



Sewickley Presbyterian Church

LIVE · GROW · SERVE

Order of Worship

December 15, 2024

Prelude

Fantasia on 'Hyfrydol'

SPC Ringers

Introit

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Derek R. Davenport

Advent Introit

Wait for the Lord

Lighting of the *Third* Advent Candle – *The Elliott Family*

Opening Hymn #105

People, Look East

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Adapted From The Book of Common Order, Church of Scotland, 1877

Hear, O Lord, the humble confession of our sin. We confess unto you the wickedness of our hearts, our evil thoughts and acts. Especially, O God, we confess to you the things which are the present burden of our heart and conscience. We cast ourselves upon your mercy. We ask you to cleanse us for the sake of your mercy. Accept our confession and make our repentance sincere. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, this is the good news of the gospel.

Many: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Confession Response

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now,
And ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Announcements

Rev. Emily I. Miller

Children's Time

Children going into preschool through 3rd grade are invited to leave for Children's Church following the Children's Time.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-33

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Mary's Song

Anna Singer, soprano

Sermon

Christmas Before Christmas

Rev. Dr. Derek R. Davenport

Sermon Hymn #146

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

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.

Offering & Offertory

He Is Born

SPC Ringers

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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.

Prayer Response

Savior of the Nations, Come (verse 3)

Closing Hymn #97

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Benediction

Postlude

Gaudete

Worship Participants

Sr. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Derek R. Davenport
Assoc. Pastor: Rev. Emily I. Miller
Assoc. Pastor: Rev. G. Michael Creamer
Speaker(s): The Elliott Family
Acolyte: Lydia Davenport
Choir Director/Organist: Dr. Michael Hammer
Soloists:
Ray Blackwell, baritone,
Xiuru Liu, contralto
Anna Singer, soprano,
Paul Yeater, tenor
Chancel Choir
SPC Ringers
Ushers: Beth Rom, Ollie Rea, Terry Smith
Tech Crew: Dave Breit, Rici Brockinson,
Lexie Merritt

Credits

Fantasia on 'Hyfrydol', Hal H. Hopson
Now the Heavens Start to Whisper, Mary Louise Bringle-
Alexander Johnson's Tennessee Harmony
People, Look East. The Time is Near, (#105)
Gloria Patri, Gloria Patri
Mary's Song, Dr. Michael Hammer
Gentle Mary Laid Her Child, (#146)
He Is Born, arr. Sondra K. Tucker
Savior of the Nations, Come (verse 3)., Ambrose of Milan
(4th C.)- Ehfurt Endchiridion (1524)
Watchman, Tell Us of the Night, (#97)
Gaudete, M. Marteau

Today's Flowers: In Loving Memory of Rol. F. Kinney,
By The Kinney Family

IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME HERE?

Thank you for visiting our church this morning. We'd love to reach out to you. Let us know you were here by putting your name and contact information in one of the pew pads. We welcome you to visit our website to learn more about ways you can take part in groups, classes, and events. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Sharon Barber (sbarber@sewickleypresby.org/412.741.4550).



LOOKING AHEAD

- December 15: 9 AM Rock Cantata**
Christmas Concert at St. Paul's Lutheran
- December 18: Longest Night Service**
- December 22: Christmas Pageant**
Congregational Meeting
- December 24: Christmas Eve Worship**
- December 29: One Worship Service at 10 AM**
- December 30: End of Year Giving due to Laura Mikus**

Visit our website for complete details on events and groups that meet during the week: sewickleypresby.org

PRAYER NEEDS

PRAYERS FOR PRESENCE AND HEALING

- Pete Eberhart (father of Elizabeth Szuba)
- Beverly Harris

A full list of Prayer Needs can be found in the Robinson Room and at the door of the Sanctuary

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday | 9 AM - 5 PM
Contact Us: 414 Grant Street, Sewickley, PA 15143 | 412.741.4550
Sewickley Presbyterian Website: <https://sewickleypresby.org>