

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

4th Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

10:00 a.m.

In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music: Hymn 114

Concerns of the Church

Prelude "Christmas Fantasy for Organ and Brass" arr. Raney

Call to Worship

Look! the young woman is with child;

She will call him Emmanuel, for God is with us.

A ruler will come from Bethlehem,

and he will be the shepherd of peace.

* Hymn 143 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"
Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy.

The days are hastening on

as we watch for Mary's Son to be born among us.

We have complicated these holy days

and cluttered our hearts with unnecessary burdens.

Our calendars are filled with distractions,

and we worry about matters we cannot fix.

Grant us grace and peace.

Fill our hearts with child-like wonder.

Enlarge our minds with visions of your truth.

Interrupt our busyness with angel song,

that we would welcome the Christ when he draws near.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Advent Response

***"Christmas is coming," the church is glad to sing,
and let the advent candles brightly burn in a ring.***

The choir or leader will sing through once;

Congregation will join to sing the second time.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Luke 1:39-45 (NT, p. 57)

A Time with Children

Anthem "What Star is This with Beams So Bright?" arr. Krug

Second Lesson: Micah 5:2-5(a) (OT, p. 865)

Sermon: "Waiting for the Right One" Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 121 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

The Sacrament of Baptism (Hymnal, p. 14)

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 17)

Response: Hymn 486, "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory "How Great Our Joy" arr. Justice and Honea

* Congregational Response (95)

***Prepare the way of the Lord! Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.***

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn 145 "What Child Is This"
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Congregational Amen (601)
- * Postlude "Angels We Have Heard on High" arr. Nelson
*All are invited to remain seated to listen to the postlude.
If you are leaving before it is finished, please do so quietly.*

* All who are able shall stand.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Director of Bells	Richard Cochrane
Liturgist	Ryan Flynn
Advent Candlelighters	The Kusma Family
Ushers	Jim McLaughlin and Betty Keen

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FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent