

**THE MUSICAL OFFERING***“The Singing of the Greens”**The music today is dedicated to the memory of William Grigley.**King Jesus Hath a Garden*

trad. Dutch carol, arr. Charles Wood

*Of a Rose, a Lovely Rose (from Magnificat)*

John Rutter

Of a rose, a lovely rose, of a rose is all my song. Hearken to me, both old and young, how this rose began to spring; a fairer rose to mine liking, in all this world ne know I none. Five branches of that rose there been, the which be both fair and sheen; the rose is called Mary, heaven's queen, out of her bosom a blossom sprang....

*A Spotless Rose*

Herbert Howells

A spotless Rose is blowing; sprung from a tender root, of ancient seers' foreshowing, of Jesse promised fruit; its fairest bud unfolds to light amid the cold, cold winter, and in the dark midnight. The Rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said, is from its sweet root springing in Mary, purest Maid; for through our God's great love and might the Blessed Babe she bare us in a cold, cold winter's night.

*Virga Jesse*

Anton Bruckner

The branch from Jesse blooms: a Virgin brings forth God and man: God restores peace, reconciling in himself the lowest with the highest. Alleluia.

*There is no Rose*

anon. 14th century

There is no Rose of such virtue, as is the Rose that bare Jesu; *Alleluia*. For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in little space; *Res miranda* [marvelous thing]. By that rose we may well see that he is God in persons three; *Pares forma* [of the same form]. Then leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyous birth; *Transeamus* [let us follow].

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Michael Praetorius/Melchior Vulpius

*The Holly and the Ivy*

arr. Behnke/Bolyard

...Oh the rising of the sun, and the running of the deer! The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir!

Morningside Chancel Choir and Handbell Ensemble, Jeff Peters, director; Derek Matthews, piano;  
Jessica Dennison, Tami Giusto, Dana Kling, Megan Mashburn, Brandon Odom,  
Jonathan Spuhler, John Wingert, John Young, soloists

**\*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION****\*THE CHORAL RESPONSE***Jesus Christ the Apple Tree (excerpt)*

Elizabeth Poston

**\* THE POSTLUDE***Angels We Have Heard on High*

Timothy Albrecht



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
December 15, 2013  
11 a.m. Worship

Baron Mullis, Pastor  
Drew Stockstill, Minister of Young Adults & Adult Education  
Robert Bolyard, Interim Choirmaster  
1411 North Morningside Drive, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306  
TEL 404.876.7396; FAX 404.876.2494; Preschool 404.685.8758  
EMAIL [office@morningsidepc.org](mailto:office@morningsidepc.org); WEB [morningsidepc.org](http://morningsidepc.org)

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

**THE GATHERING**

Drew Stockstill

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

**THE PRELUDE**

*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*  
Sarah Martin, organist

Timothy Albrecht

**THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Sarah and Richard Brownlee, Bill and Sanda Means

**\* Unison Prayer:**

God of grace, ever faithful to your promises, the earth rejoices in the hope of our Savior's coming even as we look forward with longing to his return. Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes, for he is Lord of all time and space. Amen.

**\* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 12** *People, Look East***THE CALL TO CONFESSION****THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, you are from everlasting to everlasting. You, the creator of heaven and earth extend from the furthest reaches of the universe to the depths of Sheol. Yet we forget from whom our blessings flow. We blur the lines between creator and creation and think that we are the authors of our own blessings. But you alone are eternal, you alone are the source of all life and all good. We are chastened and we ask forgiveness. Return us to your marvelous image, remind us that we are fearfully and wonderfully made, and call forth from us the commitment you would have us bring, through Jesus the Christ we pray. 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**

Leader: We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,

People: **But we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.**

Leader: Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Believe the promise of the Gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.** - Hebrews 4:15-16**\* THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

(Hymn 9)

O come, Thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**\* THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*(Children ages 3-10 are invited to leave after the Peace of Christ for special classes. Threes, fours & fives are in Room 011; K-1<sup>st</sup> grade in Room 003; 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade in Room 001; 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade are in worship.)*

**THE CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

Baron Mullis

*(Visitors and members are invited to sign the blue friendship register pad and pass it down the pew.)*

**THE OFFERTORY***Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Johannes Brahms

**\*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

(Hymn 592)

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Children are always welcome in the Sanctuary during worship. Should you find that your child grows restless, there is child care available. Infants/toddlers are cared for in the Nursery in Room 105, two year olds in Room 012.

