

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WELCOMES YOU FOR WORSHIP
DECEMBER 16, 2018**



**REV. DAVID SMITH
MINISTER**

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

10:15 am

Assemble in God's Name

BIBLICAL AND INFORMAL GREETING

*Following brief announcements, the congregation is invited to prepare in silence for worship.
Please use this time to pray, to meditate, or to read the Scriptures for today.*



PRELUDE

“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”
Westminster Bells

arr. Carol Lynn Mizell

CALL TO WORSHIP

Abby Miller

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's holy name.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Proclaim the mercy of the One who comes as one of us.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Trust and do not be afraid.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

With joy we will draw water from the wells of peace.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation. Hallelujah! Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Phil, Becky, Charlie, Kennedy, and Alice Schmehl



Watch and wait for Christ's coming!

***We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.***

We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace.

We light this candle in joy.

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:16–18)



Sung Congregational Response. (Tune: “O Worship the King, All Glorious Above”)

The candle of joy reminds us to sing, For God is at work to do a new thing.

The proud will be humbled; the lowly will rise.

God's kingdom is one of delight and surprise.

God of hope, God of peace, God of joy, you are our salvation; we trust in you and are not afraid.

Lead us to draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

God of promise, God of joy, into our darkness come

Words to “The Candle of Hope” by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette – ©Copyright 2015; used with permission.

Liturgy by Teresa Lockhart Eisenlohr. Week three icon by Swen-Peter Ekkebus from the Noun Project.



*HYMN 9 (Blue Hymnal)

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION



The Lord is near. In your presence, Holy God, we confess that we need repentance. We have broken your commands against idolatry. We do not live in peace with your creation or your people. We have not trusted your word, and we are afraid. Forgive us, restore us, and turn our shame into praise.

PERIOD OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God who lives and moves among us, provides abundant forgiveness you are forgiven.
The Lord has taken away the judgments against us.

We can live in peace and free of worry! Alleluia!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE



May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior we eagerly await, be with you.
And also with you!



*RESPONSE No. 576 (Blue Hymnal) “Gloria, Gloria”
Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o! Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!
Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o! Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Proclaim God's Word



FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 12:2-6
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

OT 641



ANTHEM

“Calypso Lullaby”
Joyful Hearts

J. Hairston

On a clear and starry night, on a hillside far away, shepherds saw a golden light,
and they heard the angels say: “Alleluia, shout for joy,” sweet music fills the sky.

The heavens ring while angels sing a Christmas lullaby.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, little one, rest your head. Dream of peace on earth in your manger bed.

Angels filled the evening sky and with joy began to sing:

“Glory be to God on high! Let the bells of heaven ring!”

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold.



SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:7-18
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ!

NT 60



CHILDREN'S SERMON

Brad Thomas

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

“Mighty God”

The Rev. David Smith

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is
seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the
dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***



*HYMN 53 (Blue Hymnal)

“What Child Is This”

GREENSLEEVES

Give Thanks To God

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL



The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Traditional, page 16 of the hymnal. We use "debts" and "debtors."*)



OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS (Visitors, we invite you to share your contact info on a Welcome Card.)



OFFERTORY "Fantasy on 'Come Thou Long Expected Jesus'" Hal Hopsom
Westminster Bells

*DOXOLOGY No. 592 (Blue Hymnal)



*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give you thanks and praise. Gracious God, in gratitude for all that you have given us, we bring our tithes, offerings, and labor to help feed a world hungry for healing and hope; for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Go In God's Name



*HYMN 28 (Blue Hymnal) "Good Christian, Friends, Rejoice" IN DUCLIJUBILO

*DISMISSAL AND BLESSING



POSTLUDE "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!" R. Haan

**Indicates those who are able, please stand.*

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN! If you are visiting, we would welcome the opportunity to tell you more about our church family. We invite you to use one of the Welcome Cards you will find in the pew racks to share your information with us.

THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS TODAY are given to the glory of God by Jack Hardman in loving memory of his wife, Jean.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:

WORSHIP LEADER: Abby Miller

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Brad Thomas

JUNIOR CHURCH: Maria Berner

SOUND SYSTEM: John Lee

SIP N CHAT: Schmehl Family

FLOWER DELIVERY: The Congregation

LIVESTREAM: Randy Urbaniak

USHERS: Jim & Susan Barengo, Jerry & Jennylou Brock, Bonita Smith

SPECIAL THANKS TO WESTMINSTER BELLS, JOYFUL HEARTS AND ABBY MILLER FOR SHARING THEIR MUSICAL TALENTS THIS MORNING!

CHRISTIAN CONDOLENCES AND DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILY OF JOE GRAHAM. Joe was the nephew of Ilene Barengo. He passed on December 8.

THERE IS NO CHANCEL CHOIR OR WESTMINSTER BELLS REHEARSAL THIS COMING WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH.

WE ARE REDUCING EXPENSES & OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT by printing fewer bulletins and inviting worshippers to share.

