

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 9th, 2018

Second Sunday in Advent

Please stand at items marked * if you are able.
Passages in **Bold Print** are to be spoken in Unison
Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Susan Mattinson

Organist: Carol Wehrstedt Music Director: Kendall House

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

*Entry of the Bible

Introit

Lighting the Candle of Peace (see insert)

*Hymn: "People in darkness" #124

Opening Prayer:

God of wisdom and understanding, of power and might, of joy and of delight; you call us to lives marked with newness and hope. You give light to those who sit in darkness. You bring comfort to those who are in the shadow of death. You lead us into the way of peace. Glory and honour and praise be to you this day and always. God of forgiveness, we confess that we still live in sin. We sin against one another and we sin against you. All too often, we fail to live as those given new life by your son. All too often, we do not make full use of the gifts of your Spirit. Remind us, we pray, that we are forgiven. Help us to live in the newness of life that we have received through Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Choir Anthem

WE CELEBRATE GOD'S CHILDREN

*Praise Song: "Emmanuel" (Blue Song Book) #53

Exploring God Together

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. 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:

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 85:8-13

Luke 3:1-6

pg. 889-890 OT

pg. 543-544 OT

pg. 60 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: "With Peaceful Hearts"

*Hymn: "On Jordan's bank" #126

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Tithes and Offerings

* Offertory Response: #141 v.2

"Good Christians, all rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now you hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this. He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this; Christ was born for this."

*Prayer of Dedication:

Gracious and Giving God, we once again prepare for the birth of your chosen Son. Through the voices of the prophets and preachers, you have been heard in the driest deserts and the steepest valleys. Unfurl our hearts and open our minds so that we may hear your salvation story anew. Giving this money is a worshipful gesture of our unending praises to you. We dedicate this offering to your Kingdom work. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer #535

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*Hymn: "Let there be light" #727

Blessing #168 v.1

"See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below; see, the Lamb of God appears, promised from eternal years. Hail, O ever bless-ed 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.)