

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church
*Please join us for fellowship and refreshments at “Coffee Hour” in the
Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.
(✦ Latecomers may be seated.)*

AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Lessons and Carols

December 13, 2015 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

THE PRELUDE

“Spirit of Christmas”

arr. Fred Frank
Brass Choir

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FELLOWSHIP (Please sign the red “friendship pads” found at the end of each pew by the center aisle. Note the names of those worshipping around you as you pass the pad back. We encourage you to greet each other after the service.)

THE PROPHECY

Isaiah 40: 1-5

Tom Driver and Anne Barstow

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

L: God is making the final preparation for an amazing thing! This is the Advent of the long awaited Messiah, the bringer of hope, the prince of peace, our leader of love.

P: We wait, we prepare, we make straight the way.

L: We celebrate the coming of Christ with the lighting of Advent candles.

P: We are a people of hope, a people of peace, a people of love.

L: At first there was the frail light of a candle called hope, daring to pierce the darkness of despair and sin.

P: Then there was the candle of peace, the gentle and persistent fire, the one that calls out the violent forces and lets in God’s deep and tranquil Spirit.

L: Today we light the candle of love. No other word so adequately captures the spirit and goal of our faith. No other word so beautifully describes what we know of God.

P: For God so loved the world.

- L: For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son. A savior was made in the form of a baby who was born so that we might know God's love.
- P: **We gather, then, in Christian love. We give thanks for a love that passes understanding, and we await the dawning of God's pervasive and enduring love once more this Christmas season.**

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF HOPE, PEACE, and LOVE

HYMN #23 (Hymnal)* *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

THE BIDDING

Dr. Louis Mitchell

Beloved in Christ, be it at this Christmas-tide our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God and the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child. But first, let us pray the prayer our Lord taught us:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE ANNUNCIATION

Luke 1: 26-33

Joan Fraser, Narrator

Children's Choir

The Wexford Carol"

12th Cent. Irish

Bell Choir

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

arr. Tammy Waldrop

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Luke 2: 1-7

Transcribed by Pat Bohrs

Bell and Children's Choirs

"Away in a Manger"

Ralph E. Marryott

The Chorale

The Searching Carol

THE ANGELS

Luke 2: 8-14

Bell Choir

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

arr. Rory Mallory

Brass Choir

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

arr. Paul Clark

THE SHEPHERDS

Luke 2: 15-20

The Chorale

"Come on down to Bethlehem"

Joel Rainey

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

"Joyous Christmas Tidings"

arr. Bill Ingram

Bell Choir

Hymn #592 (Hymnal)*

"Doxology"

Prayer of Dedication*

THE MAGI Children's Choir	Matthew 2: 1-6 <i>Carol of the Drum</i>	Katherine K. Davis
THE STAR The Chorale Brass Choir	Matthew 2: 7-12 <i>"O wondrous star of Bethlehem"</i> <i>"Silent Night"</i>	Larry Shackley arr. Paul Clark
THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD Bell & Brass Choirs and Keyboard	John 1: 1-5, 14, 16 <i>Flourish on "Joy to the World"</i>	Robert Hobby
HYMN #40 (Hymnal)*	<i>"Joy to the World!"</i>	
BENEDICTION*		
POSTLUDE	<i>Basse et Dessus de Trompette</i>	Louis Nicolas Clerambault Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

CHOIRS

The Bell Choir **Patricia Bohrs, Director**

Joy Barclay, Carolyn Barlow, Lil Conley, Peg Hagerty, Debbie Konrad, Ann Mooney, Leah Moy, Ann Olsson, Paddi Rodgers, Pat Scott, Mary Ellen Szczepanik, Michele Till, Robin Toplin, Patricia Willard and Ina Zimmer

The Brass Choir **Patricia Bohrs, Director**

Bob Briggs, Monty Hagerty, Henry Holland, Dave Stewart, Roger Suttmeier, Ed Szczepanik and Steve Szczepanik. Pianist, Joanne Hughes

Children's Choir **Jo D. Andrews, Director**

Jenna Barry, Owen Barry, Pauline Cole, Dani Franke, Megan Khazem, Maddie Klein, Morgan Pease, Cameron Pease, Evan Pease, Luke Pease and Grace Taylor

The Chorale **Donovan Klotzbeacher, Director**

Jo. D. Andrews, Samantha Andrews, Richard Craig, Jean Dunham, Jean Dvorak, Mark Hughes, Dorothy Klotzbeacher, Mary Speer, Ross Trube, Carol Vandercher and Larry White

Special Thanks to the Following

- Barbara Santoro and Leah Moy for the beautiful Christmas displays in the Narthex glass cases.
- Bill Kanawyer, Mark Kelly, Debbie and Ed Konrad, Rick and Samantha Scott & Paul Venanzi for setting up the outdoor Crèche.
- George Conley, Ruth Jost, & John and Brenda Kirkenir for decorating the Sanctuary.