

# First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

**Service for the Lord's Day  
December 6, 2015  
Second Sunday in Advent**

**8:30 and 11 a.m.**

## **Welcome to worship this morning.**

- First Presbyterian Church welcomes families with young children. Staffed nursery care is available during worship. Audio from the worship service can be heard in the library (adjacent to the sanctuary) and social hall.
- If you are visiting because of medical treatment at Mayo Clinic we offer our prayers for healing.
- Our activities and programs are open to all, member and friend alike.
- We invite you to join us for coffee and fellowship in the social hall following the 8:30 service and in the atrium following the 11:00 service.

*\* As a courtesy to others, please silence cell phones. \**

## **Gathering**

**Prelude**

Carol of the Drum

arr. Hermany

Joyous Praise Handbell Choir

*Our worship begins with the prelude. Let the power of the music speak to you of God's glory;  
let its quietness tell you of God's peace; let its beauty lift your hearts in prayer.*

## **Greeting and Welcome**

Please sign the Opportunity for Friendship Register and pass it to the person next to you.

**Minute for Mission for Joy Offering and Alternative Christmas Giving**

Jon Closson

## **Opening Prayer**

**Advent Candle Song** (stanzas 1 and 2; see page 5)

**Lighting of the Advent Candle (We yearn for home.)**

(8:30) The Casey and Lucinda Clements Family  
(11:00) The Timothy and Lindsay Zetzsche Family

*Jesus said, "For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."*

**O God, many people are lost. Many are in exile. Many are far from home. Remind us of all the times we have been lost before – and of all the times you have already found us.**

*We light this second Advent candle in honor of our homes, the places where we feel secure.*

**We pray that all might have a place where they are secure, a home.  
Through Jesus Christ our path and core. Amen.**

**Call to Worship**

(8:30) Cindy Kunzman

(11:00) Dudley Parsons

*John came out of the wilderness to preach repentance; he preaches to us still.*

**Make straight the paths we now walk and prepare the way for God's reign of justice and love.**

*Let us worship the Lord.*

◆ **Hymn 106**

Prepare the Way, O Zion

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

◆ Please stand if you are able.

**Call to Reconciliation** (please be seated)

*Fellow travelers, let us trust in God's love for us and confess our sin, confident in God's mercy.*

**Silent Confession**

**Kyrie hymn 83** (stanza 1) Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTGART

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

**Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**Words of Life**

*Rest assured, if we repent, God is sure to forgive us. The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.*

◆ **Gloria Patri**

REGENT SQUARE

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,  
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one.  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, expected King!

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◆ **Passing of the Peace**

Due to health concerns in this cold and flu season, please refrain from shaking hands and greet each other with a word of peace or a wave of the hand.

*The peace of Christ be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Let us share a sign of the peace of Christ with one another!*

**The Word**

**Prayer for Illumination 92** (stanza 1) While We Are Waiting, Come

WAITING (Cason)

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

**Reading from the Gospel**

Luke 3:1-6

**Anthem**

(8:30) He Comes to Us as One Unknown  
Chancel Choir and congregation (see page 6)

John Ferguson

(11:00) Prepare a Way for the Lord!  
Cherub Choir; Katie Kruger, director; Carol Shaffer, accompanist

Michael Bedford

Prepare a way for the Lord! Prepare a way for the Lord!  
Get ready, get ready, he's coming soon!  
Prepare a way for the Lord! Prepare a way for the Lord!  
Get ready, get ready, he's coming soon!  
We light the Advent candles, we light them one by one;  
We light the Advent candles for God's own son.  
We light the Advent candles and then we join to say,  
"Make room in your hearts for Jesus, who comes on Christmas day."  
Prepare a way for the Lord! Prepare a way for the Lord!  
Get ready, get ready, he's coming soon!  
Prepare a way for the Lord! Prepare a way for the Lord!  
Get ready, get ready, he's coming soon!  
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**Time for All Our Young Worshippers**

**Hymn 487** (stanza 1) These Treasured Children

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

These treasured children present now are bound to us by sacred vow:  
with love, we make a heartfelt claim to welcome them in Jesus' name.

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*Pass Prayer Cards to the aisle. An usher will collect them.*

Children through third grade may go to room E206 for Kids' Zone or are welcome to stay with their parents in worship. Children above third grade should stay in worship.

