



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 10, 2017

“At every turn it appears an absurd mismatch: a woman and a dragon, a babe and the kings of the world, a messiah of utter folly and the power of death. But that is precisely the method that God has chosen in the incarnation. God risks everything on the power of powerlessness. The topic of Christmas is whether we have the eyes to see it. And the heart to follow.”

-Bill Wylie Kellerman

Fort Street Presbyterian Church

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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 10, 2017

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Air from Suite No. 3 in D Major

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Anne

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Emmanuel, God with us.

Prepare the way of the Lord.

Because Emmanuel is coming near.

We light this candle in love,

The love that Jesus, our Savior, has for us.

Prepare the way of the Lord,

Because Emmanuel is coming near.

James Biery

Canon

1
Em - man - u - el comes! Our Sav - ior is near!

2
This can - dle now burns with a mes - sage so clear:

3
Em - man - u - el comes! Our Sav - ior is near!

4
God's King - dom is com - ing, God's King - dom is here!

*HYMN # 96

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

WINCHESTER NEW

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Aidan Burr

Loving God, the world has many people who are hurting. It has many people who are sad. It has many people who miss those they love. We want to help, but we do not know how. We get scared, or we get too busy. We get distracted and disobedient. We wait in Advent for Jesus. Jesus healed the hurting, comforted the sad, and was with people – Emmanuel. Strengthen us to love, and serve, a world with so much hurting, and sadness, and grief. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor Anne

Hear the Good News . . .

. . . In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.

*RESPONSE SONG # 100

Canticle of the Turning
(verse 1 and refrain)

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

*SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

Aidan Burr

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we too should forgive one another. The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

(Exchange signs of Christ's peace with those worshipping with you.)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Rob Jackson

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Eric Lange

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Aidan Burr

EPISTLE LESSON

2 Peter 3:8-15a
(p. 224 in Pew Bibles)

Aidan Burr

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO AND CHORUS

O Thou that Tellest from Messiah

G.F. Handel

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:

Mark 1:1-8
(pp. 32-33 in Pew Bibles)

Pastor Eric

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"EXPECTATIONS AND PREPARATIONS"

Pastor Eric

*HYMN # 739

O for a Closer Walk with God

CAITHNESS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Deuteronomy 6:4-5)

Pastor Anne

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God,
the Lord alone.

**You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your might.
Amen.**

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

OFFERING OF THE PLEDGES AND GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper
The text may be found in the hymnal, no. 94

SUO GAN

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE # 606

*Praise God, from Whom
All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF THANKS

Pastor Anne

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God.

**People will come from east and west,
and from north and south,
and sit at table in the kingdom of God.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

As the light shines in the darkness, we remember your works...

. . . to join in the song of all creation, forever singing your praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

#552, Glory to God

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

We give you thanks for Jesus, the Light of the World...

. . . . therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

#552, Glory to God

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

We ask your Light to spread to all places...

. . . . we worship you, Gracious God, with songs of endless praise.

Amen, amen, amen.

#554, Glory to God

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray for God's rule on earth as Jesus taught us:

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER THE SACRAMENT

Let us offer our thanks to God.

**At this table, we remember you, O God,
as we join with our brothers and sisters everywhere in your realm.
Around your table, you feed and bless us.
Around your table, you forgive us again,
reconciling us all with each other.
Around your table, you turn our ways into your ways.
At this table, you call us to create a new church.
From this table, O God, we move in the power of your Spirit
to share with all of your children
the taste of your meal which is the taste of hope. Amen.**

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN # 79

Light Dawns on a Weary World

TEMPLE OF PEACE

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Carol of the Birds

James Biery

(The postlude is offered as an instrumental prayer, not a performance. An *Amen* in place of applause would be welcome. You are invited to remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly, remembering those who are still worshipping.)

About the Music: The candle lighting music was written by James Biery to a text by Marilyn Biery, and is from their collection *Emmanuel Comes* published by MorningStar Music and used here with permission of the publisher © 2006 Birnamwood Publications. Today we welcome violinist Natalie Frakes. Natalie will return to Fort Street on Christmas Eve at both services, as we will have a string quartet to enrich our music in worship.

