

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 2017 · 10:00 AM

(* Those who are able, please stand. Large print hymnals, bulletins & wireless hearing aids available Ask an usher. Members, please wear your name tag.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "People, Look East" arr Warner

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH The Fish Family

Unison Prayer: **Risen Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives & shine in our world. Amen**

*HYMN "People, Look East" # 12

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Leader: Pastor Sam

Invitation
Unison Prayer
**Lord, you are 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,
for the sake of the One who proclaims good news
and for the sake of all the world.**

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Sharing God's Peace

Response "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" # 1 (v1)
**Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee**

2017 Christmas Pageant

"You're Invited"

Joseph and his wife Mary had travelled to Bethlehem. They were sent to a stable because there was no room for them at the inn....

...Jesus was sent for all people and at this time of Advent and all through the year you are invited to COME TO THE MANGER!

Congregations Joins and Sings

*HYMN "Angels We Have Heard On High" # 23

*CHRISTMAS CREED Latin American

**I believe in Jesus Christ and in the good news of Bethlehem.
I believe in the one of whose coming the shepherds saw the sign.
I believe in the one over whom the kings of the earth had no power, and who was not understood by the proud.
I believe in the one to whom the poor and the outcast gave welcome.
I believe in the one whose love changed the heart of the proud, and with his life showed that it is more important to serve than to be served.
I believe in peace, justice among all nations, and love among all people.
I believe in forgiveness, and the transforming power of the gospel.
I believe that Christmas is strength and power, and that this world can change if with humility and faith we kneel before the manger.
I believe that I must be the first one to do so.**

OFFERING

Invitation
Offertory Music "He Is Born (Il Est Ne)" Roques
Song of Praise "On Jordan's Bank" # 10 (v4)
**All praise to You, eternal Son, Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore, And Holy Spirit, evermore**

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Joys & Concerns
Silent Prayer
Prayers of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer...using debts and debtors

*HYMN "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" # 48

*BENEDICTION – concluding with
Pastor: ... God is good
People: .. All the time!

*SUNG RESPONSE

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way Through this and every coming day,
That in Your Spirit strong and true Our lives may be our gift to You.**

POSTLUDE Sortie on Guilmant
"Creator of the Stars at Night"

Welcome Visitors. Please leave your contact info on the pink card that you find in the pew rack. Pick up a Visitor's brochure from the back or ask an Usher! Be sure share a cup of coffee with us today during our fellowship time immediately after Worship

Mission Statement: First Presbyterian Church exists to improve our understanding of Christ; to spread His word and teachings; and to reach out to our church family, our community, and the world through acts of compassion, kindness, and love

A Staffed Nursery & Toddler Care Room is located on the 1st floor behind the sanctuary. We also offer an optional Quiet Room for parents with small children located in the sanctuary back

***You Are Invited To Come To the Manger
Pageant Cast***

Holy Family: The Kolb Family
Stable Angels Cara Yates & Cailyn Armstrong
Head Angel Ryan Fish
Forgetful angels Maddie Garcia & Maryrose Scaccia
Shepherds/Farmers The Tucker Family
Kings/Royalty Noah Sexton, Charlie Sexton & Jay Fish
Meek & Mighty Leah Sexton & Isaiah Sexton
Lepers, Blind, Lame, /Sick & Handicapped Faith, Emily & Izzy Turner
Poor Widow /Lonely, Discouraged, Depressed Danielle Sexton
All Races & Nations Maegan Fish

Participants in Today's Christmas Pageant will meet in the Youth Lounge afterwards for Holiday Treats. Church School classes for youth begin at 11:15 in regularly assigned classrooms.

There is no activity period today

No Adult Church School – Come Carol with Us Instead!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers/Greeters/Acolytes: Don Hanson; Dec 24am&pm: D Scaccia

Layreader Dec 24 am Mary Grow / pm Evan Griffith

Worship Recorder is Sue Davidson. Dec 24am&pm: Jay Fish

Deacon Ramp Duty is Bruce Warcup. Dec 24am&pm: Bonnie Herter

Coffee Break is immediately after 10am worship in our parlor. Join us for fellowship! Please help pick up if you are able

Weekly Congregation & Presbytery Prayer List: Bob & Bobbie Foote; Amy, Mike & Maddie Garcia; Ron, Sara, Connor & Carli Griffiths and Utica Presbytery Moderator, Stated Clerk & Staff