

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
WELCOMES YOU FOR WORSHIP  
DECEMBER 23, 2018**



**REV. DAVID SMITH  
MINISTER**

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

December 23, 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

“Glory (Let There be Peace on Earth)”

C. Stevens, M. Maher,  
R. Popadic

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hank Goehring

Out of little Bethlehem comes one who is to rule in Israel.

***He shall be great to the ends of the earth.***

Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

***God's mercy extends from generation to generation. Holy is God's name!***

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Emilia Jacobs & Chris Van Reeth



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. We light this candle with love.

“I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;

with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.” (Psalm 89:1)

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



***The candle of love tells what we are worth: God loves us so much, God came to the earth!  
An angel brought news of a child who would be The one would save us and set us all free.***

God of hope, God of peace, God of joy, God of love,

you are love, and those who abide in love abide in you.

Teach us how to love one another as reflections of your light in the world.

***God of promise, God of love, 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 four icon by Swen-Peter Ekkebus from the Noun Project.*



\*CAROL 49 (Blue Hymnal)

“Once in Royal David's City”

IRBY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. Though we have heard Mary's song, we still seek security in pride and power and possessions. Though we know your story, we resist the costs of following you. We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you intend. Make us messengers of the peace you bring. As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service.***

PERIOD OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, God is for us and not against us.

For that very reason, God sent the Son into the world—not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

***We believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!***



**\*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!



**Proclaim God's Word**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**



**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Micah 5:2-5a

OT 865

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God!***



**ANTHEM**

“Come, Child of Light”

arr. L. Larson

Chancel Choir

Come, O Child of Hope, we pray. Enter our hearts and show us Your way.

Promise of God, Heaven’s pure Light, Hope for our world shining bright!

Come, O Child of Hope, we pray.

Come, O Child of Peace, we pray. Enter our hearts and show us Your way.

Promise of God, Heaven’s pure Light, Peace for our world shining bright!

Come, O Child of Peace, we pray.

Come, O Child of Love, we pray. Enter our hearts and show us Your way.

Promise of God, Heaven’s pure Light, Love for our world shining bright!

Come, O Child of Love, we pray.

Come, O Child of Joy, we pray. Enter our hearts and show us Your way.

Promise of God, Heaven’s pure Light, Joy for our world shining bright!

Come, O Child of Joy, we pray.



**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 1:46-55

NT 57

The Gospel of the Lord.

***Praise to you, Lord Christ!***



**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

Brad Thomas

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

“Everlasting Father”

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.***



**\*CAROL 25 (Blue Hymnal)**

“Away in a Manger”

MUELLER

**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

"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"  
"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

D. Cherwien  
P. Manz

\*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. You deliver us, O God, from exile, separation, and despair into communion with each other, with you, and with your good news. We thank you for all that draws us close together. Accept our gifts as signs of our gratitude for what you give us every day; for the sake of those who stand in need and Jesus Christ, who saves us. Amen.*

**Go In God's Name**



\*CAROL 41 (Blue Hymnal)

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

\*DISMISSAL AND BLESSING



POSTLUDE

"Magnificat in G Major"  
"Noel: Une Vierge pucelle"  
"Hasten to Bethlehem"

A. Guilmant  
N. le Bègue  
J. Marsh

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*\*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 Barbara Rankin in memory of loved ones.

**THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:**

WORSHIP LEADER: Hank Goehring  
JUNIOR CHURCH: Maria Berner  
SIP N CHAT: The Tietjens  
LIVESTREAM: Randy Urbaniak

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Brad Thomas  
SOUND SYSTEM: Mike Elliott  
FLOWER DELIVERY: The Congregation  
USHERS: The Evans Family

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

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

**SPECIAL THANKS TO CHANCEL CHOIR AND GLORIFY! FOR SHARING THEIR MUSICAL TALENTS!**

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

**SIP N CHAT NEXT SUNDAY WILL BE A POTLUCK.** Bring your leftover Christmas goodies. Whether it's cookies, a cheeseball or summer sausage and crackers, share it at Sip N Chat.

**POINSETTIA MEMORIALS** are located on the table at the top of the main stairwell.

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

**REGISTER TODAY! 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 today. Training dates are as follows:

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

**GLORIFY! CHOIR WILL RESUME REHEARSALS ON JANUARY 6TH AFTER WORSHIP AND GLORIFY! COMBO WILL RESUME REHEARSALS ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 8TH.**

**REHEARSALS FOR CHANCEL CHOIR, JOYFUL HEARTS, AND WESTMINSTER BELLS WILL RESUME ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9TH.**

**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 to fill out your gift order the next 3 weeks. For 8 Weeks of Giving this year, we are featuring different ministries each week. This week Washington County Career Center Tool Program is being highlighted.

**THE WASHINGTON COUNTY CAREER CENTER** is a technical high school with 15 trade programs. Students in many programs need specialized tools for their trade. Circumstances beyond their control make these tools unaffordable for some students. A donation to the WCCC Tool Program helps these students bridge the gap.

**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.

**KAREN'S NEW EMAIL ADDRESS IN THE CHURCH OFFICE IS [firstpresbymarietta@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbymarietta@gmail.com).**

**SIP N CHAT HOSTING DATES FOR 2019 ARE POSTED.** 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. There is a sign up for food donations on the bulletin board at the foot of the main stairs.

**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 6<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
DECEMBER 23, 7-8:30PM FOR HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE**

**YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE AND OFFERINGS**

**Youth Group for 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> 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 23 - 30**

**Sunday**

9:00 – Adult SunSch  
10:15 – Worship  
11:30 – Sip N Chat  
7:00 – High School &  
College Group

**Monday – Office Closed**

6:00 – Lessons, Carols &  
Candlelight  
11:00 – Candlelight &  
Communion

**Tuesday – Office Closed**

**Merry Christmas!**  
12:00 – Christmas Feast  
7:00 – AA District 15

**Wednesday - Office Closed**

**Thursday – Office Closed**

5:30 – Girl Scouts  
7:00 – AA

**Friday – Office Closed**

**Saturday**

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

**Next Sunday**

Scriptures  
Psalm 148  
Colossians 3:12-17  
Sermon – “And Whatever  
You Do . . .”