DECEMBER 29, 2019 · 10:00 AM

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

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"Of the Father's Love Begotten"* Plainsong
(Divinum Mysterium) Phillips

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader .... Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

People.... Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts. Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

Leader .... Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.

People.... Let them praise the name of the LORD, for at his command they were created,

All ..... And he established them for ever and ever— he issued a decree that will never pass away.

*HYMN *"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"* # 29

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Leader: Kevin Taylor

Invitation

Unison Prayer

God of grace and glory, we thirst for your grace.
You made a way for us in the wilderness,
and still, in our foolishness, we go astray.
We hide from your presence.
We don't listen to your word.
We are lifeless when we ought to dance
and speechless when we ought to sing.
Forgive us, O Lord.
Speak peace to our fearful hearts,
strengthen our weak hands, and make firm our feeble knees as we seek to follow in your holy way.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Sharing God's Peace

Response *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* # 31 (v1)

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 63:7-9
*"The Word of the Lord / **Thanks be to God!**"* OT Page 537 (LP 848)

SPECIAL MUSIC *"The Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth"*
Michael Ferris & David Kolb, Soloists
Composers: Simeone, Onorati, Davis, Grossman, Fraser

NEW TESTAMENT READING Hebrews 2:10-18
*"The Word of the Lord / **Thanks be to God!**"* NT Page 170 (LP 265)

CHILDREN'S TALK Helen Adsit

SERMON **Michelle Dolan**

*HYMN *"In the Bleak Midwinter"* # 36

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR CHRISTMAS by Nathan Nettleton

We believe in God, the creator and giver of life, who brought all creation to birth, who mothers us and fathers us, protecting, nurturing, and cherishing us.

We believe in Jesus Christ: God born among us as a fragile baby, embodying both love and the need for love, and calling us to rest in God as trustingly as a tiny child.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, breathed into us at our birth, always drawing us on to be born again, encouraging, exhorting, comforting, nourishing our growth and inspiring our living.

We believe in the reconciliation of the world to God, through Christ. Hunted at birth and humiliated at death, Christ entered our fearful darkness so that we might enter his glorious light and share the life of his resurrection.

And we believe that each new child is a glimpse of the face of God, a sign of the life to come, and a call to live in peace and celebrate living together.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Amen.

OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory Music *"Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"* Willan
Michael Ferris, Soloist · French folk melody

Song of Praise "In the Bleak Midwinter" # 36 (v4)

What can I give Him, Poor as I am? If I were a Shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man I would do my part, Yet what I can I give Him,
Give my heart.

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer

Prayers of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer
...See Laminated Pew Cards for the Lord's Prayer

*HYMN *"My Soul Cries Out"* See Insert

*BENEDICTION *See Laminated Pew Cards* concluding with…

Leader:..Remember that 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 *"Joy to the World"* Ore

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 to join us in the parlor after Worship for coffee break!

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

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today....10:00 am ....Worship followed by Coffee Break in Parlor
Mon.....Church Office closed for vacation
Tues.....10:00 am ....Crafty Ladies & Prayer Shawl Group
Mission Closet open til noon & again at 1:30
Noon ....Church Offices closed for Holiday
Wed.....Blessings for the New Year

NEXT SUNDAY ... Jeremiah 31:7-14; John 1:1-18
Epiphany Craft during Coffee Break