# Faces at the Manger Manger

DECEMBER 22 Joseph: The Eyes of Love Matthew 1:18-25



A welcoming community of faith where Jesus Christ transforms lives

### **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Rev. Christopher A. Henry Senior Pastor

Rev. David T. Kim Lake Fellow in Parish Ministry

Rev. Gracie H. Payne
Associate Pastor for Young Adult Engagement

Quinn Miller Liturgist

Sanctuary Choir

Dr. Michelle Louer
Director of Music and Fine Arts

Dr. John Allegar
Organist and Assistant Director
of Music and Fine Arts

### **PROCESSION**

**Acolytes** 

Harper Sundheimer Quinn Sundheimer

**Element Bearers** 

David Champa David Lancet

**Ewer Bearer** 

Fred Fox

**Advent Candles** 

Marshall Miller Meaghan Ratliff

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### **WELCOME FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN**

Following today's *Word with Children*, children ages 4 through grade 8 may remain with their families or depart for Children's Choir. If departing, please assure your child is wearing a green nametag. Children's Choir pickup will be on the first floor in room 112 and the choir room.

Childcare is available on the second floor for infants through age 3.

### **VISUAL AND HEARING ASSISTANCE**

Please speak to an usher if you need a large print bulletin, large print hymnal, or an assistive listening device.

# **December 22, 2024**

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

# We Come Together as God's People

Prelude Two settings on "Savior of the Nations, Come", BWV 659 and 660 J.S. Bach

Dr. John Allegar, organ

(1685-1750)

Welcome Rev. Christopher A. Henry

Choral Call to Worship Torches Galician carol

Sanctuary Choir; Dr. Michelle Louer, conductor arr. John Joubert (1927-2019)

Torches, torches, run with torches all the way to Bethlehem! Christ is born and now lies sleeping; Come and sing your song to him!

Sing, my friends, and make you merry, joy and mirth and joy again; Lo, he lives, the king of heaven, Now and evermore. Amen.

### \* Opening Sentences

Rev. David T. Kim

One: In this season of Advent, we watch and wait and pray

for the coming of light into the world.

All: We long for the day when the things of darkness shall be no more.

One: Lord, light up the past that we might learn from it with thankfulness.

All: Light up the present that we might live in it with love.

One: Light up the future that we might prepare for it with hope.

\* Prayer of Adoration

\* **Processional Hymn #22** Angels, from the Realms of Glory

**REGENT SQUARE** 

**Lighting of the Advent Candle** 

Meaghan Ratliff and Marshall Miller

We light candles this Advent.

Candles of joy despite all the sadness.

Candles of hope where despair keeps watch.

Candles of courage where fear is ever present.

Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days.

Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens.

Candles of love to inspire our living.

O Lord, may these candles burn all year long. Amen.

### **Invitation to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Lord of extravagant love,

again and again you offer yourself to us in the gift of Jesus Christ.

As we prepare our celebration of your greatest gift to us,

we confess that we are distracted, even anxious.

We worry we won't get everything done,

as if your coming somehow depended on us.

We rush from here to there,

instead of sensing your presence in moments of quiet reflection, or time spent with those dearest to us, or in songs sung with joy.

Trappings of the season divert us from your presence.

Forgive us, focus us, prepare our hearts for the wonder of Emmanuel, God with us and for us.

We pray in Jesus' name. (Silent Prayer)

### **Assurance of God's Grace**

### \* Response of Praise

VENI EMMANUEL



### \* Passing the Peace of Christ

\* Hymn #30

Born in the Night, Mary's Child

MARY'S CHILD

## We Experience God's Word

### The Word with Children

Prayer for Illumination Quinn Miller

First Scripture Lesson Colossians 1:15-20 (p. 1072)

Anthem His Light In Us Kim André Arnesen

(b. 1980)

God's distant call flares in the night, so long expected, so longed for; and all my life, Christ called my name, and now at last, I'll answer Him.

and now at last, I'll answer His Refrain: Renewed, his hope, his light in us, incarnate, fragile, our Lord appears.

Eternal, so perfect,

Alleluia, alleluia!

his cry of changeless love.

Alive, awake, His call is here: it is the crying of the Child; I know Christ's call, its hidden flame, it makes my spirit flare with hope! Refrain

This root, this stem, this flowering Love, this mustard seed, it grows to the greatest tree, the birds of souls have nested there.

The light of the night now blazes at dawn!

You've led me here, O little child, your being singing with God's life. The kingdom sings, it choirs with earth, all creation lives Christ's peace. Refrain

Text: Euan Tait (b. 1968)

**Second Scripture Lesson** 

Sermon

Matthew 1:18-25

(p. 877)

Rev. Christopher A. Henry

# Joseph: The Eyes of Love

"When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife..." (Matthew 1:24)

### **Moment of Silent Meditation**

### We Give Thanks to God

### Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Gracie H. Payne

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.

