

***THE HYMN (SEE INSERT)**

Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love

GREENSLEEVES

*** THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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.

THE 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.

THE OFFERTORY

From Heaven Above — Var. 2

Walter Pelz

***THE DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God, above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE CHORAL RESPONSE**

Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall Come

VENI EMMANUEL

***THE POSTLUDE**

Improvisation

Dr. Jonathan Crutchfield



Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
December 10, 2017
11 a.m. Worship

1411 North Morningside Drive, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306
TEL 404.876.7396; Preschool 404.685.8758
EMAIL office@morningsidepc.org; WEB morningsidepc.org

Thank you for making sure your cell phone is off during the worship hour.

THE GATHERING

Rev. Beth Waltemath

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.****THE PRELUDE***From Heaven Above*

Walter Pelz

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for God will speak peace to the people, to the faithful, to those who turn to the LORD in their hearts.

People: **Surely God's salvation is at hand for those who fear the LORD, that God's glory may dwell in our land.**

Leader: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

People: **Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

Leader: The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

People: **Righteousness will go before God, and will make a path for God's steps.**

-Psalm 85:8-13

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 11** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?* VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN**THE CALL TO CONFESSION*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God of perfect love, we know that those who abide in you abide in love, and you abide in them. We know that we are called to embody love; to give feet and hands to the good news that "you so loved the world." The love you call forth from us is the basis for an existence marked by harmony and well-being in your beloved creation. And yet, our love is incomplete. Perhaps our love is self-centered, seeking our own gratification over others. Or perhaps our love is shallow; merely warm feelings without the depth shown when our lives are oriented to you. Or perhaps we are afraid of the change that love will make in us. No matter our experience, no matter our failings; your love is perfect. Your love is eternal. Your love will make us whole. Thanks be to God, Amen.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE *(for examination of conscience and personal prayers of confession)** *(The asterisk indicates parts of the worship when the congregation is invited to stand as they are able.)***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLE**

Katrina and Sienna Weiss

Leader: Jesus Christ is the Light of the World!

People: **The light of love dawns on a weary world, bringing hope, joy and peace.**

Leader: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

People: **Love conquers hate, peace disrupts violence, joy overcomes grief, hope rules in our hearts.**

Leader: Gospel is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

***THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Canticle of the Turning*

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me, and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn, wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

People: **And also with you.****THE CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH***(Visitors and members are invited to sign the blue friendship register pad and pass it down the pew.)***THE GOSPEL LESSON**

Mark 1:1-8

(page 32 in the pew Bible, NT)

THE ANTHEM*And the Glory of the Lord* (from "Messiah")

G. F. Handel

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it. (Text: Isaiah 11:5)

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 15:4-13

(page 153 in the pew Bible, NT)

THE SERMON*"Harmony"*

Rev. Dr. Baron Mullis

THE HYMNHope, Joy, Peace, and Love*

GREENSLEEVES

Come down, O Hope of every heart, of every race and nation, and change our darkness into light, our sin to sure salvation. Long have we yearned to see your open arms and smiling face; here, now, make us your own; redeem us by your endless grace.

ELDER ON CALL: Dave Mogge

DEACON ON CALL: Sanda Means

USHERS: Nancy Anderson, Brenda Fishpaw, Carol Senf & Kathy Bremer

GREETERS: Carol Senf, Gail Kitchens, Emilee Terry & Lisa Ladds

COUNTERS: Martin Dunlap & Richard Brownlee

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION HOSTS: Susan and Mark Gilbreath

NURSERY: Sarah Brownlee

TWOS/THREES VOLUNTEER: Amy Millard

PRE-K AND K: Sarah Beth Gehl & Lisa Ladds

FELLOWSHIP: Arts & Crafts Guild – Beth Baer

Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- Philippians 4:6-7

Keep in your prayers...

Sue Blouin
Andrew Brady (Gwyn Brady's brother)
Richard Breiter (Aaron Shepherd's grandfather)
Nancy Cunningham
Pat Dumbleton (Austin Davis-Selph's aunt)
Chuck Fishpaw (Brenda Fishpaw's son)
Terri Healey (Ward Howell's cousin)
Billy Jones (Melissa Lawson's father)
Friends and relatives of Linda Johnson
Dr. John Kusel (Lester Morris and Baron Mullis' friend)
Lange family
Bebe Libby (Kasey Libby's mom)
Jan McMahan
Ted McMahan

Brandon Odom
Ray family
Bev Reed
Beth Klotz Von Seggern (Jack Klotz's sister)
Marlie Ann Senf
Kimball Sweatt (Frampton family friend)
Mary Turner (Sanda Means' mother)
Evelyn Wimberly (Nancy Frampton's ex-mother-in-law)

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Welcome to worship at Morningside Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Dr. Baron Mullis, Senior Pastor will be our preacher and **Ms. Eliza Smith, intern,** and **Rev. Beth Waltemath, Associate for Mission and Faith Development** will be our liturgists.

- Large print hymnals and Bibles as well as hearing aids are available; ushers will gladly assist.
- Please complete the information in the Friendship Pad at the end of the pews and pass the pads down and back again during the **Concerns** portion of worship.
- Children are welcomed and encouraged in worship every Sunday. Worship bags for children can be found in the Narthex.
- Childcare for 0-23 months is in Room 105, and Room 012 for 2 and 3 year olds.
- Pre-K/K in room 001.