**Reading from the Prophets**

Malachi 2:17-3:5

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia hymn 347** (refrain) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

PICARDY

**Message** *A Season of Fear and Trembling*

Rev. T. J. Parlette

*\*\* A Moment for Reflection \*\**

**Our Response**

- ◆ **Hymn 96** On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry WINCHESTER NEW
- ◆ **Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)
 

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Offertory**

At the Offertory Savior of the Nations, Come Helmut Walcha

- ◆ **Offertory Response, hymn 144** (stanza 4) What Can I Give Him? CRANHAM
 

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.
- ◆ **Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**God of all righteousness, receive these gifts of gratitude, the offerings of our lives. Purify them with your refining fire so that they may serve your purposes and shine with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

Our communion is open to all who believe that Jesus Christ is their Lord and Savior. The wine used in this sacrament is grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available.

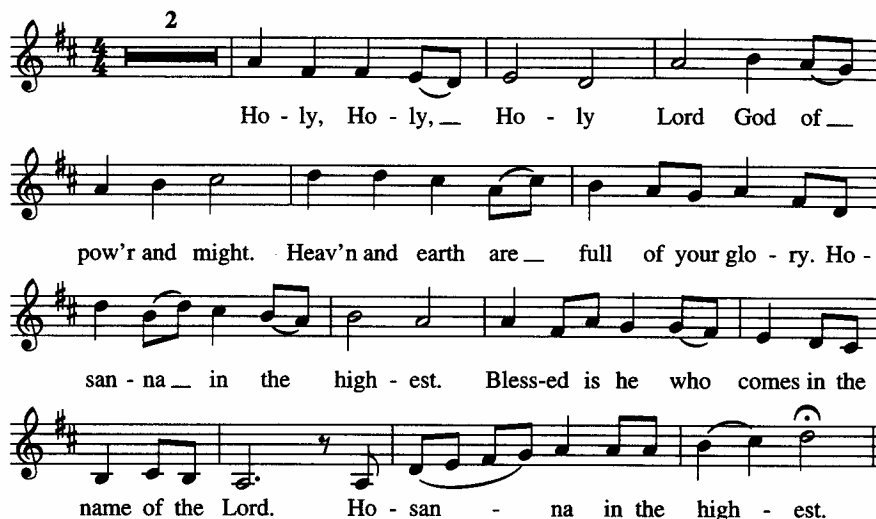
**Invitation**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The musical notation consists of three staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff is for the Minister/Cantor and the People, with lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts." The second staff is for the People and Minister/Cantor, with lyrics: "We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The third staff is for the People, with lyrics: "It is right to give our — thanks and praise." The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and a fermata.

... With saints, with angels, and with the whole creation, we join the ancient and eternal hymn:

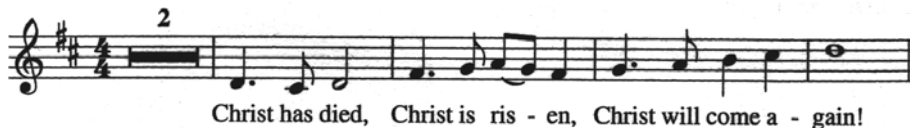
**Sanctus**



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of  
 pow'r and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

... With thanks and praise we offer ourselves to you, sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ's dying and rising, and praying: Come, Lord Jesus:

**Memorial Acclamation**



Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain!

**Lord's Prayer** (using 'debts' and 'debtors')

**Distribution of the Elements**

Please come forward to be served. If you wish to be served in the pew, a server will be in the side aisle to assist you. You may join in singing hymn 507, "Come to the Table of Grace."

**Prayer after Communion**

***Sending***

- ◆ **Hymn 102** Savior of the Nations, Come NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND
- ◆ **Benediction**
- ◆ **Response, hymn 106** (refrain) BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN  
 O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.  
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**Postlude** Prepare the Way, O Zion Paul Manz

Those who wish may be seated for the postlude. Our music is offered to the glory of God; if you want to express your appreciation, a spoken "Amen" or "Praise God" is appropriate.

Some of the service music was written by Lee J Afdahl and is published in "Holy Is the Lord" ©2003.

## Advent Candle

Lee J. Afdahl ©1999



Ad - vent can - dle, Ad - vent can - dle, give us light a - long our



way. Guide us for - ward to the man - ger of our



Sav - ior Christ to - day.

