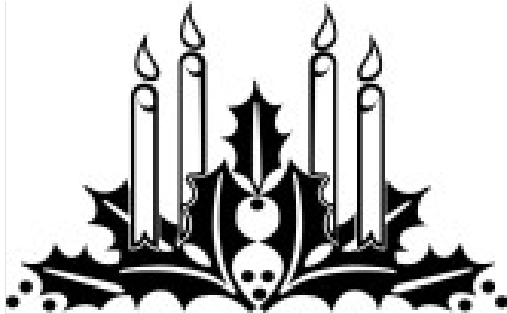


# Bryce Avenue Presbyterian Church

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1

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The Lord's Day, December 22, 2024

**THE ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
**The Lord's Day, December 22, 2024, 10:20 am**

**PREPARE TO WORSHIP GOD**

The Gathering Hymn                      *196 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude                                      *"Wake Every Breath" by William Billings*

*"Wake every breath and every string, to bless the great redeemer king: his name through every clime adored! Let joy and gratitude, and love, through all the notes of music move, and 'Jesus' sound on every chord." –W. Billings, 1770.*

**WE WORSHIP GOD**

The Votum and Salutation                      *Psalms 124:8; 1 Corinthians 1:3*

+ Call to Worship                                      *Psalms 27:4-6*

One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek:  
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
To behold the beauty of the Lord  
And to meditate in His temple.  
For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle;  
In the secret place of His tent He will hide me;  
He will lift me up on a rock.  
And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me,  
And I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.

+ The Gloria Patri (GREATOREX)  
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.

+ The Prayer of Praise and Adoration

+ The Praise Hymn                                      *208, "O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

+ Confession of Faith                                      *Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
God from God,  
Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made;  
of the same essence as the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and was made human.  
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried.  
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.  
He ascended to heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again with glory  
to judge the living and the dead.  
His kingdom will never end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life.  
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.  
He spoke through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
and to life in the world to come. Amen.**

The Law of God

*Ephesians 5:3-5*

But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

*Based on Psalm 26*

Examine us, O Lord, and try us.  
Test our minds and hearts.  
For Your lovingkindness is before our eyes.  
O LORD, we love the habitation of Your house.  
And the place where Your glory dwells.  
Do not take our soul away *along* with sinners.  
Nor our lives with men of bloodshed.  
In whose hands is a wicked scheme.  
And whose right hand is full of bribes.  
But as for us, we shall walk in my integrity.  
Redeem us, and be gracious to us.  
Our foot stands on a level place.  
In the congregations we shall bless the LORD.

*Take a moment to silently confess your sins to the Lord.*

+ The Assurance of Pardon

*John 3:14-16*

As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

+ The Thanksgiving Hymn

*230, "Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor"*

### **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED**

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

(Pew Bible pg. 43, New Testament)

The Prayer for Illumination

The Sermon

*His Kingdom Will Have No End*

Pastor Zachary Garris

Prayer of Dedication

### **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

+ The Response Hymn

*195, "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"*

The Prayers of Petition and Intercession

*Our Father which 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.*

The Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings

+ The Doxology (OLD HUNDREDTH, L.M.)  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

+ The Offertory Prayer

+ Benediction

+ The Response

*"Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God"*

Psalm 72:18; *Scottish Psalter* 1650; Tune: DUNDEE, C.M.

Now blessed be the Lord our God, the God of Israel,  
for He alone does wondrous works, in glory that excel.  
And blessed be His glorious Name to all eternity;  
The whole earth let His glory fill. Amen, so let it be.

(+ If you are able, please stand)

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## **Announcements for Sunday, December 22, 2024**

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**Welcome!** May God in His mercy turn our hearts to Himself that we may worship Him *"in spirit and in truth."*

**Welcome Visitors!** We are delighted to have you join us for worship today. We are a congregation of the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA, a Bible-believing, confessional, and evangelical Reformed denomination. As a church, we strive to be, *"faithful to the Scriptures, true to the Reformed faith, and obedient to the Great Commission of Jesus Christ."* We invite you to learn more about our faith and our mission.

**Hearing Assistance** — If you would like a device to help with hearing the worship service, please see Elder Dave Forslund.

**Sunday School** — Sunday school classes begin at 9 am. We have two children’s classes: Beginners (ages 3 through 6) meet in the north end of the Fellowship Hall, and Juniors (ages 7 through 12) meet in the south end of the Fellowship Hall. The Youth class (ages 13 through 18) meets with the adults in the Sanctuary.

**No Sunday School Next Sunday** — The Session has canceled all Sunday school classes on December 22 and 29 because many folks are expected to be away during the holidays.

**Our special mission emphasis for December is our denomination’s “Ministerial Relief [Christmas] Offering.”** — From PCA Retirement & Benefits: “This season, PCA churches around the country will collect donations to look after widows, retired ministers, and PCA church servants in distress. These funds are administered through the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund to provide financial assistance and support to our faithful servants, many of whom live near or below the poverty line. Your gifts help pay for basic needs like groceries, housing, and medical expenses. Help us look after those who have faithfully served Christ’s church.”

**Christmas Eve Service** — Lord willing, Tuesday evening, December 24th, 7:00 p.m., we will celebrate the annual Christmas Eve service: the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Invite your family and friends to come enjoy this service of rejoicing in the Incarnation!

**This Week’s Activities: December 23–29**

<i>Tuesday</i>	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Nine Lessons & Carols
<i>Wednesday</i>		<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>
<i>Sunday</i>	10:20 a.m.	Morning Worship

**Ministry Responsibilities: December 23–29**

Bulletin Preparation	12/26	Finnegan Family
Greeting	12/29	Kwon Family
Pre-Worship Coffee	12/29	Charlie Bell
Nursery Schedule	12/29	Yvonne Inbody / Trisha Scheie
December Laundry		Simmons Family

**Prayer Requests:**

- Christians and Christian organizations in Ukraine
- Peace in the Middle East
- The persecuted Church of Jesus around the world

- The victims of natural disasters
- Revival and reformation of true faith and practice
- Peace and purity of our denomination (the PCA)
- Additional moisture to reduce the drought
- Our elected government leaders and the judiciary
- The protection of the unborn in New Mexico
- The sustaining and growth of Reformed churches in New Mexico
- Preserve, protect, and prosper our families in Christ
- The addition of new families to our number that our witness might grow
- Those dealing with cancer (DeWayne, family members, friends)
- Mercy and peace for Cherrie Scharf as she deals with Russ's passing
- Those with continuing physical needs
- Church Officers – Christ's leading and sustaining of church leaders
- Rev. Dan Young and Rev. Dan Rose who are fighting Parkinson's disease
- Family members who have wandered away from Christ
- Eyes focused more and more on our Savior and Lord
- Hearts and minds that are devoted to Christ
- Lives exhibiting the great joy of our salvation
- Wonder at the glorious incarnation and its meaning
- Forslund Family

### **Sermon Notes**