

# Advent



## MANHATTAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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The Lord's Day, December 24th, 2017

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## **Welcome**

We are so excited you can be here today to join in worshipping the God of the universe with Manhattan Presbyterian Church. We love God and are thrilled to see God build this local church body for the furthering of His Kingdom in Manhattan, Kansas. We know visiting a church can lead to a lot of questions and we'd love to help you find answers so please ask. You'll find a visitor card in the pew, please fill it out and place in the offering later in the service. Again, we're really glad you're here.

## **Sunday Information**

### **Nursery**

Nursery is provided on the north side of the building (to the right from the entryway) for children under 4 years, but they are also always welcome in the service.

### **Restrooms**

Restrooms are located in the entrance hallway.

### **Children's Sunday School**

We currently have two 8-week sessions of Children's Sunday School: one in the Fall and one in the Spring. It's for kids 4 years old and up and meets immediately after the service.

### **Why Robes?**

The pastors wear robes during the service which might seem odd. This has been a tradition of the church for many centuries. It helps connect us to our past heritage.

The robe also helps emphasize the office of the pastor and de-emphasize the personality of the men in the pulpit. It serves to take notice away from what Brian, Travis, Tim or Jon are wearing that particular Sunday, thus focusing us away from their terrible fashion senses and onto Christ himself. At first it may seem odd, but after a few services you won't notice it, which is partly the point.

### **To the Parents of Young Children:**

Welcome! We are so glad you are here and we would especially like to welcome those of you with young children. In order to make the most of your time with us, may we suggest the following:

Relax! Unlike many places, we want Manhattan Pres to be a place where children are both seen and heard! So don't worry if your children wiggle in the pew or make a little noise. This is God's house and all are welcome - especially the little children!

If you can, sit toward the front of the sanctuary where it is easier for the children to see and hear. Children, like the rest of us, tire easily from staring at the backs of other peoples' heads!

Quietly explain the different parts of the service so the children understand what's going on.

Sing the hymns, pray the prayers, and participate in the responses. Children learn how to worship by imitating you.

If you have to step outside of the sanctuary during the service, feel free to do so. But please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."

Let's be sure to welcome the children so that they always know that the church is for them as much as it is for the rest of us!

### **To the Members of our Church Family:**

The presence of children is a gift to our church, and they are a tangible reminder that our church family is growing. Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents. They probably need it! Children, please feel free to draw or write on this worship program as well as the children's bulletin or Children's Sermon Note sheets available.

# NEWS & EVENTS

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## **Parish Groups**

We take a break for the busy Advent season.

Enjoy time as families, and also with your covenant family!

The Sunday group will start back up January 14th.

The Thursday group will start back up January 4th (with game night!).

Sunday Parish meets the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month;

Thursday Parish meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday.

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## **Musicians and singers needed!**

If you can sing, or play an instrument, we need you! We are in need of more musicians (any instrument) and singers (any level) to sing on Sunday mornings. You will receive the music earlier in the week and practice is at 8am the Sunday you sing/play. Contact Tim or Laura if you can help!

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## **Sound people needed too!**

We are also in need of more people to run sound on Sunday mornings. The commitment is about once a month and showing up the Sunday mornings you are scheduled at 8am (with the musicians). No knowledge or experience necessary! We will train you on all the equipment! See Tim or Laura if you are interested!

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## **Men's Study**

**Saturday, January 6th, 8:30a**

**BlueStem Bistro in Aggieville**

Guys (HS and college included!) join us for a study of the Westminster Confession.

No preparation or prior knowledge necessary.

This study meets the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month

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## **Christmas Eve Potluck Brunch**

**Today, 11:30a at the Langer's Home (2704 Brookville Dr)**

Come on out to celebrate our Lord's birth with some food and fellowship!

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## Serving

### Serving Today (December 24th 2017)

**Musicians:**

Piano: Chloe Shanahan

Singers: Tricia Dunning & Derek Ervin

**Sound:** Ryan Cyr

**Nursery:** Cline Family

**Greeter:** Laura Hough

**Lord's Supper Prep:** Cline Children

**Bread Baker:** Tricia Dunning

**Announcements:** Samuel Kassing

### Serving Next Week (December 31st 2017)

**Musicians:**

Piano: Chloe Shanahan

Singers: Amy Shanahan & Christine Durrett

**Sound:** Craig Cline

**Nursery:** Laura Hough & Heidi McFadden

**Greeter:** Andrea Cline

**Lord's Supper Prep:** Cline Sons and Daughter

**Bread Baker:** Amy Shanahan

**Announcements:** Veronica St Claire

## How to Help Serve

If you are interested or willing to serve in any way please let us know.

We always need more hands to make light work.

