

Laguna Niguel Presbyterian Church

A Service for the Worship of God

3rd Sunday of Advent • December 13, 2009 • 10:00 am

*For those who are able, please stand.

Please turn your cell phones off prior to entering the Worship Service.

“He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.”

— *John 1:11, 12*

MORNING PRAISE

It is You

by Pete Furler

WELCOME

**SONGS OF DEVOTION AND PRAISE*

Little Drummer Boy

by Katherine K. Davis

O Come All Ye Faithful

arr. John F. Wade

Worship Ensemble and Congregation

**CALL TO WORSHIP*

Jo Ann Renning

Leader: Today we remember Mary, innocent and powerful, anxious and waiting as the Savior of all grows in her womb. She bears her role in history with confidence and is the beginning of a mighty revolution as the lowly lifted up.

People: *Today we give thanks for the Mary's among us, who step out of the roles society has planned; unintended pioneers determined to do as God asks; fearless and fearfully stepping out in faith, and beckoning us to do the same.*

Leader: On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Mary, mother of God, bearer of the Way.

People: *God announces a new day for those who respond to God's call. Let us hear and believe God's promise to us.*

PRAYER OF ADORATION

MUSICAL OFFERING

Christmastime Medley

arr. Tom Fettke

Song Xanh Choir

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Gracious God, we confess our preoccupation with our own narrow concerns. In our self-centeredness we have lost sight of your creative love that calls us into partnership with your eternal purposes. We have uttered empty words and wearied you with empty deeds. Forgive us and make us new. Here us now as we offer our personal prayers of confession. . . . Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.
People: *In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!*
Leader: We are witnesses to all God has done in Christ.
All: *Let us live as forgiven people.*

**PRAISE TO GOD (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.*

**AFFIRMING GOD'S GRACE*

**CHILDREN'S MUSICAL OFFERING* *The Angels Sing* Moses Cao Huu Tri
The Angels sing, Immanuel. *Immanuel You came for us.*
Give glory to Him, Immanuel. *Immanuel You are with us.*
Bells ring to the King Immanuel. *Immanuel Immanuel*
We shout with joy, praise to Immanuel. *Hallelujah, Hallelujah.*
BCM Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Please complete the yellow cards provided.

LNPC MINUTE FOR MISSION

John Humphrey

**HYMN OF PREPARATION #150*

What Child Is This?

GREENSLEEVES

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*Long time ago in Bethlehem,
So the Holy Bible say,
Mary's boy child Jesus Christ,
Was born on Christmas Day.*

*Hark, now hear the angels sing,
A king was born today,
And man will live for evermore,
Because of Christmas Day.
Mary's boy child Jesus Christ,
Was born on Christmas Day.*

*Now Joseph and his wife, Mary,
Came to Bethlehem that night,
They found no place to bear her child,
Not a single room was in sight.*

Mary's Little Boy Child

by Jester Hairston

*Hark, now hear the angels sing,
A king was born today,
And man will live for evermore,
Because of Christmas Day.*

*Dark and lonely in the manger with no warm bed
He left heaven and became a man through a virgin.*

*Hark, now hear the angels sing,
A king was born today,
And man will live for evermore,
Because of Christmas Day.
Mary's boy child Jesus Christ,
Was born on Christmas Day.*

Song Xanh Choir

**DOXOLOGY*

*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. Amen.*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (In Unison)

*Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word.
Silence in us any voice but your own,
that, hearing, we may also obey your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:10-13

Pew Bible, N. T. Page 91

SERMON

"Christmas through a Child's Eye"

Dr. Randy Steele

You see the miracle of Christmas is not that our old mistakes are wiped away so we can start over. No the miracle of Christmas is that in receiving a Savior you are changed, not into a baby, but into the beloved child of God.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Emily McColl

The Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving 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 Bread and The Cup

(As a sign of our unity in Christ, worshipers are asked to hold the bread until all have been served. As a sign of our individual commitment to Christ, you may take the cup after personal reflection when you are prepared to do so.)

Communion Prayer

**HYMN OF RESPONSE #135*

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

**BENEDICTION*

(THE PRAYER TEAM IS AVAILABLE AFTER TODAY'S SERVICE BY THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE SANCTUARY.)

**CHORAL RESPONSE*

Prayer For The Road

May we be blessed as we go on our way.

May we be kept in safety and love.

May grace and compassion find their way to every soul.

May this be our blessing, Amen. Amen, Amen.

May this be our blessing, Amen. Amen, Amen.

May this be our blessing, Amen. Amen, Amen

**POSTLUDE*

Lord Christ, the Only Son of God

by J. S. Bach

Suk Choi, Organ

Today's Pastoral Deacon is Marion Potter

“Remember, God Loves You!”

Music used by permission CCLI 504316