



The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2014

A Meditation before Worship

**Exuberant, Life-Giving God,
as Elizabeth, filled with the Spirit,
was moved to bless Mary's child,
so fill us with your Spirit
that our neighbors' hidden hopes
may be blessed and brought to birth,
to the glory of your name,
through the fruit of Mary's womb,
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

--Brian Wren

Fort Street Presbyterian Church

631 W. Fort Street

Detroit, MI 48226

Phone (313) 961-4533

www.fortstreet.org

www.facebook.com/fortstreet

Gathering the Community

PRELUDE *"Ave Maria"* -Franz Biebl
Ray Staroscik, Organist

WELCOME Dr. Sharon L. Mook

INTROIT *"Chorale from "Jupiter" "* - Gustav Holst

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Micah 5: 2 - 5a)* Cameron Crawford-Mook

One: Welcome. Worship God.
Speak of the promise that calls us.

**Many: From a village called Bethlehem
comes a leader, God-beloved,
to govern God's people—
to lead us as a shepherd guides the flock
to water and good pasture.**

One: With origins deep in the past,
comes a child about to be born:

**All: The source of true security—
whose greatness shall reach
to the ends of the earth,
bringing peace.**

*HYMN *"The Days Are Coming,' Said the Lord"*
(see insert)

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE David Crawford and
Cameron Crawford-Mook

One: The Gospel of Luke tells how Mary meets her cousin Elizabeth:
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb.
And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry,
"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."
(Luke 1:41-42)

**Many: God speaks in many ways:
through dreams, visions, new ideas,
and the kicking of a child not yet born.**

One: We light our third candle,
asking that we may hear God's call
in our body, mind, and spirit.
(Light the third candle)

One: Living Christ, give us faith to trust you.
hope to follow you,
and love to live for you.

All: We trust you, we love you, we praise you. Amen.

RESPONSE IN SONG # 600 (PH) "Song of Mary" (vv. 1 and 2)

ADVENT PRAYER OF THE COMMUNITY

Cameron Crawford-Mook

One: God, how can a baby change the world even before it is born?
The proud seem quite secure, the seats of power look unshaken.
The hungry are unfed, and the rich take plenty away.
So how can a baby change the world?

**Many: And yet, when it stirs in the womb, it changes somebody's world,
and when a child is born, our lives are changed forever.**

One: Who knows, at birth, what a child will become?
Did Mary sing her song when her son left home,
when he sat on a hillside, hung on a cross, and shattered the tomb?

**Many: Then how can a baby *not* change the world?
Who knows what a child will become?**

**All: For when, in a home or a nation,
new life surges, strong as the incoming tide,
it changes the shape of the shoreline
so that even the castles of power are like sand. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS (in silence)

RESPONSE IN SONG # 600 (PH) "Song of Mary" (vv. 3 and 4)

COMMUNITY RESPONSE (in unison)

Cameron Crawford-Mook

**Living God, Sovereign Love, giving to Mary anxious perplexity,
faith to believe, and the space to say "Yes," keep us alert for visiting angels,
that we may hear your call, be honest yet faithful, and know that for you, nothing is
impossible, in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

RESPONSE IN SONG # 600 "Song of Mary" (v. 5)

*SHARING THE PEACE

Cameron Crawford-Mook

The Peace of the Living Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Luke 1: 38 - 45
(p. 53 in pew Bible)

Craig McLean

Cameron Crawford-Mook

God's Word for us. **Thanks be to God.**

Dr. Mook

SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SECOND READING

Luke 1: 46 - 56
(pp. 53-54 in pew Bible)

Craig McLean

Cameron Crawford-Mook

God's Word for us. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM	<i>"Jesus Comes With Clouds Descending"</i> The Worship Choir Edward Kingins, Music Director	-Ralph Vaughan Williams
COMMUNION MEDITATION	"Power, Power, Who's Got the Power?"	Dr. Sharon L. Mook
*HYMN	<i>"Mary Gladly Told Her Cousin"</i> (adapted) (see insert)	

THE RESPONSE

OUR OFFERING TO GOD	(Loose offering will be used by the Deacons for their work.)	
OFFERTORY	<i>"For Good"</i> Ray Staroscik, Organist	- Stephen Schwartz
*DOXOLOGY	"Praise the Lover of Creation" Praise the Lover of Creation, Praise the Spirit, friend of friends, Praise the true beloved, our Savior, Praise the God who makes and mends, Strong, surrendered, many-splendored, Three whose Oneness never ends.	- Brian Wren
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION		Cameron Crawford-Mook
LITANY OF PARTING AND BLESSING		Dr. Mook Craig McLean
HYMN # 769 (GG)	<i>"For Everyone Born"</i>	

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE		Dr. Mook
COMMUNION PRAYERS		
ORGAN MEDITATION	<i>"In The Beginning"</i>	- Stephen Schwartz
COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE	(Communion will be received by intinction, with congregants taking a piece of bread to dip into the cup. Please come forward down the center aisle, and return to your pew by the side aisles. If you would like to have the communion elements brought to you, please inform one of the ushers. The corn tortillas on the plates are gluten free.)	
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION		
*HYMN	<i>"How Can We Follow Jesus Christ?"</i> (see p.7)	

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Dr. Mook

(Please sit quietly enjoying the postlude as part of your worship experience)

POST BENEDICTION

“A Blessing”

-Dan Schulte

POSTLUDE

“Canon in D”
Ray Staroscik, Organist

- Johann Pachelbel

+ + +

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit as you are able

Thank you for gathering with us for worship this morning. Following worship, refreshments will be served in the Great Hall area. Please join us!