**ELDER ON CALL:** Laura Fillyaw 404.583.9323

**DEACON ON CALL:** Link Marx 404.323.9174

**USHERS:** Sarah Tomaka, Beth Baer, Kathy and Alan Bremer

**GREETERS:** Marshall and Vicki Hunter, Gail Kitchens, Jane Stack

**COFFEE AND CONVERSATION HOSTS:** Betsy and Jim Armstrong

**COUNTERS:** Martin Dunlap, Richard Brownlee

**INFANT VOLUNTEER:** David Yntema, Esther Patrick

**2s VOLUNTEER:** Betsy Holland

**3s, 4s, & 5s VOLUNTEER:** Sarah Wilde

**K-1st GRADE VOLUNTEER:** Mary Hardy Holaway

**2nd-3rd GRADE VOLUNTEER:** Heather Regnault

**FELLOWSHIP:** Worship Committee

*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...**

P.J. Britton (Lenna Turner's niece)  
 Judy Brooks (Sandy Jones' friend)  
 The family and friends of Grier Christenbury  
 Jean Clark (Sue Ballay's sister)  
 Jackie Cleveland  
 Tarrance Eatman  
 Kristi Ferrick (Sandy Jones' friend)  
 Brenda Fishpaw  
 Ann Herndon (Will's mother)  
 Finley Holaway  
 Friends and relatives of Linda Johnson: Kaitlin Andry, Ron and Ann Reggio, Peggy Johnson Smith, Warren Johnson, Sr., and Sharon Foote  
 Gayle Jones (Jill Klotz's mother)

Holly Klotz  
 Jan McMahan  
 Meghan Pauls and Alex Page  
 Anne and Nate Reid  
 Emil Sanders  
 John Vytal (Katie Watts' father)  
 Katrina Weis

*Please submit prayer requests using the prayer cards in the pew racks.*

**WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY**

Welcome to worship at Morningside Presbyterian Church. 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. Worship notebooks and books for children are located in the library. Nursery for infants and toddlers is in Room 105; 2 year olds are in Room 012. Children ages 3-10 are invited to leave after the **Passing of the Peace** for special classes: Threes and fours - Room 011; K-1st grade - Room 003; 2nd-3rd grade - Room 001; 4th-5th grade - are in worship.

**SERVICE MUSIC**

The organ prelude and postlude are both by Timothy Albrecht, Professor of Music and University Organist at Emory University. In writing these two Christmas preludes Dr. Albrecht uses a form called "Quotation Music" in which he quotes snippets from choruses in "Messiah" to surround the carol arrangements.

"Lo, How a Rose" is probably Brahms' last composition, written around Christmas 1896. Brahms died in April 1897. The constantly moving eight notes remind one of the rocking of a cradle, an example of beauty in simplicity.

The first piece in the "Singing of the Greens" set, "King Jesus Hath a Garden," is a charming 17th century Dutch carol harmonized by Charles Wood, a renowned composer of Anglican music and teacher of Ralph Vaughan Williams and Herbert Howells, among others.

Rutter, undeniably one of the preeminent composers of sacred choral music of the 20th century, inserted the 14th century poem "Of a Rose, a Lovely Rose" into the traditional prayer of Mary; like other medieval texts it uses the metaphor of a blooming rose for the coming of the Christ Child.

The text Howells sets for "A Spotless Rose" is an alternate translation of the German chorale "Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen" ("Lo, How a Rose"). Howells' unique treatment of harmony (influenced by post-tonality and jazz) is evident in this piece, as chords are seemingly "blowing" from one to the next, largely free of the structure of classical harmony.

Bruckner is perhaps most famous for his symphonies, but his output of sacred music is vast and multifaceted, from large orchestral masses to simple motets. The Advent motet "Virga Jesse" draws on the Isaiah reading heard last week about a branch arising from the stump of Jesse and bringing about reconciliation and peace.

"There is no Rose" is yet another example of a medieval text that draws on the rose metaphor, this time symbolizing the purity of Mary. Like many sacred poems of the time it is macaronic - containing a mixture of vernacular and Latin - possibly as a textual metaphor for the union of the mundane and the divine. As is typical of medieval music, the harmony is at times very open and hollow and at other times rather dense and clustered.

Praetorius' setting of "Lo, How a Rose" is undoubtedly the most famous treatment of this chorale, and this morning we pair it with a canon by Vulpus that spins out of the chorale.

Like "Of a Rose," the text of "The Holly and the Ivy" draws multiple metaphors out of these symbols of nature, and is heard here in a debut arrangement for choir, handbells, piano, and organ.

**YOUTH GROUP**

The youth are serving at the Chili and Soup Dinner this evening. Then they will take a break December 22 and 29 to be with family. Don't forget summer trip registrations are due by January 5.

## GOD BLESS US EVERY ONE!

Next Sunday, December 22, Room 201 will be the site of a Victorian Christmas reception. Come on up at 9:45 a.m. and see if there's figgy pudding and sugarplums on the menu. By the way, during this hour there is child care and children's programming available for infants/toddlers in the nursery, preschoolers in Room 012 and elementary ages in Room 001.

## VOLUNTEER AND DONATION OPPORTUNITIES AT WOMEN'S SHELTER

Morningside will provide volunteers at Shearith Israel's Women's Shelter again this year as part of our mission outreach program. Volunteers serve from 6 to 8 p.m. warming up the dinner meal (provided by others) and serving as the women arrive from their daily work or job searches. Kitchen cleanup follows. Volunteer dates are: January 8-12 and February 5-9 (men are welcome). If you can help, contact Phyllis Grimes at [grimes2230@bellsouth.net](mailto:grimes2230@bellsouth.net). This winter, the shelter could greatly use donations of mittens, gloves, and hats. Please place your donations in the Welcome Center baskets by this evening's Carol Sing.

