - y's Child, shown on your cross of wood.
King of the earth, Mar - y's Child, walk in our streets a - gain.

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A STORY OF TRUTH AND FAITH

ANTHEM

The First Nowell

arr. Mack Wilberg



DRAW NEAR TO JUSTICE & JOY

GATHERING WORDS

Dr. Ingram

One: The coming of our Lord draws near,

All: and we await God's redeeming presence,

One: Draw close, Savior of all creation,

**All: Our hearts ache for justice,
our minds long for holiness,
our spirits seek for unity.**

One: The coming of our Lord is near,

All: and we await fulfillment of God's promises,

One: Draw close, Reconciler and Transformer of all things,

**All: Renew our world and restore your peace.
Let us know true joy.**

SCRIPTURE READING Zephaniah 3:14-20

Kate Silbert

* HYMN

Light Dawns on a Weary World

TEMPLE OF PEACE



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text : Mary Louise Bringle, 2001 © GIA Publications, Inc.; Music: William P. Rowan
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A STORY OF JUSTICE AND JOY

VOLUNTARY *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. Cynthia Dobrinski
Sanctus Ringers

★ ★ ★ DRAW NEAR TO ONE ANOTHER & COMMUNITY ★ ★ ★

GATHERING WORDS

Essie Koenig-Reinke

One: The coming of our Lord draws near.

All: **Together we watch for the signs of his coming.**

One: Draw close, Lord Jesus Christ,
draw close, and draw us close together.

All: **Make us whole; make us one.**

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:46–55

* HYMN

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH



1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!



Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is



heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our



joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of



Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
Christ-mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text : Ken Bible, 1996; © 1996 LNWhymns.com; Music: French melody; arr. © 2012 Eric T. Myers
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STORIES OF DRAWING NEAR TO OTHERS

ANTHEM

Nativity Carol

John Rutter

A CREATIVE READING BY OUR YOUTH

This Is Your God

UNISON PRAYER

Rev. Rogers

Holy God, God of Abraham and Sarah and Hagar, God of Mary and Joseph, God of Angels and Shepherds, God of our Beloved, Jesus of Nazareth, You are God of all the earth. Tonight You reveal to us again that all people are your beloved children and that all creatures are your handiwork. Let us never cease to tell the story of your boundless love in all we say and do. Amen.

BENEDICTION

* **POSTLUDE**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

J. S. Bach

* Please rise in body or spirit.

Those parts of the service of worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in **bold type**. Hearing-assistance devices and large-print bulletins are available from the ushers.



Enjoy the Strolling Soirée after this service as you explore our beautifully decorated church and greet friends old and new!

Monteith Hall (Level 1):

The Deacons are on hand to provide cold appetizers. You will enjoy the piano styling of
9th-grade Community High School Student Charlie Eidelman.

Curtis and Founders Rooms (Level 2):

The Mom's Bible Study is on hand with Chef Christine to provide two soups (one vegetarian) and bruschetta. You will enjoy the Christmas carols of the Sanctus Ringers Handbell Choir.

Lewis Room (Level 2):

The Congregational Life Committee and the Stephen Ministers are on hand to provide hot appetizers. Enjoy the music of classical guitarists Josiah Schaafsma, Advaidh Venkat, Shawn Roberts, Daniel Khain, and MaryLou Roberts.

Social Hall (Level 1):

The Presbyterian Women provide dessert for you in a room decorated with the crèche
sets of our late member Jane Warner. Enjoy the music of a trio of young musicians from
Community High School.

Youth Room (Lower Level):

Puppies! Two therapy dogs will be on hand to receive your love and care as we give thanks for the furriest members of our faith community.

We encourage you to start in a designated location based on your last name. Travel from there to the other spaces!

Last name A - K: Please start in the Curtis Room.

Last name L - Q: Please start in Monteith Hall

Last name R - Z: Please start in the Lewis Room

Visit the Social Hall at any point!

Welcome to all! Please know that all, including visitors and newcomers, are invited to share in the life of the church. A full description of church events may be found online at www.firstpresbyterian.org.

The **Call to Worship** is adapted from *Twelve Months of Compassion*. The **ending prayer** is from Christine Sine's *Godspace* website. The **Youth Reading** comes from the archives of the Church of Scotland's *Starters for Sunday* website.

Greeters are Paul Tichenor, Sharon Watling, Prue Heikkinen, and Carol Fletcher. **Story-givers** are Callie Feyen, Peggy Hodgson, Daniel Torres-Davenport, Meg Brown, Ann Hunsberger, and Rev. Evans McGowan. **Sound system operator** is Roland Kibler. **Musical leadership** includes David Magumba, soloist; Chancel Choir; and Sanctus Ringers. Youth leadership includes Aedan Mulcrone, Lana Smith, Claire Gehrke, and Hadley Feyen.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Robin Agnew, Administrative Assistant
Reverend Blair Buckley, Resident Minister
GJ Frye, Peer Minister for Youth Ministry
Lisa Haddrill, Technology Coordinator
Dr. Paul Haebig, Interim Organist
Almer Harris, Maintenance Specialist
Dr. Richard Ingram, Interim Director of Music Ministries
Mary Jones, Publications Coordinator
Cindy King, Administrative Assistant/Children's Education Assistant
Reverend Eric Koenig-Reinke, Resident Minister
Essie Koenig-Reinke, Youth Ministries Coordinator
Dave Lett, Finance Assistant
Reverend Evans McGowan, Campus Ministries Coordinator
Kellie McInchak, Interim Children's Choir Director
Anna Miller, Finance Manager
Reverend Dorothy Parks-Piatt, Resident Minister
Adrian Prundeanu, Facilities Manager
Linda Robinson, Office Manager
Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor
Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor
Simon Suboski, Interim Youth Choir Director
Sandy Talbott, Wellness Coordinator/Parish Nurse
Beca Torres-Davenport, Coordinator of Children's Education and Family Ministry



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