“Exuberant, Life-Giving God: A Collect Drawn from Luke 1:39–45; Speak of the Promise That Calls Us: A Call to Worship Drawn from Micah 5:2–5a; Fourth Sunday in Advent: Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle; How Can a Baby Change the World? A Meditative Prayer in Response to the Magnificat, Luke 1:47–55; and The Space to Say “Yes” are from Brian Wren, Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany: Liturgies and Prayers for Public Worship (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2008) and are reproduced by permission. Copyright © 2007 by Brian Wren. (adapted)

The hymns, “*The Days Are Coming, ’Said the Lord*” and “*Mary Gladly Told Her Cousin*” have been purchased by the Fort Street Presbyterian Church for use in its worship services.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR HYMNALS

To clarify which hymnal we are using for a particular hymn, please note that when (PH) follows the hymn number, we are singing from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (blue). When (GG) follows the hymn number, we are singing from *Glory to God* (new, purple hymnal). At this time, we have a limited number of new hymnals, so please share with someone sitting near you. You will receive *Glory to God* when you enter the sanctuary. Please return this hymnbook to the Narthex as you leave the sanctuary.

Liturgists

Cameron Crawford-Mook
Craig McLean

Acolyte

Emeka Uduma

Sound Technician

Nancy Jackson

Videographer

Randy Commissaris

Reception Coordinator

Valerie Edward

Worship Coordinator

Pam Sharrow

Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:

Large Print Hymnals

Hearing Assist System

Wheelchair Access Ramp

Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary

Handicap Restroom--using elevator to second floor

We are delighted that you are here!

- * Join others for refreshments in the Great Hall after the worship service.
- * Visit the information and display tables in the narthex.
- * Large print bulletins and hymnals are available.
- * Capable and loving nursery attendants are ready to care for little ones through age 4 during the service. Ask an usher to direct you.
- * CDs of today's service and/or previous services may be ordered thru the church secretary @ \$3.00 each.
- * 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.

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Sharon L. Mook, Ph.D.,
revdrMook@fortstreet.org
www.facebook.com/fortstreet

FORT STREET STAFF:

Judith Sheldon, Director of Christian Education; Ben Ogden, Director of Open Door; Edward Kingins, Music Director; Stephanie Rochelle, Finance Office; Lola JF Davidson, Secretary; Kenneth McCoy, Building Engineer; Donna Bryant, Bob Haynes, Parking Security; Marilyn Moore, Karen Wright, Donlin Center Staff; Stacey Kershaw, Johnnie Hester, Cheryl Glidden, Open Door Staff.

Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Crilley

Web Page: www.fortstreet.org

Prayers for Military loved ones.

Lt. Harrison L Coleman USN, Taylor Hansen USMC, Jonathan Heyler, SSGT Shanell Howard AFB, Sgt. Christopher King, Capt. Michael Kurtti, Lt. Theo Moran USAF, Alta Morrison, Lt. Jon Palmer USA, Lt. Marty Palmer USA, Charles Andrew Parsons II USN, USMC Captain Katy Spicer Hess, Alexander Szelestey, USMC, Lt. Mark Webster.

Prayer List for the month of December 2014

Don/Lois Bardwell, Lynne Bieniek, The Claire family, Lorraine/Harrison Coleman family, Dombrowski family, Bobbie Edwards/family, FSPC, David Ferrato, Rose Grosscup, Shannon Howard, Maria Hughley, Marion Jenkins/family, Mary Etta Johnson, Geraldine Adams Jones, Valerie Kimbrough, Lemus family, Lewis family, Don/Virginia Lorimer, Karen Marcil, Dr. Mook/family, Dan Muench, Cheryl Myers, Jerry Naragon, Claudia Novitzsky, Derrick Parker/family, Kathy Payne/family, Richard Petrie, Easter Ponder, Jennie/David Poole, Robinson family, Richard/Suellen Sale family, Cathy Topping and Debra Vinson/family.

“How Can We Follow Jesus Christ?”

(hymn tune # 434 - Kingsfold)

**How can we follow Jesus Christ,
together, not alone –
a body, sent to show and share
the love to us made known?
We’ll gently join our scattered lives
through Scripture, prayer and song,
and sing, as each new week arrives,
“To Jesus we belong.”**

**How shall we speak of Jesus Christ
when others strut and shout
with overactive certainties
that sow the seeds of doubt?
We’ll tell how Christ is taking down
our walls that still divide –
of sex and gender, class and race,
anxiety and pride.**

**How shall we learn of Jesus Christ
from Muslim or from Jew
or in the deep distinctive worlds
of Buddhist and Hindu?
We’ll listen, and refuse the game
of who is right or wrong,
then if we’re asked, we’ll say again,
“To Jesus we belong.”**

**God, haul us from our rutted roads
and inward-thinking ways
to be a people outward bound
in action, speech and praise.
Make us convincing evidence
of what your love has done
that we may go where Jesus goes,
together, and as one.**