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Soloist | Erika Thompson |
| Violinist | Natalie Frakes |
| Liturgist | Aidan Burr |
| Sound Tech | Nancy Jackson |
| Worship Coordinator | Kalu Uduma |



Today's flowers in the sanctuary are given by Craig and Barbara Smith in honor of their anniversary.

Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:

- Hearing- Assist System
- Wheelchair Access Ramp
- Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary
- Handicap-accessible Restroom--use elevator to second floor

We are delighted that you are here!

- * Visit the information and display tables in the narthex.
- * During the worship service, child care is provided for children through age 4. Ushers can provide directions. Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in Sunday School, which follows the Children's Message. A Christian Education staff member will lead the children downstairs. Parents may pick them up after worship. For additional information about our Sunday School program, please contact Judith Sheldon at firstcircleinc@sbcglobal.net. or Nancy Jackson at nancymottershawjackson@gmail.com.
- * You may add to the beauty of our weekly worship by contributing a floral donation. Flowers are usually given in memory of or in honor of persons or events. Contact Pam Sharrow at Sharrow13@gmail.com. The church office will contact you for your floral dedication.

Prayer List for the Month of December 2017

Lynne Bieniek, Bobbie Edwards and family, Iola Jackson, Geraldine Adams Jones, Gleatus Jones, Valorie Celeste Kimbrough, Marilyn Moore and family, Kathy Payne and family.

Prayers for Military Loved Ones

(We are seeking to update our Military Roll. Please contact the church office with any changes.)

Jonathan Heyler USN; Ssgt Shanell Howard USAF; Maj. Michael Kurtti USAF; Capt. Theo Moran USAF; and Lt. Mark Webster USAF.

FORT STREET STAFF:

Alison Grosch, Operations Manager; Judith Sheldon, Director of Christian Education; John Glover, Director of Open Door; Marilyn Biery, Music Director/Organist; Arianne Abela, Interim Chorale Conductor, Lola JF Davidson, Secretary; Loretta Stanton, Wedding Coordinator; Jerry Johnson, Building Engineer; Shelia Williams, Open Door Floor Coordinator, James Anderson, Open Door/ Security/ Custodian; Herman Hall, Kitchen Aide; Jewell Everette, Open Door Cook; Damien Hines, Custodian; Karen Wright and Lakita Wyatt, Donlin Center Staff.

Co-Pastors
Anne and Eric Lange
pastor@fortstreet.org

Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Crilley
Music Director Emeritus: Edward Kingins

Website: www.fortstreet.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/fortstreet

Fort Street News

MISSION STATEMENT

Fort Street Presbyterian Church is an oasis in an urban environment, building a caring Christian community where diversity is celebrated and developing programs that minister to metropolitan Detroit and the world beyond. We do this in response to the grace of God through Jesus Christ, recognizing the truth of the Gospel: *There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of us are one in Christ Jesus.*

December 2017

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | | 1 Church Offices Closed 8:00pm GAA | 2 3:00pm Handel's Messiah 5:30pm AA 8:30pm Al-Anon |
| 3 9:30am FS Choir 9:30am Child Care 9:45am Adult Ed 11:00am Worship 3:00pm Handel's Messiah 6:30pm NA | 4 Risers come down | 5 8:30am Clothes Sort 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:45am Career Closet 8:00pm GAA | 6 Filming in Stapleton Chapel 12:10pm Lunchtime Organ Concert 7:00pm Session | 7 9:00am Open Door | 8 Church Offices Closed 8:00pm GAA | 9 5:30pm AA 8:30pm Al-Anon |
| 10 9:30am FS Choir 9:30am Child Care 9:45am Adult Ed 11:00am Worship 12:45pm FS Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm NA | 11 8:00am Steeple Repair Begins | 12 8:30am Clothes Sort 11:45am Career Closet 8:00pm GAA | 13 12:10pm Lunchtime Organ Concert 6:00pm Worship Arts mtg | 14 9:00am Open Door 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:15pm Downtown Disciples Bible Class | 15 Church Offices Closed 8:00pm GAA | 16 5:30pm AA 8:30pm Al-Anon |
| 17 Breakfast in Bethlehem 9:30am Child Care 9:30am FS Choir 9:45am Adult Ed 10:00am Sanctuary in use for kids 11:00am Worship 11:20am The Birth of Christ Play 12:30pm PJM meeting 6:30pm NA | 18 | 19 8:30am Clothes Sort 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:45am Career Closet 8:00pm GAA | 20 12:10pm Lunchtime Organ Concert 6:00pm Fiscal Op mtg | 21 9:00am Open Door 11:30am Open Door Committee Mtg | 22 Church Offices Closed 8:00pm GAA | 23 10:00am FS Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm AA 8:30pm Al-Anon |
| 24 9:30am FS Choir 9:30am Child Care 11:00am Worship 6:30pm NA 7:00pm Prelude 7:30pm Christmas Eve Service | 25 Church Offices Closed Merry Christmas | 26 Church Offices Closed 8:30am Clothes Sort 11:45am Career Closet 8:00pm GAA | 27 6:00pm Deacons mtg 6:30pm Personnel mtg | 28 9:00am Open Door | 29 Church Offices Closed 8:00pm GAA | 30 5:30pm AA 8:30pm Al-Anon |
| 31 9:30am Child Care 11:00am Worship 6:30pm NA | | | | | | |

