

**PROVIDENCE FORGE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2020**

ADVENT READING AND LIGHTING OF CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP Roger Gench (from Psalm 89 and Luke 1)

Leader: We will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord; we will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

People: We declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Leader: You promised Mary that she would bear a child — one who would inaugurate your kingdom, your realm that will have no end.

All: You have established your realm for all generations.

SONG OF PRAISE #23 Angels We Have Heard on High

**1 Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.**

Refrain: Gloria, in excelsis Deo; Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

**2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?**

Refrain

**3 Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.**

Refrain

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling to proclaim the good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit. O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

FOR CHILDREN Luke 1:28 (Easy to Read Version)

The angel came to her and said, "Greetings! The Lord is with you; you are very special to him."

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:46-55 (New Revised Standard Version)

46 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, **47** and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, **48** for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; **49** for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. **50** His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. **51** He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. **52** He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; **53** he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. **54** He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, **55** according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

ANTHEM Beautiful Star of Bethlehem

SERMON

Rev. Nancy Coleman

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**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.**

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Leader: There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

People: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

Leader: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is to God's purpose that it is accomplished.

People: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Leader: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

DECLARATION OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

OFFERING

Opportunities are Easytithes <https://app.easytithes.com/App/Giving/pfpc>
C&F Bank for PFPC and mail to P.O. Box 239

**5¢ a Meal can be offered both using Easy Tithes or a separate check sent to the church.*

SONG OF RESPONSE #41 O Come All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

**2 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given; Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing!**

Refrain

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!

**Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all
Glory in the highest!**

Refrain

BENEDICTION

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

People: Peace be with you!