



Old Presbyterian Meeting House

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

PRELUDE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

WELCOME

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us worship God!

Rev. Ann Herlin

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Andy, Lee, Abby and Zack Berner

The world says, "All is lost." God says, "All is loved."

The darkness says, "The light is dying." The light says, "The fire is catching."

Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears." Hope says, "Wait, watch, and listen."

As we light the first Advent candle,
we pray for the holy hope of God.

Come now, O Child of Mary.

Come now, O Prince of Hope.

▲ HYMN 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
(verses 1, 2, 6, and 7)

VENI EMMANUEL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Coming Christ, you may not find us as you hoped. We've looked away from signs we do not wish to see. We've stopped listening to distress we do not wish to hear. We are numb to inconvenient truths. Keep us alert, O God, to the needs of our neighbors. Revive our hearts laden with compassion fatigue. Sharpen our minds clouded by worries. Sober our lives addicted to privilege. Show us the signs of your coming that we may stand before you in faith. Hear now the prayers we bring to you in silence...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

▲ ACT OF PRAISE 121, V. 4

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide in us, our Lord Emmanuel!

GOD'S WORD TO US

TIME WITH CHILDREN

May God be with you there.
May God be with us here.
May God be with everyone, everywhere. Amen.

Mrs. Noelle Castin

ANTHEM

"And the glory of the Lord" from *Messiah*
text from Isaiah 40:5

G. F. Handel
(1685-1759)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

▲ HYMN 357

The Days Are Surely Coming

LLANGLOFFAN

SERMON

With the End in Sight

Dr. Robert R. Laha

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

adapted from the *Confession of 1967*

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Rev. Ann Herlin

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Lo! How a rose e'er blooming

Michael Praetorius
(1572-1621)

▲ DOXOLOGY 607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

▲ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

▲ HYMN 360

Christ Is Coming!

UNSER HERRSCHER

▲ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

WENDY MATNEY

▲ POSTLUDE

Les fifres (1724)

Jean-François Dandrieu
(c. 1682-1739)

▲ Please stand as you are able

Congregation reads the "**bold**" text

MUSIC NOTES

As we begin this season of Advent, we will shift our moods to that of joyful expectation. To open the service, a popular chorale-prelude on the text “Sleepers, Wake, a voice is sounding” with a stately accompaniment by Bach, and today’s anthem will be a preview for our December 12th concert of Handel’s *Messiah*! For the offertory, a well-known carol on the prophecy from Isaiah, sung here with the second verse in canon (or round). And to close, a postlude by little-known organist of the Chappelle Royale Jean-François Dandrieu, who is best known today for his endlessly inventive settings of French carols. You’ll hear the celebratory mood in this light and nimble folk tune that instantly—even without the title—calls to mind dueling fife players!

Today

To receive regular prayer updates, email Vicki, vstones@opmh.org

Flowers arranged by Judi Elmore and given in memory of Mary Elmore by her family, Tim, Judi, Beth, and Cate.

Duty Elder is Chris Pommerer & Duty Deacon is Tim Elmore.

Join us in the churchyard for fellowship time following worship hosted by the Education Ministry.

Today's image, "Supermoon and Eclipse" by Doug Jones via Flickr; CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

Live worship is available at 11:00 AM at opmh.org/livestream. Recordings are available at vimeo.com/opmh.

Upcoming

- December Sundays:
 - 9:15 AM-12:15 PM, Childcare for infants and toddlers in Fellowship Hall
 - 9:30-10:30 AM, Multi-age Sunday School in Fellowship Hall, Adult Education in Heritage Hall or Zoom.
 - No Youth Group November 28. Youth Group resumes December 5.
 - Thursdays through December 16, 10:00 AM, Zoom, Advent Study: Jesus Family Tree, opmh.org/adults
 - December 1, final date to receive Holiday Sharing Gift Cards, opmh.org/service-and-justice
 - Wednesdays December 1, 8, 15, 12:05 PM, Noonday Noëls, opmh.org/music **Vaccination/negative PCR test required*
 - December 1-31, Alternative Giving Market, opmh.org/market
 - December 4, 11:00 AM, Scottish Walk Parade, opmh.org/events
 - December 12, 3:00 PM, Handel's Messiah, opmh.org/music **Vaccination/negative PCR test required*
 - December 12, final date to order Poinsettias and Greens, opmh.org/2021greens
 - December 16, 7:00 PM, Taize Service, opmh.org/music
 - December 19, 3:30 PM, Come to the Manger, opmh.org/advent
 - December 19, 7:00 PM, Christmas Readings, opmh.org/advent
- For a complete listing of weekly and upcoming events, please visit opmh.org.

WAYS TO GIVE

1. Leave your offering in the offering plates by the doors as you exit the sanctuary.
2. Give online at opmh.org/give or snap the QR code at right.
3. Text **opmh** to 73256
4. Mail a check to 323 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314.



Old Presbyterian Meeting House
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