Advent and Epiphany Sharing Opportunities

The Spiritual Life Committee will have the 2018 Fort Street Pictorial Calendar available for sale on **December 3, 10, and 17** during Coffee Hour, for \$12.00, just in time for home desks and holiday gifts.

On Epiphany Sunday, January 7, 2018, there will be an auction during Coffee Hour of a baby quilt made by Lynn Montgomery.

The proceeds from the calendar sale and the quilt will be given to an infant and mother health program, Detroit WIN Network, through Henry Ford Health System.

We look forward to supporting infant health with you at this meaningful time in our church year.

If you have questions please ask Nancy Jackson or Judith Sheldon.

A special meeting of the congregation will be held today, Sunday, December 10, 2017, in the sanctuary immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service to receive the report of the Nominating Committee and vote on candidates for the offices of Ruling Elder and Deacon.

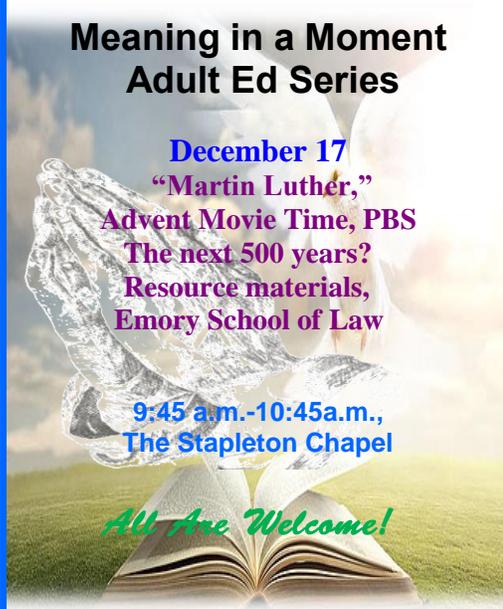
Join us each Wednesday in December for half-hour organ concerts beginning at 12:10. Admission is free! Marilyn Biery will play December 13, featuring music of Advent and settings of familiar Christmas carols.

**Meaning in a Moment
Adult Ed Series**

December 17
"Martin Luther,"
Advent Movie Time, PBS
The next 500 years?
Resource materials,
Emory School of Law

9:45 a.m.-10:45a.m.,
The Stapleton Chapel

All Are Welcome!



Career Closet



Needs professional looking bags, women's dress clothes, sizes 18 & up. We also need men's extra large dress clothes, shirts, size 18 and up, men's belts, men's cuff links, and men's shoes, all sizes.

MARRIAGE ANYONE 2018?

*Thinking of getting married?
Want to get married at Fort Street?
Contact the Wedding Coordinator,
Loretta Stanton
313-549-1015.*



*Great is the Lord and greatly to be
praised in the city of our God.*

Psalm 48:1



OPEN DOOR MEAL PROGRAM THURSDAYS 9AM-11AM

This program is open to the public. Between 7:30am-8:00am women and elderly guests may shower. They may also receive a hygiene kit and use the clothing bank once a month. Between 9:00am –10:00am, men may shower. They may also get a hygiene kit and use the clothing bank monthly. Guests seeking clothing and hygiene kits must present valid identification. Between 9 and 11am a full hot meal is served.

Volunteers are welcome.