

**Taking the Word of God into the World**

**Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer (p. 35)**

† **Hymn of Inspiration #123:** *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

† **Benediction**

† **Response #43** (refrain): *On Eagle's Wings*

Michael Joncas

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of his hand.

† **Postlude:** *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Caroline Taylor

**Mission Statement:** On November 29, 2016, the Session of First Presbyterian Church adopted the following Mission Statement for our church:

“Our mission is to live and share the good news of God’s love, grace, and mercy in Jesus Christ, to equip people for discipleship and service, and to work for social justice and peace.”

A mission statement is a formal statement of purpose and/or summary of the aims and values of an organization. As we move forward, may we try to live out this mission in everything we say and do.

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Jo Ann Currie, DCE and  
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Cheryl Jones, Office Administrator  
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Carrie Reed, Director of Weekday Early  
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CCLI #3275908  
CVLI #504019360

First Presbyterian Church  
of Pasadena

*Third Sunday of Advent.*

*December 11, 2016*

*10:30 am*

Lord Jesus, for eternities now, heaven and earth, like fond grandparents,  
have thrilled at the sight of the children’s children ever bringing forth children...

And now, amid the starlit night, comes the incomparable Child,  
the smile of God and tenderness toward mankind.

We beg you, Lord, revive in us the joy of your joy for ever and ever.

Pierre Talec, France



**Third Sunday of Advent**

*Growing in Grace and Gratitude*

Leading in Worship Today...

Rev. Jim Currie, Preaching  
Margaret Bardin, Liturgist  
Marilyn Wilkins, Music Director  
Martha Braswell, Organist  
Barry Webb, Audio-Visual Ministry



[www.fpcpasadena.org](http://www.fpcpasadena.org)

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## Service for the Lord's Day

### Gathering Around the Word of God

#### Welcome and Life of the Church

**Lighting of the Third Advent Candle:** James & Melissa Jackson & Dylan Duggan

**Prelude:** *Loure*

Phil Hilson, violin

Bach

**Introit #87:** *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

Genevan Psalter

#### † Call to Worship:

Leader: Jesus says: I am coming soon.

**All: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord;

**All: my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

† **Hymn of Praise #143:** *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

#### Corporate Prayer of Confession:

**O God of Isaiah and John the Baptist, through all such faithful ones you proclaim the unfolding of future joy and renewed life. Strengthen our hearts to believe your advent promise that one day we will walk in the holy way of Christ, where sorrow and sighing will be no more and the journey of God's people will be joy. Amen.**

#### Silent Confession

**Liturgist:** Amen

#### Assurance of Pardon

**#71:** *Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me* (refrain only)

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,  
and God will be my Savior.

Leader: Friends, believe and live the good news of the gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

† **Glory Be to The Father (Gloria Patri) #581**

† **Sharing the Peace of Christ**

#### Chancel Time with Children

"Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children, God is love, God is love.

Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children, God is love, God is love."

**Anthem:** *Every Valley*

John Ness Beck

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain made low;

and the crooked made straight, and the rough places plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together;

for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Amen.

#### Proclaiming the Word of God

**Prayer for Illumination #288:** *Spirit of the Living God*

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**First Lesson:** Matthew 11:2-11 (p. 688)

**Sermon Lesson:** Isaiah 35:1-10 (p. 508)

**Sermon:** "The Messiness of Realizing a Vision"

Rev. Jim Currie

#### Responding to the Word of God

† **Affirmation of Faith— Apostles' Creed (p. 35)**

† **Hymn of Affirmation #128:** *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

#### Offering Our Gifts to God

**Offertory Music:** *What Child is This*

Phil Hilson, violin

† **Doxology #606:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

† **Prayer of Dedication**