

Epiphany Sunday

January 8, 2017

THE PEOPLE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

+Please rise in body or in spirit, as you are able.

The congregation is invited to read and sing all text printed in bold.

THE PRELUDE

Blessed We the Name of the Lord

Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME

+THE CALL TO WORSHIP

From Isaiah 60

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon us,
God's glory will appear over us.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses'
arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to
you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
All those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

+HYMN

Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory



1. Joy - ous light of heaven - ly glo - ry, lov - ing glow of God's own
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the blaz - ing sun of
3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - ery danc - ing star of
4 face, you who sing cre - a - tion's sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and place. Now as
dawn, in the light of peace and wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
9 night, make us shine with gen - tle jus - tice; let us each re - flect your light. Might - y
12 morn - ing breaks a - round us, we shall raise our songs to
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lightsour
you. God of sun - shine, God of shad - ows, come and light our hearts a - new.
soul, love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us free and make us whole.
way, lov - ing Spir - it, of sal - va - tion, lead us on to end - less day.

Text: Mary Haugen, 1987, alt.
Tune: BEACH SPRING

+THE CALL TO CONFESSION and THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Over the next 60 seconds, you are invited to offer silent prayers of confession.

+THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE

+RESPONSE

We Are Forgiven, Loved, and Free

Written for The Rev. Alvin O. Jackson in celebration of his ministry at Park Avenue Christian Church by Paul M. Vasile.

We are forgiven, loved and free.

Hope for the weary, strength for the weak,

We're washed anew and then called to be

With a blessing of peace for all, With a blessing of peace for all.

THE CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Children are invited to come forward to the chancel steps for a brief time of sharing. Following this, children may stay in worship with their parents or go with their teachers to Sunday School.

RESPONSE

There’s a Spirit of Love

Mark Miller



There's a spir - it of love in this place, there's a spir - it of love in this place.
pres - ence of peace in this room, there's the pres - ence of peace in this room.



You can't see it but it's there, just as pre-cious as the air. There's a spir - it of love in this
In God's ten-der-ness is found peace that pass - es hu-man bounds. There's a pres-ence of peace in this



place. There's a room. O al-le - lu - ia, sing al-le - lu - ia! We bless your ho - ly



name. O al-le - lu - ia, sing al-le - lu - ia! There's a spir - it of love in this place.

WELCOME OF VISITORS

Please note the fellowship pads in the pews. We are especially interested in hearing from all of our visitors. If you are able, please stand if you are a first time visitor so that we may give you a welcome card. Completed cards may be placed in the offering plate.

RESPONSE

There’s a Spirit of Love

Mark Miller

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PEOPLE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SONG OF PREPARATION

We'll Walk in the Light

George Elderkin (1845 – 1928)

The musical score is written on three staves in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "We'll walk in the light, beau - ti - ful light. Come where the dew-drops of mer - cy shine right. Oh, shine all a - round us by day and by night. Je - sus, the light of the world." The score includes measure numbers 6, 11, and a triplet of eighth notes in the second line.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2: 1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

ANTHEM

My God is So High (*spiritual*)

Michelle Trovato, *soloist*

THE SERMON

THE PEOPLE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Lead Me, Guide Me

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, For _____ if you
 lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, _____ let me walk each day with
 thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. _____

Verse 2:

*Help me tread in the paths of righteousness.
 Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
 I am putting all my trust in Thee:
 Lead me, oh Lord lead me.*

THE PEOPLE CELEBRATE GOD'S GRACE

THE FEAST OF THE EUCHARIST

THE INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Center of My Joy

Richard Smallwood,
 arr. Kingsmore

DOXOLOGY

What Child is This?

So bring him in - cense, gold and myrrh, come, rich and poor, to
 own__ him, the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en -
 throne Him. This, this__ is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard__ and
 an - gels sing: haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son__ of Ma - ry.

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PROPER PREFACE

May God be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks for God with us, Emmanuel.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy
That we should at all times, and in all places,
Give thanks and praise to you, God with us, Word made flesh.
You did not have to be born of Mary. You did not have to walk our streets.
You did not have to be executed for us. You do not have to save us.
And yet, you do save, again and again. Thank you, Jesus.

BLESSING THE ELEMENTS

CHRIST'S PRAYER

We invite you to use the words to the prayer you know best, in the language that resonates most with you.

In the name of Christ, who taught us to pray . . .

**Our God in heaven, hallowed be Your name.
Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins/debts/trespasses, as we forgive those who sin/debt/trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And so we recall that on the night of betrayal and desertion, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, blessed it and broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying, "Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

In like manner, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "This is the cup of the new covenant in my blood, given for you. Do this as often as you drink of it for the remembrance of me."

