

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried.  
He descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri 581**

“Glory Be to the Father”

**\*The Charge**

Mark 12:28-31

Which commandment is the first of all?

**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
And with all your soul, and with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.**

And the second is this:

**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.  
There is no other commandment greater than these.**

**\*Sung Benediction 133 (verse 1)**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

**\*Postlude**

“Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love”

Carmichael  
arr. Weaver

\*The congregation is invited to stand.

Words in **bold** and double-indented are congregational responses.

Scripture passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version.

**MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

**DECEMBER 27, 2015, 9:00 A.M.**

**Morning Meditation**

Isaiah 9:6

*For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

**Chimes of Christmas**

**Ritual of Fellowship**

**Minute for Mission**

Camp Grier

**Voluntary**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES  
arr. Carter

**\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 148:11-14

Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!

**Young men and women alike,  
old and young together!**

Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
whose name alone is exalted;  
God's glory is above earth and heaven.

**God has raised up a horn for God's people.  
Praise the LORD!**

**\*Hymn 110**

“Love Has Come”

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession** (responsive) A Brief Statement of Faith (1991)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good  
and makes everyone equally in God's image,  
male and female, of every race and people,  
to live as one community.

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.**

**Ignoring God's commandments,**

**we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,**

**accept lies as truth,**

**exploit neighbor and nature,**

**and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.**

**We deserve God's condemnation.**

### Silent Prayers of Confession

**Kyrie Eleison 578**

"O Lord, Have Mercy"

*The leader sings verse 1.*

*The congregation sings verse 2.*

**Assurance of Pardon** (responsive) A Brief Statement of Faith (1991)

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

**In everlasting love,**

**the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people**

**to bless all families of the earth.**

Hearing their cry,

God delivered the children of Israel

from the house of bondage.

**Loving us still,**

**God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.**

**Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,**

**like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,**

**God is faithful still.**

**Response 587** (unison)

"Alleluia"

**Old Testament Reading**

Psalm 148

**\*Hymn 630**

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

*Children who would like to continue with age-appropriate activities*

*may go with the Children's Tabernacle greeter during the hymn.*

**Gospel Reading**

Luke 2:21-40

**Hymn 545**

"Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace"

**The Sermon**

"Audacious Hope"

Keith Grogg

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer** (traditional)

**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.**

**\*Hymn 119**

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

**Offering of our Tithes and Gifts**

**Offertory**

"Joy to the World!"

Handel, arr. Carter

**\*Doxology 607**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,**

**Praise Christ all people here below**

**Praise Holy Spirit, evermore,**

**Praise Triune God Whom we adore, Amen.**