

Welcome to the International Protestant Church of Zurich!



December 18, 2022
11:30



Growing together and reaching out in Christ

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

During the Prelude, you are invited to meditate on the Psalm of the Day as you prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Prelude in A Major
Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)
Ruth Pfister, Organ

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 8:5-9

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,

all sheep and oxen,

and also the beasts of the field,

the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Welcome and Commissioning Prayer

Rev. Dennis Wright

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Bagajo Family

Introit

"Sing Praise"

Text and music: Mark Patterson

***Call to Worship**

Dorothy Kwan

Leader: God in Christ has revealed his glory.

People: Come let us worship.

Leader: Like the Magi did before us,

People: Let us bow down and worship the King.

Leader: As the Magi offered gifts to the Lord,

People: We offer our lives to you, God.

***Hymn of Praise**

#49 "Once in Royal David's City"

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander; Music: Henry John Gauntlett

Examination

Nathan Wannemacher

Leader: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:8-9). Let us come before our forgiving God, and confess our sins in silence.

Prayer of Confession

**People: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: If you, Lord, kept a record of sins,
who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness,
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.
You have removed our sins from us,
as far as the east is from the west.
Your love for us is as high as the heavens are above the earth.
With you, Lord, is unfailing love.
You have fully redeemed your children.

***Gloria Patri**

#579 "Glory Be to the Father"

Text: Henry W. Greatorex; Tune: *Gloria Patri*

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Micah 5:2 (p. 933)

Meditation

"Coventry Carol"

Text: Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors; Music: Tune from 1591 (arr. Martin Shaw)
Adult Choir; Chandler Cudlipp, Director; Ruth Pfister, Organ

Second Reading

Matthew 2:1-12 (p. 966)

Sermon

"Men Seeking Jesus Ask Questions"

Rev. Dennis Wright

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn of Response**

#53 "What Child Is This"

Text: William Chatterton Dix

Music: English ballad, 16th century, Arr. *Christmas Carols New and Old*

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Heather Altermatt, Elder
for Morning Worship

Offertory

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Text: Christina Rossetti (ca. 1872); Music: Gustav Holst (1906)

Adult Choir; Chandler Cudlipp, Director; Ruth Pfister, Organ

***Doxology**

#592 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Text: Thomas Ken; Music: Genevan Psalter

Prayers of the People

Heather Altermatt

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who have trespassed against us.**

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

GOING WITH GOD'S MISSION AND BLESSING

Welcoming of Guests

Heather Altermatt

Announcements

***Hymn of Dedication**

#68 "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright"

Text: Charles Coffin, Trans. John Chandler; Music: Trier ms., Adapt. Michael Praetorius

***Commissioning and Pastoral Benediction**

Rev. Dennis Wright

Choral Benediction

"May the Grace of the Lord"

Music: Ken Barker

Postlude

Allabreve in D Major BWV 589

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Please remain quietly seated during the postlude. For those who need to leave, please do so quietly.

***Please stand if you are able.**