**Nursery** contact Katie Hardy, [katie.hardy@cru.org](mailto:katie.hardy@cru.org)

**Music (instruments/singing) & Sound** contact Tim Durrett,  
[timothy\\_durrett@yahoo.com](mailto:timothy_durrett@yahoo.com)

**Greeting & Lord's Supper prep** contact Hope Perlstein,  
[hope.perlstein@gmail.com](mailto:hope.perlstein@gmail.com)

Anything else, Brian Hough, [brian@manhattanpres.com](mailto:brian@manhattanpres.com)

“For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”

Galatians 5:1

## Reflection

“We celebrate Christ’s birth because of the hope he brings to our despair. We celebrate Christ’s birth because of the light he brings to our darkness. We celebrate Christ’s birth because he is God come as man to bring his people back to himself. We celebrate Christ’s birth because without the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross, we would still be failing to attain the acceptable level of obedience to the law on our own effort. We celebrate Christ’s birth, not because it’s Christmastime, and not because of what Jesus gives us, but because we needed a savior and he came to be our savior.”

- Will Stanfield

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

- Isaiah 9:6

### Standing

God invites us to worship Him, we respond to His invitation.

## Call to Worship

**Luke 2:14; Isaiah 9:2**

**Pastor:** Come, let us worship our God and King!

**People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests!**

**Pastor:** The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

**People: Jesus Christ is our life and light!**

## Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn King:  
 Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
 God and sinners reconciled!"  
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
 Join the triumph of the skies;  
 With th'angelic host proclaim,  
 "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

**Hark! the herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn King."**

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
 Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
 Late in time behold him come,  
 Offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
 Hail th'incarnate Deity,  
 Pleased as man with men to dwell,  
 Jesus, our Emmanuel.

### Refrain

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
 Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
 Light and life to all he brings,  
 Ris'n with healing in his wings.  
 Mild he lays his glory by,  
 Born that man no more may die,  
 Born to raise the sons of earth,  
 Born to give them second birth.

### Refrain

### Standing

#### Luke 2:13-14

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!""

"incarnate"  
 mean  
 embodied in  
 flesh

Words & Music:  
 Charles Wesley,  
 1739

Mendelssohn

**Standing**

Pastor Brian  
Hough

**Prayer of Adoration**

This is a prayer of praise and adoration for who God is. This prayer focuses on the glory and honor of our great and mighty God, but also asks God to help us worship Him.

Each week after the Prayer of Adoration with one voice we pray the Lord's Prayer.

**Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father which 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.**



## Lighting of the Advent Candle

### The Angel's Candle

Shawn and Shelli Brandmahl

## Affirmation of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 26

**Pastor:** How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

**People:** Christ, the Son of God, became man by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.

## Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen**

### Standing

Catechism is a strange word. It's basic meaning is "to teach orally." They are written as a series of questions and answers designed to teach the people of God a summary of what the Scriptures teach, also called doctrine.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism was written 1647.

Gloria Patri is a brief historical praise to God which clearly sets forth Trinitarian understanding

### **Sitting**

Because sin is so pervasive in both our corporate and individual lives, Christians are called to come before our holy God with honesty and transparency, confessing our brokenness and asking for both forgiveness and healing through Jesus Christ.

See **1 John 1:9** for more on confession.

The Words of Assurance declare the good news that all those who hope in Jesus alone to make them right with God are forgiven, not based on their own merits, but based on God's promise of salvation in Christ.

## **We Confess Our Sin**

**Gracious God, our Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God.**

**We come to you for confession.**

**We know that at times we are happily distracted by parties and entertainment, at times we are merrily curled up in the solitude and warmth of our homes.**

**And while we thank you for our homes, we ask that you forgive us for failing to love You and our neighbors as we ought to.**

**Make us to live in the light of the truth we celebrate this Christmas. The truth that you have sent a Savior who is Christ Jesus and He not only saves us from our sin, but he saves us to a new life of love. Thank you for always forgiving us in Christ and we ask for the faith to joyfully proclaim good news of great joy for all people.**

**Amen.**

## **Silent Confession of Sin**

### **Words of Assurance**

#### **Isaiah 44:21-22**

“Remember these things, O Jacob, and Israel, for you are my servant; I formed you; you are my servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me. I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you.”

### **Lighting of the Advent Candle Christ Candle**

**Erin and Derek Ervin**

## As With Gladness Men of Old

As with gladness men of old  
 Did the guiding star behold;  
 As with joy they hailed its light,  
 Leading onward, beaming bright,  
 So, most gracious God, may we  
 Evermore be led to Thee!

As with joyful steps they sped,  
 To that lowly cradle bed,  
 There to bend the knee before  
 Him whom heaven and earth adore,  
 So may we with willing feet  
 Ever seek Thy mercy-seat!

As they offered gifts most rare  
 At That cradle, rude and bare,  
 So may we with holy joy,  
 Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
 All our costliest treasures bring,  
 Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King!