SIP N CHAT ON DECEMBER 30 WILL BE A POTLUCK. Bring in your leftover goodies from Christmas. Whether it's cookies, a cheeseball or summer sausage and crackers, bring it and share for Sip N Chat.

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER MAKING A COMMITMENT FOR 2019 TO SUPPORT THE BUDGET. You can also make a commitment to our youth ministry. Commitment cards may be placed in the offering plate. There are extra Live Simply packets and commitment cards near the entrances.

THE ALTERNATIVE GIVING CATALOG IS AVAILABLE. Look for the table near fellowship hall to fill out your gift order this week and next. For 8 Weeks of Giving this year, we are featuring different ministries each week. This week Scholars on Fourth is being highlighted.

SCHOLARS ON FOURTH provides a safe, nurturing afterschool environment that promotes academic, emotional and social growth through relationship. Once a week 4th and 5th graders from Washington Elementary come to First Presbyterian following classes for a snack, educational and fun activities and tutoring.

THE 2019 FLOWER CALENDAR HAS BEEN POSTED. Sign up to purchase flowers for a Sunday for \$15. Please email or call the office with the message you want in the bulletin for that Sunday.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

6 pm Lessons and Carols with Candlelight
11 pm Candlelight and Communion

DOING SOME CHRISTMAS BAKING? YOU CAN HELP THE COMMUNITY MEAL! Are you making some special holiday cookies or another favorite that freezes well? Consider baking a little more for use at a future community meal. We are receiving fewer dessert donations from the grocery stores (collected via Harvest of Hope). Your donations can be stored in the church freezer. Questions? Speak to Pauline Lee or email her at pjlee@suddenlink.net

WELCOME AND PRAYER REQUESTS CARDS, AND DONATION ENVELOPES ARE IN THE PEW RACKS.

KAREN'S NEW EMAIL ADDRESS IN THE CHURCH OFFICE IS firstpresbymarietta@gmail.com.

SIP N CHAT HOSTING SIGN UP IS POSTED, INCLUDING EARLY 2019 DATES. Simple snacks are fine.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS DAY FEAST for Deliveries, Publicity, Janitor/Clean-up, Kitchen/Cooking, Hospitality/Serving, Desserts. Donations of money, milk, juice, fresh fruits, Christmas cards and home cooked dishes are welcome. Please call Bruce Haas (740-629-1277).

CPR/AED FIRST TIME TRAINING AND RECERTIFICATION WILL BE OFFERED IN JANUARY. Cost is \$22 for either training. Please sign up on the big bulletin board by the Wooster Street entrance if you are interested. Reserve your spot by Sunday, December 23. Training dates are as follows:

- Recertification: Sunday, January 6 at noon
- First time training: Sunday, January 13 at noon

PARENTS, WE HAVE BAGS WITH COLORING AND DRAWING SUPPLIES FOR CHILDREN TO USE DURING WORSHIP. These are in the narthex (the entryway to the sanctuary) on one of the pews. Ushers can help you locate these. Included are a children's bulletin and a coloring page.

HAVE INPUT FOR OUR CHURCH LEADERS? *Open Line to Session* cards can be found on the table at the top of the main stairwell. Cards must be signed when providing input.

YOUTH GROUP MEETING DATES:
DECEMBER 30 - 1-3PM FOR 6TH THROUGH 12TH GRADE
DECEMBER 23, 7-8:30PM FOR HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE

SPECIAL EVENTS!!!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH - YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY 5-7PM - We will be doing a White Elephant gift exchange, holiday themed games, and of course, delicious Christmas snacks. All gifts should be less than \$10, and ridiculous gag gifts are wildly encouraged.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE AND OFFERINGS

Youth Group for 6th through 12th grade – Sundays 1 to 3 pm
Fellowship, music, lessons and group games

High School & College Group – Normally biweekly, Sundays 7:00 to 8:30 pm at FPC
Off weeks we will look at some off-campus locations.

Signups for volunteers are located on the bulletin board by the Wooster Street entrance

ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER 16-23

Sunday

9:00 – Adult SunSch
9:00 – Presby Praise
9:15 – Children/Youth
SunSchool
10:15 – Worship
11:30 – Sip N Chat
11:45 – Glorify!
3:00 – Music Recital –
Meaghan Hahn
5:00 - Youth Christmas Party
@ VanDyk's House

Monday

Tuesday

5:00 – Book Club
5:00 - Glorify! Combo

Wednesday

3:20 - Scholars
5:00 – Westminster Bells
6:30 – Joyful Hearts
7:15 – Chancel Choir

Thursday

5:30 – Girl Scouts
7:00 – AA

Friday

Saturday

8:00 – Men's Fellowship
9:00 – AA
10:00 – SDA Church
School & Worship

Next Sunday

Scriptures
Micah 5:2-5a
Luke 1:46-55
Sermon – “Everlasting
Father”