

ORDER OF WORSHIP
First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2017
11:00 AM

Reverend Marguerite Serrine, Interim Pastor
Scott Schlesinger, Organist/Choir Director JoAnn Harrison, Secretary

Gathering of the People

Prelude *Aquarium* Camille Saint-Saëns

Welcome

Introit

Prepare the Way of the Lord
Joyful Noise

Lighting of the first Candle of Advent/Call to Worship Cam Cover

Reader: Hear the words of the Apostle: God will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. (I Corinthians 1:8)
Let us pray responsively: God of hope, out of death you bring life.

People: Renew us in hope.

Reader: Alert us to the dawning of Christ's advent among us.

People: God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come. Amen.

He Came Down (#137)

*He came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have hope;
he came down that we may have hope; hallelujah, forevermore.*

Praise of God

* Hymn No. 93

Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Silent Individual Confession

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess our impatience. We want more time to get everything done, but we use the time we have poorly. We want to accomplish everything on our lists so that we can make even more lists. We fill this holy season with distractions from waiting because we do not want to wait, not even for you. Stop us, O God. Make us wait, and in the waiting, find more than we could have ever imagined or thought: your presence with us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Response No. #103

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

*Come now, O Prince of Peace; make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.*

Sharing of God's Word

Conversation with the Children

Karoline Mathewson

*(Children ages 4 through 5th grade will leave for Sunday School;
a nursery is also provided for infants and toddlers downstairs)*

Prayer for Illumination

CHURCH NOTES

December 3, 2017

WELCOME VISITORS! We welcome you to Hillsborough Presbyterian Church and to this service. We are truly pleased that you have chosen to worship with us today because we believe that everyone who enters these doors is God's guest. We invite you to sign the guest book in the narthex or the Friendship Pad as it is passed among the congregation. We welcome all to be part of our community of faith, and participate in any of our activities and events.

We invite you to join us on Sundays for worship and education.

9:45 AM Sunday School -- for all ages!

9:45 AM Children's Nursery (downstairs, Room #205)

11:00 AM Traditional Worship – with organ music and choir

(Children's Sunday School follows Conversation with Children)

CHILD CARE is provided for infants and toddlers in the Nursery on the first floor (downstairs from Sanctuary). **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** (ages 4 years through 5th grade) is provided during worship. Children may leave for class following the Conversation with the Children.

Assisting in Worship today:

Liturgist: Linda Jaubert

The **CHOIR's** introit (#95) and benediction (#87) are from the "Glory to God" hymnbook as we introduce you to new hymns.

From the Choir Corner: The title of today's offertory comes from the text, *Rorate coeli desuper et nubes pluant justum (Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the just). Aperiat terra et germinet salvatorem" (Let the earth be opened and send forth a Saviour"*). The Rorate Mass is a Mass in honor of the Virgin Mary for the season of Advent in the Catholic tradition.

We appreciate our Interim Pastor, Organist/Choir Director, and Secretary. Please consider making a gift toward the staff **Christmas Bonus**, to be equally divided. Please note 'Christmas Bonus' on your check or giving envelope, and place in the offering plate or mail. **Deadline is Sunday, December 10.**

HPC Choir rehearsals will be 1-4 PM on Saturday, December 9 and 7 PM on Thursday, December 14. Questions? See Scott Schlesinger.

THANKS TO ALL WHO TURNED IN PLEDGE FORMS! What a help you are to the session. Thank you for dedicating a portion of your gifts to HPC. If you have not yet turned in your **2018 FINANCIAL PLEDGE**, please pick up a copy of the pledge form from the foyer and place it in the offering plate, or mail or email your pledge form to the church office. Or, if you're not sure you turned in your pledge form, just give us a call or drop us an email! (hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org or P.O. Box 717, Hillsborough)

Our next **Food For All** meal will be Tuesday, December 26th. (It's always the 4th Tuesday.) The sign-up sheet for volunteers is on the mission bulletin board in the hallway of the Gerritsen Education Building. Questions? See Jane McIver.

Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas! If you would like to make a memorial donation towards the purchase of the poinsettias and greenery used to decorate the Sanctuary during Christmas, please pick up a form in the narthex. Place the completed form and your donation in the offering plate or return it to the church office by Sunday, December 3.



HPC CHOIR CONCERT – We will gather on **Sunday, December 10th at 6:00 PM** for our HPC Choir Concert. Join us for Christmas music by our HPC Choir along with congregational carols, followed by a reception in Strudwick Hall.

All women of Hillsborough Presbyterian Church are invited to join with **Circle 1** for our holiday covered dish lunch on **Monday, December 11, at 11:00**. We will meet at the church, and discuss possibilities for our Bible study. Please come and enjoy sharing time together.

Winter Warmth: The Mission Commission is collecting items for OCIM and our refugee families. Check out the "Mitten Line" in the hallway and bring an unwrapped item back by December 31st.

The Youth Group is sponsoring the **3rd Annual HPC Youth Coats for Kids** drive. Please bring new or gently used children's coats to the collection box provided in the hallway by **December 17th**. Checks are also welcomed, note in memo line "Coats for Kids" and we will do the shopping for you! Our goal is to collect 75 new and gently used coats for Kids. The coats will be donated to the Orange County Schools in collaboration with the OCS Social Workers. Questions? Contact Eric Cathey.

Remember these opportunities for sharing this Advent and Christmas:

- Support the PCUSA **Christmas Joy Offering** to support our retired church workers and racial/ethnic colleges – offering received on December 17 and 24.
- A reminder that the offering at Christmas Eve goes to the Deacon's Fund, which supports individuals and families in crisis throughout the year.



Check out our **HPC WEB PAGE** at www.hillsboroughpres.org – click on any event on our calendar page for details! You will also find the monthly newsletter and the weekly bulletin posted on this webpage! A great way to keep up with what's happening at HPC!

In an emergency or to share a concern, please contact the church office, 919-732-3131, or marguerite@hillsboroughpres.org

THIS SUNDAY: December 3

Wed – 6:00 PM Youth Group (Strudwick, meal: Karoline Mathewson)

Thur – 7:00 PM Choir rehearsal (#221)

Sat – 1 - 4 PM Christmas Concert Adult Choir Rehearsal
2:00 PM Joyful Noise Choir Rehearsal

NEXT SUNDAY: December 10

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;
II Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!
9:45 AM Joyful Noise Children's Choir rehearsal (#221)
9:45 AM Children's Childcare and Nursery
11:00 AM Traditional Worship
(Children's Sunday School after Conversation with Children)
12:15 PM Mission Meeting (#204)
6:00 PM HPC Choir Concert and Reception

Volunteers:
Liturgist: Martin Brown
Children's Sermon: Eric Cathey
Advent Candle: Bill and Lisa Flinn
Youth Meal: Ina Phay Johnson (12/13)
Nursery: TBD
Greeters: Sam Nesbit, TBD