



First Presbyterian Church

121 S. Harrison Street, Saginaw, Michigan 48602-2193

Organized 1838

Indoor & Livestream Service 10:00 am

Sunday, December 25, 2022

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Sunday, December 25, 2022 – 10:00 A.M.
“Soli Deo Gloria” – “To God Alone The Glory”
Christmas Day

Please hand the ushers any prayer requests you might have prior to the service or place them in the offering bag during the Offertory. There are pew pads for this purpose. Pastor Ted will mention your requests during the Prayers of the People. That we may know one another: please enter your name in the friendship folders that are provided at the end of each pew and pass it on to your neighbor. When it reaches the end of the pew, pass it back noting the names of others.



= CONGREGATION STANDS (OTHERWISE PLEASE BE SEATED)

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

WELCOME, GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: To us, watchful and waiting, a gift has been slipped into our midst.

People: **A tiny child, born in a manger,**

Leader: A gift of peace to troubled souls and dangerous streets,

People: **A gift of joy to sad hearts and cautious lives,**

Leader: A gift of hope to wearied brows and oppressed peoples,

People: **A tiny child, gift of God.**

Leader: Open your hearts; raise your songs.

People: **Give thanks to the giver; welcome the gift.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.



HYMN NO. 119

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

MENDELSSOHN

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7

Story: "Christmas Light"

Carol No. 123: "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (verse 1)

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King":
the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Story: "The Christmas Scene"

Carol No. 143: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" (verse 1)

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

Scripture: Luke 2:1-7

Story: "Christmas Timing"

Carol No. 114: "Away in a Manger" (verse 1)

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Scripture: Luke 2:8-14

Story: "Truck Stop Christmas"

Carol No. 113: "Angels We Have Heard on High" (verse 1)
Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Scripture: Luke 2:15-20

Story: "The Charlie Brown Christmas"

Carol No. 121: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (verse 1)
O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-11

Story: "The Christmas Gift"

Carol No. 151: "We Three Kings of Orient Are" (verse 1)
We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

OFFERTORY

"Welcome to our World"

by Chris Rice
sung by Barb Lumsden

JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GO IN GOD'S NAME

 **HYMN NO. 134**

"Joy to the World"

ANTIOCH

 **BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate de - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Hark! The herald angels sing." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The score ends with a double bar line.

134 Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY 12.25.22

Office Schedule this week:

Office closed Friday, December 23 & Monday, December 26
Jessica in Office—9 to 5, Tues., Dec. 27
Marianne in Office—9 to 5, Wed. & Thurs., Dec. 28 & 29
Office closed Friday, December 30

YEAR END GIVING

Year End Giving—In order for you to claim a deduction for 2022 contributions we must receive your contribution by December 31st. A contribution that you make in 2023 cannot be deducted on your 2022 tax return even if the check is dated for 2022. This is so whether you actually wrote it in the new year but backdated it to this year. There is one exception—a check that is written, mailed, and postmarked in 2022 can be deducted for 2022 even if it is not received by the church until 2023. First Presbyterian will be following these rules in issuing statements.



**NO
COFFEE HOUR
ON
CHRISTMAS
DAY**

**There will be no Tai Chi Class
on Monday, December 26
and Monday, January 2**

Flowers given to the Glory of God today:

The entrance arrangement is in celebration of Bambi Straebel's birthday by her family.



**Merry Christmas everyone!
Have a blessed day!**

**Child Care during worship in our nursery
for birth thru age 3
(Room 15 Lower Level)**