1.Can - dle	one	re - minds us
2.Can - dle	two	re - minds us
3.Can - dle	three	re - minds us
4.Can - dle	four	re - minds us
5.Christ - mas	Can - dle	can re -



of the time when the pro - phets did fore - tell of the  
of the time John the Bap - tist did pro - claim, "Clear the  
of the time John re - vealed his pur - pose here, to pro -  
of the time when the an - gel Ga - bri - el came to  
mind - us of our Sav - ior Christ the Lord, of His



com - ing of the Son of God. Watch and pray; pre - pare you well.  
way, pre - pare the high - way, and the hills be - come a plain."  
claim the cap - tives' free - dom, and bap - tize with wat - ter."  
Mar - y, "Peace be with - you, for with God shall all be well."  
birth and our sal - va - tion, for 'tis He whom we a - dore.

### About Our Church

Rev. Thomas J. (T.J.) Parlette, Pastor  
Rev. Jay P. Rowland, Associate Pastor  
Lee J. Afdahl, Director of Music/Organist

Rick L. Morris, Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education

Susan K. Kruger, Office Administrator  
Harry E. Coleman, Facility Manager  
Diane M. Johnston-Arthur, Custodian

Office hours: Monday-Thursday (7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.); Friday (7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.); Saturday (9:30 a.m.-noon)

First Presbyterian Church; 512 SW Third Street / Rochester, MN 55902; 507/282-1618  
rochesterfpc@msn.com; www.fpcrochester.org

*The mission of First Presbyterian Church of Rochester  
is to reflect God's love for all people by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

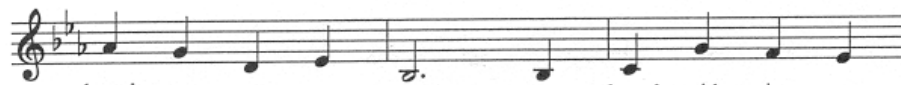
Anthem (8:30)

He Comes to Us as One Unknown  
Chancel Choir and congregation

arr. John Ferguson



All 1. He comes to us \_\_\_ as \_\_\_ one un - known, a  
Choir 2. He comes when souls \_\_\_ in \_\_\_ si - lence lie and  
Choir 3. He comes to us \_\_\_ in \_\_\_ sound of seas, the  
Choir 4. He comes in love \_\_\_ as \_\_\_ once he came by  
All 5. He comes in truth \_\_\_ when \_\_\_ faith is grown; be



breath un - seen, un - heard; as though with - in a  
thoughts of day de - part; half - seen up - on the  
o - cean's fume and foam; yet small and still up  
flesh and blood and birth; to bear with - in our  
lieved, o - beyed, a - dored; the Christ in all the



heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in dark - ness sown, a \_\_\_  
in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a - cross the \_\_\_ sky of \_\_\_  
on the breeze, a wind that stirs the tops of \_\_\_ trees, a \_\_\_  
mor - tal frame a life, a death, a sav - ing \_\_\_ name, for \_\_\_  
Scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but not un - known, our \_\_\_



pulse of be - ing - stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.  
night with - in \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ heart, of night with - in the heart.  
voice to call \_\_\_ us \_\_\_ home, a voice to call us home.  
ev - 'ry child \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.  
Sav - ior and \_\_\_ our \_\_\_ Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

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**\*WEATHER ADVISORY\***

If we need to cancel services due to extreme weather conditions, we will send that announcement to KTTC-TV, KTTC.com, put it on our WEB page FPCRochester.org, put it on the church's answering machine, and, if possible, send you an e-mail. Whenever canceling is a possibility, please check these sources for up-to-date information.

**\*SAFETY ADVISORY\***

In the coming winter season when conditions can create slippery walkways, we ask all members to be responsible and wear appropriate footwear made for snow and ice and choose the safest path from your car into the building. The staff aims to keep the church walks as clear of snow/ice as possible, but each of us must also do our part for safety by exercising caution and discretion. Here's to a safe winter season!

**We thank these people for contributing to the Poinsettia Fund.**  
Deacons will deliver the plants to our C.A.R.E. members after today's second service.

C.A.R.E. = **C**ontact **A**ssist **R**elate **E**ncourage, a program through which  
Deacons reach out to members of First Presbyterian Church with C.A.R.E.

