

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday December 17th, 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 Joy (see insert)

Hymn "Hark the glad sound" **#118**

Opening Prayer:

Loving God, You approach us with such kindness and tenderness. You look kindly on us no matter what our state or condition. You redeem all that appears lost and make new all that has been destroyed. In the presence of your greatness, we confess the smallness of our love, the narrowness of our concern, and the denial of your truth. Through our hands have slipped opportunities missed, people not cared for, moments and days not celebrated. Some of our sins are plain for us to see and some are not. Some we cannot face and others we cannot forget. We are sorry for our failings and we ask for reassurance and forgiveness. In your mercy, make us new. Give us a fresh start and lead us in the paths of your Son. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Choir Anthem

***Children's Hymn** "Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet" **#466**

Sing twice, one before and once after Children's Time

Children's Time

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Preparation: **#119 v.3**

"Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn, telling the world that the Saviour is born. When God is a child, there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid."

"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.

Bible Readings:

Mark 6:1-6

pg. 40 NT

Psalm 8

pg. 492 OT

John 3:1-9

pg. 93-94 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 3"

Hymn: "Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts" **#366**

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:**

Rejoicing God, we offer you thanks and praise for this season of anticipation, this season of Advent. As we prepare for the birth of your son, we share our tithes and offerings with the joy and excitement that is common as one anticipates the birth of a new child. Bless these gifts, in your Holy Name. Amen.

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

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***Hymn:** "Joyful, joyful we adore you" **#410**

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, which is our organist's gift to both you and to God. If you must leave before the postlude concludes, please do so as quietly as possible.)