



Worship Service for December 18, 2022 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Prelude Marshall Davies

Chiming of the Hour Marcy Schmich

Praise & Worship Celebration Congregation

TNCH # 135 "O Come, All You Faithful"

O come, all you faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come now, o come now
To Bethlehem.

Come and behold
The ruler of all angels:
O come in adoration,
O come in adoration,
O come in adoration:
Christ is Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all you messengers
Of heavenly love:
"Glory to God,
All glory in the highest":
O come in adoration,

O come in adoration,
O come in adoration:
Christ is Lord.

Welcome

Pastor Mak

Centering Moment

Pastor Mak

Call to Worship

Marcy Schmich

LEADER: In Advent we watch and wait.

**ALL: We prepare to welcome the Christ Child into
the world.**

LEADER: Come, Holy Child, come!

ALL: In Advent we prepare for a life of discipleship.

LEADER: We watch for signs of God's presence breaking
into the world.

ALL: Come, Holy Child, come!

LEADER: We watch for signs of God's Divine Nature in each
of us.

**ALL: Actions of compassion and grace toward each
other and creation.**

LEADER: Come, Holy Child, come!

**ALL: Come, Holy Child! Remind us of our divine
essence and holy calling to Love.**

***Hymn**

Congregation

Sing #174 "Star-Child" vs. 1 & 5

Star-Child, earth-Child
Go-between of God,
Love Child, Christ Child,
Heaven's lightning rod.
This year, this year,
Let the day arrive
When Christmas comes for every-one,
Everyone alive!

Hope-for-peace Child,
God's stupendous sign,
Down-to-earth Child,
Star of stars that shine.
This year, this year,
Let the day arrive
When Christmas comes for every-one,
Everyone alive!

Lighting the Advent Candles

The Mills Family

It is the season of short days and long nights. We light this
candle to remember that even in natural darkness, our lights

shine. As these candles are lit, we open ourselves to sacred imagination and expansive love for a hopeful future.

1st Biblical Witness

Pastor Mak

The Gospel Of John 15:12 - 17

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Divine Parent. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Divine Parent will give you whatever you ask in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

2nd Biblical Witness

Marcy Schmich

1 Corinthians 13:1-8a

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away

all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

Reflection “Love Sustains Purpose” Pastor Mak

Special Music Plymouth Choir
 “Love Came Down”

(Spoken:) Love is patient, love is kind. Love always protects. Love always hopes, always perseveres. Love bears all things, believes all things. Love endures all things. Love never ends. Love never fails. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Love came down at Christmas, Love came down (7x), Love came down! (Love came down!) Love came down at Christmas, Love came down!

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven to earth come down! Gloria! (Love came down, love came down!) Love came down at Christmas, love came down!

On Christmas night all Christians sing
 to hear the news that the angels bring.
 All out of darkness we have light,
 for Love came down on that Christmas night.
 News of great hope and news of great mirth,
 (Love and peace on earth,)
 joyful news of our merciful King's birth.

Gloria!

(Love came down (3x).)
 Oh come, all ye faithful,
 (He is born, the divine Christ child,)
 joyful and triumphant,
 (play the oboe and bagpipe merrily.)
 O come, o come ye to Bethlehem!
 Come and behold Him, born the King of angels.
 O come let us adore Him (3x),
 Christ the Lord.

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
 where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed.
 Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her tiny Child.

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."
 Love came down at Christmas,
 Love came down (7x)
 on Christmas night.

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Mak

Unison Prayer

Pastor Mak & Congregation

Together we defy the darkness by being the Light. We make violence tremble by being peacemakers. When chaos and trauma cause distress, we counter by reaching for love and remembering joy. This day, when people are going hungry, give us bread to share. This day, when people are angry and hurtful, give us forgiveness to offer.

When there is so much temptation to be selfish and careless, this day give us the strength to be kind and intentional. As we wait and prepare to celebrate the birth of a holy child, remind us that we are all born holy and deserve love and tenderness. In the many names of Love, may it be so.