## MPP

This Tuesday, December 17, from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., you are invited to join the fun at "Meringue's Holiday Shop Out" across from Alon's. The local Virginia/Highland women's store will give 20 percent of all sales from the event to MPP. The owners, Jordan Chadwell and Nicole Raithel, each have their oldest child in Mrs. Neff's and Ms. Keeton's Pre-K class.

## CHRISTMAS TREES

Help build a home for a family in need by buying your Christmas tree at Haygood Memorial United Methodist Church (1015 East Rock Springs Road). Hours are Monday-Friday 5:30-8 p.m., Saturday 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday 12:30-6 p.m.

through December 20. All proceeds from tree sales go toward Haygood's spring Habitat build.

## OUR SYMPATHY TO:

the family of William Grigley on his death December 11 (services pending); and, to Landon Dillard, MPC youth assistant, on the recent death of her grandfather, Randy Ayer.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Gene and John Turner and Nell Roberts on the birth of their grandson/great-grandson, Henry Travis Wood, on November 13.

## 'Tis the Season...

### ❑ Christmas Pageant

**December 15, 5 p.m.**

Followed by soup and chili dinner and Carol Sing in Fellowship Hall.

### ❑ Christmas Eve Worship for Families

**December 24, 4 p.m.**

Children and grown-ups of all ages are welcome to attend! (A nursery is provided for any little ones.)

### ❑ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

**December 24, 8 p.m.**

Experience one of Atlanta's great Christmas Eve traditions as our Chancel Choir, choir alumni and guest instrumentalists combine in offering an evening rich with variety, drama, and the beauty of our candlelit sanctuary (child care provided).



## Giving/Attendance Update

WORSHIP COUNT 12/8/13 — 191  
NEEDED WEEKLY—\$15,577  
RECEIVED —\$10,858  
NEEDED YEAR TO DATE —\$763,269  
RECEIVED YEAR TO DATE —\$699,147

## Christian Education at Morningside

### CHARLES DICKENS' "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" AND THE BIBLE

Next Sunday, continue in the spirit of the season at the Victorian Christmas reception given by Drew and Ellen Stockstill and Joseph Brady in Room 201 at 9:45 a.m. Come and bring your friends! For more information contact Drew [dstockstill@morningsidepc.org](mailto:dstockstill@morningsidepc.org).

### CHILDREN'S CLASSES

The preschool class will hear about the wise men and their journey in the story *The Amazing Star*. Elementary Classes will study Matthew 1:18-25 in which an angel of the Lord tells Joseph what to name Mary's baby.

### JANUARY SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

Our two adult classes restart in January after the special Advent program. The group meeting in Room 107 at 9:15 a.m. has been working their way through the Bible using the History Channel's series "The Bible" as a guide, while enjoying breakfast and coffee (January 12, 19, 26). The class in Room 201 meets at 9:45 a.m. starting January 5. Child care is available during both these sessions.

## This Week at Morningside

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation  
9:45 a.m. Church School; Christmas Pageant Practice  
11 a.m. Worship/Special Music Sunday  
12 noon Fellowship  
5 p.m. Christmas Pageant followed by Soup/Chili Supper and Carol Sing

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga  
9 a.m. MPP  
1 p.m. Ballet/Tap  
6 p.m. Joint Session and Deacon Dinner and Meeting;  
7 p.m. Mandolin Society

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

9 a.m. MPP  
1 p.m. Mini Monets Art Class; Playball  
2:15 p.m. Parkinson Tai Chi  
4:30 p.m. Tai Chi  
6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

9 a.m. MPP  
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

9 a.m. MPP  
12 noon 3rd Thursday Theology  
1 p.m. Playball  
6:30 p.m. Prayer Group

7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

9 a.m. MPP

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

6-10:30 a.m. Virginia Highland Christmas Run (MPC parking lot)  
9 a.m. AA Meeting

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation  
9:45 a.m. Church School  
11 a.m. Worship  
12 noon Fellowship

## Pledge Update as of 12/8/13

Pledged amount needed	\$790,000
Pledges received	\$660,000
Increases from existing members	\$ 29,000
New pledges	\$ 62,000
Number of current pledges	151
Balance of pledges needed	\$130,000

## Gifts of Securities

Some Morningsiders choose to fulfill their annual pledge or make special gifts to Morningside through the gift of stock or other securities. We are always happy to accept such gifts; we ask only that you notify MPC Treasurer Randy Parrish when you initiate a transfer of securities so that we can make sure you receive proper credit for your gift. Should you have questions or wish to make a gift of securities, contact him at [randyparrish@bellsouth.net](mailto:randyparrish@bellsouth.net), 770.690.4745.