

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday December 10th, 2017

Please stand at items marked * if you are able.

Passages in **Bold Print** are to be spoken in Unison

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Susan Mattinson

Pianist: Micah Pawluk Music Director: Kendall House

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

***Entry of the Bible**

Introit

Lighting the Candle of Peace (see insert)

Hymn "Come, thou long-expected Jesus" **#110**

Opening Prayer:

God of all times and places; you are holy and loving. You create pathways where there is no path. You prepare us to receive wonders beyond imagining. You have called us by name, baptized us with water and with the Holy Spirit, blessed us for abundant living, and set us in the world to serve you. We confess that we are resistant to having our hearts and minds changed by your transforming power. We are more comfortable remaining as we are than becoming who you would have us be. Forgive us for the walls we build that prevent us from seeing you and each other. Forgive us for our reluctance to embrace your promise of wholeness and for not forgiving each other as we have been forgiven. Call us again to come to you, to be transformed by your great love and mercy. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Choir Anthem

***Children's Hymn** "Will your anchor hold" **#744**

Sing last verse after Children's Time

Children's Time

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Preparation: **#119 v.2**

"Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth, giving a promise of safety and worth. When God is a child, there's joy in our song.

"Be Still and know that I am God" (Ps. 46:10)
Please take the time before the service as an opportunity to quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid."

Bible Readings:

Matthew 14:22-23

pg. 16 NT

Psalms 85:8-13

pg. 543-544 OT

Mark 5:2-20

pg. 39 NT

Gloria Patri:

#594

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.

Sermon: "Next Door Saviour: Part 2"

Hymn: "Eternal Father, strong to save" **#325**

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Tithes and Offerings

***Offertory Response** **#145 v.4**

"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 him my heart."

***Prayer of Dedication:**

Loving God, we place these offerings upon your table with the knowledge that they will support many ministries that proclaim your Good News and lead people on your path. By offering these generous gifts, we offer ourselves and prepare ourselves to be led along your path of grace and love. We pray with your guiding presence. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (debts...debtors)

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***Hymn:** "Comfort, comfort you my people" **#113**

Blessing **#168 v.5**

**"Sacred infant, all divine, of God's tender love the sign, for you came from highest bliss, down to such a world as this! Hail, O ever blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

Postlude: (Please maintain a reverent silence and stillness during the postlude.)