

ORDER OF SERVICE

December 4, 2011

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude "Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!"
arr. Raymond Haan

Lighting of the Advent Candle Rob, Stephanie,
Hailey, Caleb & Luke Moore

Call to Worship (sung)
Choir: O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Congregation: Our spirits by Thine advent here.
Choir: Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
Congregation: And death's dark shadows put to flight.
All: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

***Hymn** "People, Look East" #12
(Vs. 1, 4 & 5 only)

Announcements and Affirmation of Community

Prayer of Confession

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised kingdom. In your mercy, forgive us. Give us the wisdom to seek things that will endure. May we welcome the coming of Christ into our world and into our hearts in this season of Advent and always. (moment of silence for personal reflection.) Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

***Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Isaiah 40:1-11 (p.667)

Anthem "E'n So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" Paul Manz

Second Scripture Lesson II Peter 3:8-15a (p.238)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Who Will You Be When He Comes?"
Rev. Kathleen Crighton

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn** "Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread" #505

Call for Dedication of Life and Substance

Offertory "On a Starlit Night" Jill Gallina
Crusader Choir

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men

***Prayer of Dedication**

Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People

Prayer Response "Amen"

The Lord's Supper

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (p. 13, hymnal)

The Apostles' Creed (Traditional) p. 14

The Lord's Prayer (sins)

***Hymn** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #9

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** “The Baby in a Manger Stall” T. Tallis

***Postlude** “Fum, Fum, Fum” Spanish Carol arr. Russell

All are invited to remain seated during the postlude at the end of the service. If you are unable to remain during this time, please leave as quietly as possible.

USHERS: Jack & Peg Myers

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Vicki Washburn

ORGANIST: David Carpenter

PRE-SERVICE PIANIST: Meg Smith

PASTOR: Rev. Kathleen Crighton

WORSHIP LEADERS: The Moore family

CLERK OF SESSION: Judy Bunnell

MODERATOR OF DEACONS: Sally Meisenheimer

DIR. OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES: Marianne Wilson

MODERATOR of PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN Marjorie Mapstone

MINISTERS: All the members of this congregation.

WELCOME to the First Presbyterian Church. We invite all visitors to join us for coffee in the Fellowship Hall, directly below the sanctuary, following the service. We encourage both members and visitors to wear their name tags. Thank you to our hostess Nancy Olsen.

Members and visitors are asked to sign the friendship pads in the pews and pass them down the pews, noting the names of those around you so you can greet them after the service.

PRAYER FAMILIES FOR THE WEEK OF December 4, 2011

Natalie Barnett

Gretchen Barton

Tara, Kathleen & Chelsey Beaudet

PRAYER CONCERNS

Linda & Al Tripp

Stephanie Briggs

Joel Keltner

Leslie Kolodziej

Audrey Walker

Candy & John Wagner

Joe Krugler (in Afghanistan)
Christina King
Connor Marvin
Marilee Patnode
Wally Hauver (Kay Haupt's brother)

Jim & Joyce Ashe
David Knight
Davin Blow
Laura Zehr
Arthur Newgarden

Tim Blow

The Caito Family

This week:

Monday: 4:30 p.m. Children's Choir
5:00 p.m. Pizza Plus
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Youth

Christmas Candlelight Concert – Sunday, December 18th at 4 p.m.
The Adult Choir is proud to present their annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 18th at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The choir will sing a lovely selection of seasonal anthems which are sure to prepare your hearts for the coming of the Messiah. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Please invite a friend or neighbor to come with you. There will be a reception in Fellowship Hall following the concert. Won't you take time out from your busy holiday schedule and join us for this performance? You'll be glad you did!

Sunday Adult Christian Education:

Adult Life Application Class – meets each week in the Youth Director's office following worship. Led by Sally Meisenheimer.

God in America – Part II - meets in the church library at 10:45 sharp. Led by Stuart Voss.

The session has called a **congregational meeting** on Sunday, December 11 immediately after the 9:30 service for the purpose of electing ruling elders and deacons for the class of 2014 and to fill an unexpired term for ruling elder for the class of 2012 and an unexpired term for deacon for the class of 2013. Please plan to be present for the meeting.

At its meeting November 28, the session approved a request from the Worship and Music Council to discontinue the Praise and Worship Service. The service will take place today, December 4, and next Sunday, December 11. The Praise Band will provide music for the

Christmas Pageant in worship on December 18 at 10:30 a.m. Thank you to all who have taken part in this service over the last several years.

The session also approved a request from the Nurture Council to **change the schedule for Sunday school** to provide more time for families and children to go to coffee hour after the 9:30 service, beginning January 8. The new schedule is:

10:45 a.m. Praise Time

11:00 - 11:45 a.m. Sunday School

Poinsettias and wreaths will again beautify the Sanctuary. If you would like to give an honorarium or memorial, please place your order in the church office by Monday, December 12th. Poinsettias are \$14.00 each. Wreaths are \$20.00.

Dan Ladue and Pastor Kathy are leading an **evening study group** on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Youth Director's office. The study is on the book *Love Wins; A Book about Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived* by Rob Bell. Books are available on Amazon.

Interfaith Food Shelf

Please bring contributions to the Food Shelf at 127 Beekman Street between 9 a.m. and noon weekdays. Checks can be made to Interfaith Food Shelf and placed in the offering plate.

Family Promise hosting - December 5th-11th. Our congregation's next turn to host homeless families in the Family Promise program starts tomorrow evening. We'll say goodbye to our guests the following Sunday morning, December 11th. The sign-up poster is on the yellow easel in the coffee fellowship area. As always, we'll need volunteers to prepare and serve dinner meals, spend time with our guests each evening, and act as hosts overnight. Because our hosting starts right after the Christmas Tea and Bazaar, we'll also need as much extra help as we can get to help move bazaar items to make room for our guests and hosts.

Local Mission Christmas Tree Ornament Project - The congregation is once again invited to provide Christmas gifts to children

in Clinton County. The Local Mission Council has received a list of wishes/needs from the Department of Social Services for children in some of the families they serve. These gift requests are written on colored ornament tags and hung on the tree in Fellowship Hall. Each ornament represents one gift. The ornament message contains the first name of the recipient, age, gender, requested item description and clothing size, if appropriate. When children receive gifts from us, they are not served by the Christmas Bureau.

Congregation members are encouraged to take an ornament, - both parts, as each ornament will have two duplicate parts tied together. Purchase the item during the week and return the gift, unwrapped, with both parts of the ornament taped to it, to the tree in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 11th, or to the church office no later than noon Tuesday, December 13th. Please DO NOT WRAP THE GIFTS.

There are a couple of gifts items where two or more members might wish to jointly purchase the item. If an item of clothing is purchased, please ask the store for and include with the gift, a gift receipt, should an exchange be necessary. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Bunnell or Nancy Olsen.

Did you miss worship one Sunday? Misplace your copy of the *Pulse*? Newsletters and bulletins are posted on the church website, www.presbyplatt.org. Just click on the tab. Videos of sermons are also on the site; scroll down and click on the photo for “sermon archives.”

1Sermons

December 11, 2011

Third Sunday in Advent

“Who Will You Be Expecting?”

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 18, 2011

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Christmas Pageant

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Luke 1:26-38

December 24, 2011

Christmas Eve

“Are You Ready for the Unexpected?”

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 2:1-20

December 25, 2011

Christmas Day

One service at 9:30 a.m.

Service of Lessons and Carols

MISSION STATEMENT

To

Worship Christ

Teach Faith

And

Practice Love