Holy Jesus, every day  
 Keep us in the narrow way;  
 And when earthly things are past.  
 Bring our ransomed souls at last  
 Where they need no star to guide,  
 Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright  
 Need they no created light;  
 Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,  
 Thou its Sun which goes not down.  
 There forever may we sing  
 Alleluias to our King!

### Standing

#### **Matthew 2:10-11**

“When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him.”

“alloy” means sin’s tendency to mix and corrupt.

Words: William C. Dix, 1860

Composer: Konrad Kocher, 1838

**Standing**

Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of friendship such as, “The peace of Christ with you” and the response, “And also with you.”

**1 John 4**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Pastor:** Christ has come to us. Because of this, we can be confident and rest in him. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Ezra Ryan Cyr is brought to receive the sacrament of Baptism by his parents Ryan and Nicola.

**Sitting**

The Pastoral Prayer is a prayer offered by an elder during the service of worship for, and on behalf of, the congregation.

**Pastoral Prayer**

Travis Shanahan

## We Give Our Tithes and Offerings

The offering is a way for Christians to support the church's mission and ministry. Christians give back to God a portion of all the resources which God has given. We give as an act of faith and gratitude in response to God's grace to us.

### Words for Reflection

Giver of all good things,  
let your grace flow through us;  
a generous stream,  
unstoppable, refreshing, abundant.  
We release these gifts into your river of love,  
flowing out to all the world.  
Amen.

### Sitting

We include Tithes and Offering in the service because we view it as a means of participating in worship.

If you are guest today please feel no obligation to give.

We preach from the English Standard Version.

As the Bible is the primary means by which God speaks to and edifies His people, we read and listen to the Scriptures together in worship. In ancient Israel and the early church, services of worship were organized for the public reading of Scripture - a practice vital to building up the community of faith.

A sermon is not just a teaching for living; it is mainly a time when Christ encounters His people through His Word.

## **Glorious: Luke 2**

Pastor Brian Hough

### **Isaiah 40:8**

**“The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.”**

## What Child Is This?

What child is this who, laid to rest,  
 on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
 Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
 while shepherds watch are keeping?  
 This, this is Christ the King,  
 whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
 haste, haste to bring him laud,  
 the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate  
 where ox and ass are feeding?  
 Good Christian, fear, for sinners here  
 the silent Word is pleading.  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
 the cross be borne for me, for you;  
 hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
 the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
 come, peasant, king, to own him;  
 the King of kings salvation brings,  
 let loving hearts enthrone him.  
 Raise, raise the song on high,  
 the virgin sings her lullaby;  
 joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
 the babe, the son of Mary.

### Standing

**Matthew 2:2**  
 "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

"laud" means praise.

"ass" is a donkey, you're so immature.

Words & Music:  
 Traditional English  
 Carol, Adapted by  
 William Dix

Greensleeves

## The Lord's Supper

Communion is a sign and seal for those who believe in Jesus Christ alone for the forgiveness of sin. It's not for good people. It's for you if you believe and embrace that you are worse and more messed up than you ever dare to admit; and yet you are more loved and accepted by our Savior than you had ever dared to hope - this is because of the life, the death and the resurrection of Jesus for you.

You will be invited to come forward. We serve wine, but also offer grape juice (cups on the outside rings) for those who prefer for reasons of personal conviction.

Children are welcome to come with their parents. Each child should talk with the elders about his or her belief in Christ before taking the Lord's Supper. Please contact us to do that at a future date.

If you are not taking the Lord's Supper with us today, we don't want this to be an awkward time. You can come forward and an elder will pray with you or you may stay seated and pray one of the prayers provided on the next page. We're glad you're here today.

## Words of Institution

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**People: Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

Pastor: The gifts of God are for the people of God. Come eat and drink with thanksgiving.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving



The prayers below are provided as guides for your silent, individual prayer during the Lord's Supper

**PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH**

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent and convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

**PRAYER OF FAITH**

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

**PRAYER OF COMMITMENT**

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

**Standing**

**Luke 2:16**

“And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.”

Alleluia means “God be praised!”

Words: Joseph  
Mohr, 1818

Public Domain

## **Silent Night! Holy Night!**

Silent night! Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and Child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heav'n afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing: Alleluia,  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Silent night! Holy night!  
Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing  
alleluia to our King;  
Christ, the Savior is born!  
Christ, the Savior is born!

## **Benediction**

“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.” amen

Numbers 6:24-26

## **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him all creatures here below;  
praise Him above ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Benediction is parting words of Scripture to encourage the people of God as they leave.

Doxology is a hymn containing an ascription of praise to God.

Thomas Ken, 1709

The Service of Covenant Renewal concludes

**Go Love Your God  
Go Love Your Neighbor**



LOVE GOD | LOVE NEIGHBOR

*Immanuel*  
GOD *With* US



**Manhattan Presbyterian Church**  
115 Courthouse Plaza, Manhattan, Kansas 66502  
Worship every Sunday at 9am

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**ManhattanPres.com**