FRACTION

Ministering to you now in the name of Jesus Christ, we offer you this bread and this cup.

Alleluia! Christ, our Lord, is born for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Anyone wishing to know the presence of Christ is invited to come forward to receive communion. If you need to remain in your seat, a deacon will bring the elements to you. Matzo bread, wafers, gluten-free wafers, and grape juice are served.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION New Year's Carol

Benjamin Britten

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

+HYMN

As With Gladness



As with glad-ness those of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;
 As they of-fered gifts most rare at that man-ger plain and bare,
 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-ery day keep us in the nar-row way;
 As with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;
 So may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy,
 And when mor-tal things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last
 So, true morn-ing Star, may we ev-er more your splen-dor see.
 All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring.
 Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glo-ry hide.

+THE BLESSING

+THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And always with you.

Please share gestures of Christ's peace with your neighbors.

+THE POSTLUDE

Capriccio in F

G. F. Handel (1685 – 1759)

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Preaching: Rabbi Jordie Gerson; **Liturgist:** The Rev. Dr. Richard Sturm; **Lector:** Eric Guy; **Elders:** Hillary Buckland and Heather Bickham; **Deacon Leads:** Noel Cline and Eric Guy; **Greeter:** Noel Cline; **Director of Music Ministry:** Saya Callner, conductor; **Organist:** John Austin Clark, piano, organ.

Today's flowers are given in honor of the Music Ministry at The Park.

Flowers may be given in memory or in honor of someone in your life or to celebrate a special occasion. Call the church office at 212-288-3246, ext. 102 to place your order.

This Week's Mission Offering: New Sanctuary Coalition of NYC. *A gift to the New Sanctuary Coalition of NYC will support the interfaith network of congregations, organizations, and individuals, standing publicly in solidarity with families and communities resisting detention and deportation in order to stay together.*

***Please pray for us as we carry out the ministry of presence and the living of God's love in New York City.
Go in peace. The worship is over. Service now begins.***

The Rev. Kaji S. Douša, **Senior Pastor**
The Rev. Luis-Alfredo Cartagena, **Associate Pastor/Outreach**
The Rev. Ismael Sanchez, **Associate Pastor/Latino Ministry**
Ms. Marjorie Watrobski, **Pastoral Associate, Youth & Children's Ministry**
Ms. Saya Callner, **Director of Music Ministry**
Ms. Stephanie Wilson, **Office Administrator**
The Rev. John Wade Payne, **Senior Minister Emeritus**

PARK AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1010 Park Avenue at 85th Street, New York, NY 10028
212-288-3246 | office@parkavenuechristian.com

The Park WEEKLY FORWARD

Welcome

**Everybody needs a place to belong.
Find yours here!**

Our Vision

We dare to see a faithful, growing healthy congregation in the hundreds over the next five years that seeks to demonstrate true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice.

Our Values

We dare to be a church that embraces and celebrates the divinity and dignity of difference by actively seeking and welcoming all people regardless of race, age, culture, economic circumstance, sexual/gender orientation, physical or mental condition. We dare to be a church that lives to serve others.

Our Mission

We dare to do ministry in such a way that reaches and impacts the upper east side, the city of New York and beyond with the radical claims of the gospel of Jesus Christ through our worship and witness as we strive to build the beloved community of God.

Visiting or checking us out today?

The Park may be the place for you. Here's how to connect:

- Join us for *Coffee Hour*, a time of refreshments and hospitality immediately after worship.
- Ask questions or make inquiries of the Greeters and Deacons, fill out a welcome card or the pew pad.
- Wanting to connect with Pastor Douša? Call or email the church office. She would welcome the opportunity to meet over a meal or drinks. Please call 212-288-3246 or email swilson@parkavenuechristian.com.

Thinking about joining?

It would be our pleasure to welcome you to *The Park*. It is easy to join, simply walk forward during the singing of the Invitation to Christian Discipleship (right after the sermon). Pastor Douša will receive you and the whole church will welcome you.

Sharing Your Time, Talents and Treasure

We want you to live out your calling here at *The Park*, and we need your time and your talents, as well as your financial support. Please know that so much of what we are able to do is because of the generous service and support of our members and friends.

If you'd like to receive a pledge card, please see one of the Deacons after worship.

Remembering those in prayer this week:

Bess Terry, Worley Reynolds, Justin Strickland, Etti Schiller, Francisca Torres, Mary Virginia Moore, Josiah Waters, Jaimie Arkelian, Dorothy McCarthy, Terry Jones, Teresa Sulyok, Sigrid Sunstedt, Jeremy Watrobski, Tomás Andrew, Sterling Ashby, and Barbara Sanders.