### **Invitation to Discipleship and Generosity**

**Offertory**The First Mercy

Kristin Shaffer, soprano

Peter Warlock

(1894-1930)

Ox and ass at Bethlehem On a night, ye know of them. We were only creatures small, Hid by shadows on the wall.

We were swallow, moth and mouse; The Child was born in our house, And the bright eyes of us three Peeped at His nativity.

Hands of peace upon that place Hushed our beings for a space Quiet feet and folded wing, Nor a sound of any thing.

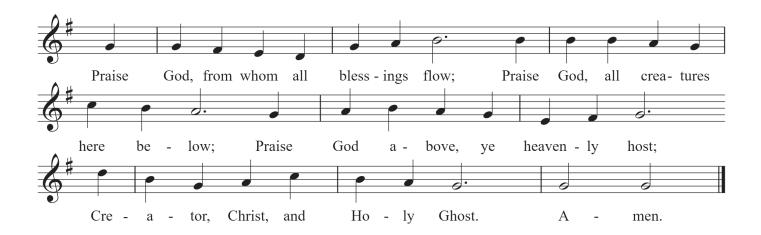
With a moving star we crept Closer when the Baby slept; Men who guarded where He lay Moved to frighten us away.

But the Babe, awakened, laid Love on things that were afraid; With so sweet a gesture He Called us to His company.

Text: Bruce Blunt (1899-1957)

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\* **Doxology** OLD HUNDREDTH



\* Prayer of Dedication

### We Go Forth to Serve

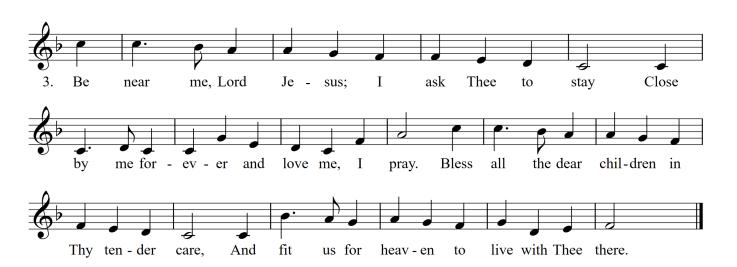
\* Closing Hymn #11

- O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?
- VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

- \* Charge and Benediction
- \* Congregational Benediction

Be Near Me, Lord Jesus

MUELLER



**Postlude** 

Magnificat VI: "Gloria" (Finale)

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

### THE POWER OF PRAYER

We remember in prayer these members who have died, and their loved ones. The white rose in front of the lectern is in memory of:

**Betty Johns** 

Would you like one of our pastors to pray with you today? We invite you to come to Milner Chapel immediately following the 10 AM worship service for a short time of communion and prayer. You may also visit **SecondChurch.org/Prayer** to fill out a Prayer Request Form.

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please contact:

Ashley McNamara, Coordinator of Pastoral Care AMcNamara@SecondChurch.org

### **GIVING**

SecondChurch.org/Give



We are grateful to you, the congregation, for helping us reach 90% of our Commitment Campaign goal. Thank you! **We still need everyone** to participate to reach our \$3.9M goal.

If you have not yet submitted your pledge, it can be made online by using the QR code below, a commitment card from the pew racks, or by contacting Nancy Frick.

Imagine what we can do together for God and our community!



If you have questions about making a pledge, please contact:

**Elder Nancy A. Frick**, *Director of Stewardship and Endowment* 317-253-6461, ext. 359 or NFrick@SecondChurch.org

### **VISITING TODAY?**

Thank you for worshiping with Second!

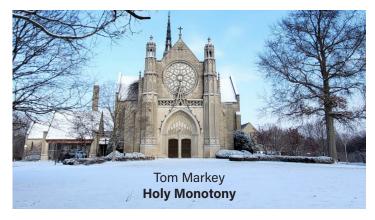
Our Hospitality Team would love to connect and welcome you more fully into the life of Second. Scan this QR code and let us know you were here!



### **THIS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24**



### **NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29**



NO 8:15 AM Chapel Worship NO 9 AM Sunday School

10 AM - Sanctuary Worship

NO 11:15 AM Service of Wholeness and Communion

SecondChurch.org/Worship

Watch Sunday worship all week long at SecondChurch.org/Live

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**SecondChurch.org/Events



December 24 • Christmas Eve Services
4 PM • Child-Led Service of Lessons and Carols
7 & 9 PM • Service of Lessons and Carols
Sanctuary Choir, Festival Brass & Percussion, and Organ
11 PM • Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion
Sanctuary Choir Section Leaders, flute, harp, and strings