

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
4TH Sunday of Advent/Christmas Joy Offering
December 20, 2015 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE *Suite in D Minor* Daniel Purcell
Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (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.)

INTROIT *“Give ear, O shepherd of Israel”* Donovan Klotzbecher
(Ps. 80: 1) The Chorale

CALL TO WORSHIP
Let us magnify the Lord together!
Let us rejoice in God our Savior.
For a child will come from Bethlehem
to redeem the people of God.
Let us worship God.

HYMN #22 (Hymnal)* *“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*
Eternal God, we confess that we resist your holy realm. You look with favor on the poor while we treat the lowly with disdain. You scatter the plans of the proud while we aspire to power and privilege. Forgive us, God of grace. Teach us what you desire, so that our hearts may leap with joy at the coming of our Savior; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

HYMN #579 (Hymnal)* *“Gloria Patri”*

THE PEACE* ✦

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Sr. High Sunday School Class

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2: 1-7

Pew Bible pg. 58

“In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver the child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.”

L: Joy to the world!

P: This is the culmination of our years of waiting.

L: We have lit the candles of hope, of peace, and of love. In the glow of their light we feel the warmth of deep and quiet joy.

P: Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

L: Let us our songs employ.

P: Let us sing to the glory of God!

L: Let us sing in the name of Christ who offers us hope in the prison of despair,

P: Peace in the chaos of life,

L: God’s love--graciously, silently, and vulnerably offered.

P: And heaven, and heaven and nature sing!

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF HOPE, PEACE, LOVE, AND JOY

HYMN #40 (Hymnal)

“Joy to the World!”

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1: 26-38

Lil Conley
Pew Bible pgs. 56-57

ANTHEM

“Do you hear what I hear?”

Regney-Shayne
The Chorale

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1: 39-56

Pew Bible pg. 57

SERMON

“Christmas Spirit”

Dr. Louis Mitchell

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #44 (Hymnal)* *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)

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.

WEEKLY GIVING AND CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Offertory	<i>“My soul doth magnify the Lord”</i>	Donovan Klotzbeacher
	<i>(Magnificat)</i>	Jean Dvorak, vocalist
Hymn #592 (Hymnal)*	<i>“Doxology”</i>	
Prayer of Dedication*		

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

RESPONSE* *Choral Amen*

The Chorale

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE*	<i>Magnificat & Duo</i>	Jean-François Dandrieu
		Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**