If you have additions or deletions to the prayer list, please notify the church office at 212-288-3246.

PRAYER

PRAYER MINISTRY AFTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE.

One of our Pastors, other Clergy or Elders are always happy to visit with anyone who would like individual prayer after worship. Someone will be stationed in the Chancel area each Sunday.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

(1st Tuesday of each month at the church.) 6:00 pm

Contacts:

Rev. Luis-Alfredo Cartagena –
lacartagena@parkavenuechristian.com;

Hillary Buckland –
candhbuckland@optonline.net

THE-PARK-PRAYS ON-LINE

To be added, contact Pam Wood,
bandpwood@aol.com (or 917-882-7667, talk/text). As a member, you can post a prayer or prayer request.

ORDER OF ST. LUKE THE PHYSICIAN

Healing prayer group, NYC Chapter meets monthly for worship, study and healing prayer. Contact Pam Wood: bandpwood@aol.com, 917-882-7667.

Upcoming:

Every Sunday, **Choir Rehearsal**, 9:00 am, *The Park*
 Every Sunday, **Adult Bible Study**, 10:00 am, Room A
 Every Sunday, **Children's Sunday School**, 10:00 check in,
 1:00 pm pick up
 Every Tuesday, **Recorder Consort Rehearsal**, 6:00 pm, *The Park*
 Today, **Elders Meeting**, 12:30 pm, Room A
 Saturday, January 14, **Order of St. Lukes Chapter Meeting**,
 1:00 pm, 236 Fifth Avenue (4th Floor) at 27th Street. Call, text
 or email Pam for more info. 917-882-
 7667, bandpwood@aol.com
 Saturday, January 14, **Community Lunch Program**, 1:00 pm,
 Manhattan Church of Christ, 48 East 80th Street near Madison
 Avenue
 Sunday, January 15, **Bilingual (Spanish/English) Worship
 Service**, 1:30 pm
 Wednesday, January 18, **Ministry Council Meeting**, 7:00 pm,
 Room A
 Saturday, January 21, **CPE Orientation**, 10:00 am
 Saturday, January 28, **Community Lunch Program**, 1:00 pm,
 Manhattan Church of Christ, 48 East 80th Street near Madison
 Avenue
 Sunday, January 29, **Annual Congregation Meeting**, 12:30 pm

Monday, January 16, 7:30 pm, *The Park* 20th Annual Heschel-King Service



A Candlelight Vigil for Healing and Hope Moving from Demonstration to Dialogue in Divided Times.

For almost 20 years, Park Avenue Christian Church and
 Congregation Da'at Elohim (Temple of Universal Judaism) have
 celebrated an interfaith service honoring the friendship and
 life work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr and Rabbi Abraham
 Joshua Heschel. All are invited to join us for a service of music,
 candlelight, reading, and remembering the words and witness
 of two towering moral giants.

Be sure to sign up for **The Park's**
weekly e-bulletin to keep up with
everything going on at The Park!



<http://www.parkavenuechristian.com/newsletter-subscribe/>

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January 29, 2017



~ Adopting the 2017 Budget and Annual Review

Clinical Pastoral Education: Focus on Prison Ministry



Park Avenue
 Christian
 Church is
 offering an
 intensive unit
 of Clinical
 Pastoral
 Education
 (CPE)

focusing on individuals and families affected by incarceration.
 The Program Director is Rev. Maria Lopez, who served for twenty
 years as a prison chaplain at Rikers Island and Bedford Hills
 Correctional Facilities. CPE provides an opportunity for those in
 religious leadership, both clergy and lay, to develop and deepen
 their skills in listening and healing. CPE students focus on the
 living human document in need of their attention. The CPE
 program at The Park will focus on all facets of incarceration: the
 prisoner, their families and those who are targeted (the poor).

The extended unit begins January 21. Additional info and an
 application form are available.

For more information contact: The Park at
office@parkavenuechristian.com or (212) 288-3246
The Rev. Dr. Maria Lopez at
revmarialopez@yahoo.com or (347) 994-4444
Imam Abdus-Salaam Musa at
abdussalaam1943@gmail.com or (347) 407-6828

The Poinsettias were given in thanksgiving for God's many blessings from:

- ❖ Beth Mandelbaum, in memory of Lucy and Princie.
- ❖ Carl & Hillary Buckland, in memory of our parents, John & Celia Buckland.
- ❖ Carl & Hillary Buckland, in memory of our parents, Cecil & Ida White.
- ❖ Deborah Gray, in memory of Cayle Gray.
- ❖ Deborah Gray, in memory of Gerald and Rosalie Gray.
- ❖ Ima Jean Kidd, in memory of Ann Canady.