

**Prayer of Thanksgiving, Words of Institution, and Holy Communion**

**Prayer after Communion**

We thank you, O God, that through Word and Sacrament,  
you have given us your Son, who is the true bread from heaven  
and food of eternal life. So strengthen us in your service  
that our daily living may show our thanks,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*Hymn 135 (verse 1)** “There’s a Star in the East”

There’s a star in the East on Christmas morn.  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
It will lead to the place where the Christ was born.  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
Follow, follow; rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
Follow the star of Bethlehem. Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

**\*The Charge** (responsive) Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**\*Hymn 113 (verse 1)** “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

**\*Postlude** “The Advent of Our God” arr. Brandon

*\*The congregation is invited to stand.*

A hearing loop is active; switch hearing aid to “T-coil.” Scripture passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version. The Prayer of Confession is reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion. Copyright 2014. MPC is an Earth Care congregation.

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY  
MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**December 8, 2019, 10:00 A.M.**

**Service of Hope and Remembrance**

**Morning Meditation** Edmund Hamilton Sears (1849)

*And ye, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow, look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:  
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.*

**Chiming of the Hour, Chimes of Advent and Ritual of Fellowship**

**Choral Introit** “While We Are Waiting, Come” Cloninger/Cason

**\*Call to Worship** Psalm 72:18-19

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
**who alone does wondrous things.**  
Blessed be his glorious name forever;  
**may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen!**

**\*Hymn 123** “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

*Nickel-a-Meal offerings may be brought forward during the hymn.*

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle: Peace**

**Prayer of Confession** followed by silent prayer

Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your people, we pray.  
We confess that we seem not to believe in your incarnation.  
We do not heed your word each day in all that we say and do.  
We fail to see our neighbors, families, and friends  
as beloved children whom you have made. In your mercy, forgive us,  
for we repent of our ways and look to your power to heal,  
so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace. Amen.

**Kyrie Eleison** GOD REST YOU MERRY, arr. Hare

*The cantor sings, then the congregation repeats:*

**O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us.**

**O Christ, have mercy, have mercy on us.**

**And save us all from Satan's power when we have gone astray.**

**O Lord, have mercy on us, mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Response (unison)** GLORY TO GOD

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Scripture Reading** Romans 15:1-21 (selected)

**Anthem** "Advent Alleluia" Wagner

**Scripture Reading** Isaiah 11:1-10

**The Sermon** "On All My Holy Mountain" Keith Grogg

**Prayers of Hope and Remembrance**

**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 79** "Light Dawns on a Weary World"

**Offering of our Tithes and Gifts**

**Offertory** "In the Bleak Mid-Winter" arr. Archer

**\*Doxology** IN DULCI JUBILO, arr. Hare

*The cantor sings, then the congregation repeats:*

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

**Praise Christ all people here below,**

**Praise the Spirit, evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Affirmation of Faith (unison)** A Declaration of Faith

**We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child,  
yet born of God's power as was no other child.  
He served God with complete trust and unwavering obedience.  
He loved all kinds of people and accepted their love.  
In constant dependence upon the Holy Spirit,  
Jesus allowed no temptation or threat to keep him  
from loving God with his whole being and his neighbor as himself.  
We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ  
in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord!  
He has been Lord from the beginning.  
He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.**

**\*Hymn 525** "Let Us Break Bread Together"

**The Invitation to the Table**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**