



MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICE

DECEMBER 18, 2024 . 12:00 PM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Chorale Prelude on In Dulci Jubilo

Marcel Dupré
(1886-1971)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: John reminds us to make room for the gift that is coming.

People: We are preparing the way of the Lord!

Minister: The light is coming into the world.

People: Thanks be to God. Let us worship the Lord. Amen!

HYMN 196 *

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy
 2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and

peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us,
 yet a King, born to reign in us for - ev - er,

let us find our rest in thee. Is-rael's strength and con - so -
 now thy gra-cious king - dom bring. By thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of
 spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone; by thine all suf -

ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.
 fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Charles Wesley, 1744

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *

People: Gracious God, we thank you for your generous love. You provide us all that we need to say yes to you as we live with faith, hope and love. We give you thanks today for the gift of John the Baptist, the messenger that you sent who pointed people to your glorious light. Forgive us for the times and the ways that we fail to see and respond to what you are doing in our lives and our world. Renew our vision and help us follow you as we seek to help others see and experience your light. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Minister: Hear the good news. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, neither angels nor demons, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God, Amen!

THE GOSPEL LESSON * John 1:6-8

† following the reading

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Preparing for The Light

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

O Come, Let Us Worship, from *Chandos Anthem* No. 8

George Frideric Handel
(1685-1759)

O come, let us worship and fall down and kneel before the Lord our maker; for he is the Lord our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Psalm 95:6-7

William Green, *tenor*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN 202 *

People Look East

Besançon

1. Peo-ple, look east. The time is near of the crown-ing of the
 2. Fur-rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant-ed
 3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall
 4. An-gels an-nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to

year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the
 there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in
 brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as
 earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the

People, look east and sing to - day:
 hearth and set the ta - ble. People, look east:
 course the flower may flour-ish.
 sun and moon to - geth - er.
 word, the Lord is com-ing. People, look east:

Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 Love, the Star, is on the way.
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Eleanor Farjeon, 1928

BLESSING *

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata on Antioch

Craig Phillips
(b. 1961)

Preaching: Rev. Daniel Ogle, *Associate Minister*

Music: Jonathan Easter, *Guest Organist*

For information on upcoming worship services please visit www.prumc.org.

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