Invitation to Offering

Marcy Schmich

Plymouth's General Fund &
"Gender Infinity" - Loose Offering

Offertory Music

Marshall Davies

Doxology

Congregation

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God for all that Love has done
 Creator, Christ, and Spirit one. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Marcy Schmich

LEADER: Even during Advent, a time set aside for waiting, it is often very hard for us to wait. Our world worships the power that acts quickly through force.

ALL: The time, talent, and treasure of this offering is a way for us to act. A way for us to bring the Beloved Kin-dom here to earth.

LEADER: We open our hearts and spirits to new birth and transformation.

ALL: We commit what we have gathered to help us sow seeds of love into the world.

***Hymn**

Congregation

TNCH #126 “Angels, From the Realms of Glory” vs. 1-3

Angels, from the realms of glory,
 Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 As you sang creation's story,
 Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
 Come and worship, come and worship,

Worship Christ, give thanks and sing.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, give thanks and sing.

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam a-far;
Seek the great Desire of Nations,
Guided by Christ's natal star:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, give thanks and sing.

Benediction

Pastor Mak

Song Of Parting

Marshall Davies

“Feliz Navidad”

Feliz Navidad
Feliz Navidad
Feliz Navidad
Próspero año y felicidad (2X)

I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas
I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas

I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas
From the bottom of my heart (2X)

Feliz Navidad
Feliz Navidad
Feliz Navidad
Próspero año y felicidad (2X)

I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas
I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas
I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas
From the bottom of my heart (2X)

Feliz Navidad
Feliz Navidad
Feliz Navidad
Próspero año y felicidad

Postlude

Marshall Davies

Today's Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Marcy Schmich

Sound: Tony Trosclair

Video: Luca Miller

Projector: Lynette Lange

Poinsettias In Memorial of:

Elwood Hanson

Edith Hanson

From:

Diane Patch

Diane Patch

Bryan Rieken	Diane Patch
Susan Rieken	Diane Patch
Claude and Alice Good	Marcia Good
Peter Shetler	Marcia Good
Gilbert Vines	Mark Vines
Valerie Sanders	Mark Vines
Rev. Beverly Bammel	Mark Vines
Jean Cowart	Mark Vines
Barbara Carol	Mark Vines
Lillian Kim	Mark Vines
Floyd and Susie Mechler	Jeff Mechler
Floyd and Clara Mechler	Jeff Mechler
Robert Mechler	Jeff Mechler
Betty and Hugh Connor	Mary and Jennifer Lowell
John and Flossie Lowell	Mary and Jennifer Lowell
Norman H. Sachnik	
	Terri Sachnik and Marcy Schmich
F. Lamar Sachnik	
	Terri Sachnik and Marcy Schmich
Kirk Elkins	Margaret Stone
Carolyn and Jack Dubois	Margaret Stone
Mildred and Fred Stone	Margaret Stone
Rusty Cunningham, Howard & Jane Schulte	
	T.J. Heiser

Albert Johnson
Ella Mae Borgstedte

Peggy Johnson
Peggy Johnson

Poinsettias In Honor of:

From:

Ken Groome

Alice Groome

Blake Spencer & Jim Wagner

Alice Groome

Scarlet and Indigo Gladden

Jeff Mechler

Carina, Abby, and Christian Vines-Mechler

Jeff Mechler

Mak Kneebone

Marcia Good

The Fab Four

Margaret Stone

Detective Angel

Margaret Stone

Plymouth United Church (UCC)

5927 Louetta Road, Spring, Texas 77379

Pastor: Rev. Mak Kneebone

832-840-2492

pastor@plymouthunited.org

Office Manager: Kyle Riley

281-251-8147

officemanager@plymouthunited.org

Music Director: Dr. Marshall Davies

musicdirector@plymouthunited.org