



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 27, 2009

Eleven o'clock

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

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## THE GATHERING

*The service of worship begins with the prelude; quiet is requested as you enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship. In the spirit of Christian fellowship, we invite you to wear a name tag which is available from the greeters. As a community that prays with and for one another, we invite you to share your joys and concerns by using the blue cards available from the ushers and in the welcome pad folders. Those parts of the Service of Worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in bold type.*

*\*Stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

Noel Anglais

James Woodman

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: For everything there is a season:

**People: And a time for every matter under heaven.**

Leader: God has made everything suitable for its time.

**People: God has put a sense of past and future into our minds.**

Leader: God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before the Lord.

**People: Whatever God does endures forever.**

\* HYMN 22

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Regent Square

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please use the welcome pad in the blue folder at the end of the pew. Record your presence. Pass it back, noticing who is worshipping with you. When the pad has been returned, please tear off the sheet and place it in the offering plate.)*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We pause O God to look over the past year - a year in which you were with us - but we were not always with you. We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. You have called us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, but through our failures to do your will we have weakened the fabric of our relationship with you and with others. Forgive us Lord and lead us into the new year in holiness and righteousness. We ask this that we might be a people pleasing unto you, a people who allow your light to shine in the darkness and who bring praise and glory unto your name. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the Lord and Savior of all.

### PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Friends, believe and proclaim the Good News: in Jesus Christ, love breaks through hatred, hope breaks through despair, life breaks through death.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and set free.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (*all sing; Hymnal No. 32*)

*Glo—ria in excelsis Deo*

\* EXCHANGE OF PEACE

Leader: Let us open our hearts to one another as Christ has opened his heart to us, and God will be glorified.

*People: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

(Exchange Signs of Reconciliation and the Peace of Christ with your neighbor - e.g., *“The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.”*  
Response - *“And also with you.”*)

## TIME WITH CHILDREN

\* HYMN 36

In the Bleak Midwinter

Cranham



## THE SENDING OUT

\* HYMN 28      Good Christian Friends, Rejoice      *In Dulci Jubilo*

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE      Variations on 'In Dulci Jubilo'      *Denis Bedard*

*(Our worship ends with the conclusion of the Postlude. It is the custom of our church to remain seated. Those who wish to leave may do so.)*

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## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

### 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26 (NRSV)

Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. <sup>19</sup>His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. <sup>20</sup>Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD"; and then they would return to their home.

<sup>26</sup>Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

### Luke 2:41-52 (NRSV)

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." <sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.