ADVENT BANNERS

Advent means a coming or arrival. The Advent banners represent the coming of the promises of God through Christ Jesus. The title of the banner is "Heart Root Promises of God: Hope, Peace, Joy, Love." Using purple batiks the living powerful energy of the Holy Spirit represents bringing forth the promises through Christ into the world. Colors of green, blue, pink, and gold batiks represent the power and ever-continuing evolution of these promises.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT TODAY

The participants in this year's Christmas Pageant invite you to wonder once again as you see the story of Jesus' birth acted out by our Pre through fifth grade children. Invite your friends to the pageant at **5:30 p.m tonight**. This is certainly a time that families will not want to miss!

CHILI COOK-OFF COMPETITION

The time for Morningside's famous Chili Cook-off Competition will be here **today at 6 p.m.** immediately following the children's Christmas Pageant. Today is the day that you will have to go up against last year's champion, Anne Barnette, as she prepares to defend her title against all other chili chefs. Bring your best chili and let the tasters decide.

YOU CAN STILL PLEDGE

There's still time to pledge. Every pledge counts towards planning for 2018 programs, salaries, mission, and maintenance. You can pledge online, place a pledge card in the offering plate, or email your pledge amount to our treasurer Bill Humphries (billh6848@gmail.com).

INTERFAITH VOICES AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

On **Thursday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m.** at Trinity Presbyterian Church (3003 Howell Mill Rd, Atlanta, GA 30327) we ask that you join us in a prayer vigil, followed by a call for Georgia's people of faith to create a state and a nation with safer gun laws. To RSVP please visit www.outcrygeorgia.org/newtown.



We would love to receive you into membership on **Sunday, December 17** from **9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.** in the pastor's study (also known as Baron's office, off of the welcome center). Walk-ins are always welcome, but we would love to know to expect you. Contact Baron (baron.mullis@morningsidepc.org) with any additional questions you may have.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship at Morningside, but we do offer childcare during our services for infants through kindergarten for those parents who wish it. We're in need of volunteers to spend that time especially with our Pre-K/Kindergarteners. No planning is required—activities are provided and the main responsibility is play. Contact Mardee Rightmyer (mrightmyer@morningsidepc.org) to volunteer so we can have enough helpers so no one has to miss worship every week.

INTOWN COLLABORATIVE MINISTRIES

This month, MPC will honor the spiritual practice of Advent giving by collecting food for ICM. We will collect canned goods and other non-perishable foods during worship each Sunday starting *today - December 24* (including the early service on the *12th*). We encourage the children and families to come forward during the service and place their items in a basket under the Christmas tree. What better way to embody the love of Christ, who we eagerly await during the season of Advent, than to feed those less fortunate? A barrel will be placed in the stairwell for larger items and mid-week donations.



NICHOLAS HOUSE

This year MPC has committed to adopting two large families at Nicholas House for the Christmas season. We are excited to be serving a single mother with four children (ages 8-16) and a grandmother with her three grandchildren (ages 10-18). Please consider taking your family out to shop for some of the items on the children's wish lists. Get their input on what a child their age might really love. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/y8oc9vor> to sign up.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES ARE UPON US

December 24 being *Sunday*, Morningside will worship God in the morning with our traditional *11 a.m.* service. At *4 p.m.*, our family-friendly early service will hail Christ's birth with story and song. The doors open at *7 p.m.* for our well-loved Service of Lessons and Carols at *8 p.m.*, with a prelude of holiday music beginning at *7:30 p.m.* Childcare will be available at all three services.

REGISTRATION FOR 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR AT MPP

Early registration opens *Tuesday, January 16* for returning students, siblings and church members. The application form is available to be printed from the website (lower left of MPC homepage) and turned in with \$100 registration fee to Director Melinda Sandkam no later than *Friday, January 26*. Registration then opens to the community on *Thursday, February 1*. The final group tour is on *Friday, January 12* at *9:15 a.m.* RSVP to Melinda at mpp@morningsidepc.org or contact her for an individual tour.

Registration
Coming
Soon

FAITH DEVELOPMENT AT MORNINGSIDE

What lessons can we take from being careful viewers of Jesus-films and Christ-figure films into our interaction with other film media? Anna Miles led the final class discussion this morning in the series, Faith and Film.

FAITH FORMATION FOR FAMILIES

This morning, we welcomed Dr. Mindy McGarrah Sharpe, Associate Professor of Practical Theology in Pastoral Care at Columbia Theological Seminary. We discussed how our personal perspectives on God had to account for formative life experiences.

CHILDREN

Children talked about simple ways to celebrate love, hope, peace and joy. They will continue this each week until Christmas.

THIS WEEK AT MORNINGSIDE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
11 a.m. Worship
12 noon. Fellowship
5:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant
6 p.m. Chili Cook-off

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

8 a.m. Spanish
9 a.m. MPP
1 p.m. Ballet
7 p.m. MLPA/Mandolin Society

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

9 a.m. MPP
11 a.m. Yoga
12 noon. MPP Staff Luncheon (offsite)
1 p.m. CrossFit
2:15 p.m. Parkinson's Tai Chi
4:30 p.m. Tai Chi
6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers/Preschool Committee Meeting

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:15 a.m. Yoga
9 a.m. MPP
11 a.m. Reading at Dobbs
1 p.m. Mini Monets
7 p.m. MLPA
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

9 a.m. MPP
11 a.m. Yogasculpt
12:30 p.m. Poetry Group
1 p.m. Playball
6 p.m. Night Yoga
7 p.m. Remembering Sandy Hook Victims (offsite)
7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

8 a.m. Spanish
9 a.m. MPP/MLPA
1 p.m. Karate (offsite)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting
2:30 p.m. Christmas Carol (offsite)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages/New Members' Class
11 a.m. Worship
12 noon. Fellowship
12:30 p.m. Young Adult Luncheon
6 p.m. Youth Group