Kenneth and Marylynn Aalderks  
Lyle and Zoe Abrahamson  
Lee Afdahl and Van Jacobsen  
Steven Aug  
Sandra Carroll  
Jon and Diane Closson  
Charles and Becki Coddington  
Holly Ebel  
David and Char Ellefson  
Judy Felten

Edward and Frances Gomez  
Jane Hallman  
Sandra and Derald Holloway  
Robert and Joan Jarett  
William and Jeannine Karnes  
Patricia Keith  
Donna Lee  
Clayton and Jacqueline Moen  
Mark and Michelle Mueller  
Nancy Nock

Marilyn Olseen  
Roger and Denise Ring  
Donald Scholz  
Mary Sheridan  
Tony and Judy Smithson  
Thomas and Connie Smyrk  
Thomas and Kiyomi Takekawa  
Dee Tiedeman

## ***Calendar for the week of December 6 – December 13 (and beyond)***

### **TODAY – December 6**

We thank all who are sharing their ministries in worship today.

The **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by The Bastron Family in memory of James A. Bastron, M.D.

A **nursery** for infants through 2-year-olds is staffed throughout the morning. We also offer a quiet space for nursing mothers. An usher would be happy to direct you if you don't know where the nursery is located.

#### **Education hour:**

- 9:40-10:45: Nursery - preschool (2-years-old)
- 9:40-10:20: Calvin Choir for grades 2-5
- 9:40-10:20: Sunday school for age 3-grade 1
- 9:40-10:45: Sunday school/education hour for grades 6 – adult education
- 10:20-10:50: Cherub Choir for age 4-grade 1
- 10:20-11:00: Sunday school for grade 2-5

#### **Adults:**

- 9:40 a.m.: *Kerygma Bible Study* in south fireside room ... *Matthew*
- 9:40 a.m.: *Current Issues* in Sheldon Jackson lounge ... *Headlines and More*
- 9:40 a.m.: *Grace-based Parenting Class* in room A-101 will continue with *Building Character*. All current and future parents and grandparents are welcome, even if you can't come every week.

**Chancel Choir** rehearses at 9:45 a.m.

A parish nurse will be in the library between services today to take your **blood pressure** and answer questions you may have about your health.

### **WEDNESDAY – December 9**

<b>Wednesday Activities</b>	
4:15	Alleluia Ringers (grades 2-5)
5:00	Youth Choir (grades 6-12)
5:45	Supper (suggested donation \$4/person or \$10 max/family)
6:15	Middle School youth group (grades 6-8)
6:15	Senior High youth group (grades 9-12)
6:30	Adult Bible study—"The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem" led by Rev. Parlette
7:15	Joyous Praise handbells (grades 6-12)

### **THURSDAY – December 10**

- Prayer Shawl group** meets at 1 p.m.
- Jubilate Deo Bells** rehearses at 6:15 p.m.
- Chancel Choir** rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

### **SATURDAY – December 12**

**Orchestra** for Lessons and Carols will rehearse at 9:30 a.m. **Calvin, Chancel and Youth Choirs** will begin at 10 a.m.

### **SUNDAY – December 13 (Advent 3)**

**Worship** at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

The annual service of **Lessons and Carols** will be led by the Chancel, Calvin, and Youth Choirs with handbells, orchestra and organ at both services. The service, including the reading of nine lessons, carols and anthems, is based on the traditional English service of the same name.

December 13 is the deadline for bringing gifts to the church for the **Sharing Tree**.

### **MONDAY – December 14**

**First Players** will present their Winter Concert at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

### **TUESDAY – December 15**

Items for the **January newsletter** are due. Turn them in to the church office or e-mail them to fpc\_carol@hotmail.com.

**Session** will meet at 7 p.m. in the south fireside room.

### **WEDNESDAY – December 16**

**Priscilla Circle** will meet at 10 a.m. in the social hall with the potluck brunch at 11 a.m.

**Crafters Group** will meet at 3 p.m. in the social hall. Bring that almost finished project or help us make cards for C.A.R.E. members of FPC.

All other **Wednesday activities** are on as usual.

### **SATURDAY – December 19**

**Ruth Circle** will meet at 10 a.m. in the lounge for Bible study and then go to the Marriott for a Christmas lunch.

**SUNDAY – December 20 (Advent 4)**

**Worship** at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

There will be a special time during the 8:30 service for prayer for those struggling in the holiday season.

The **children's Christmas program** will be presented during the 11 a.m. service.

The **Christmas Joy offering** will be dedicated although your contribution will be gratefully accepted any time in December. Please note "Joy Offering" on the memo line of your check or use an envelope from the pew rack.

**MONDAY – December 21**

Today is FPC's day to wrap gifts at the Mall to **benefit Habitat for Humanity**. Sign up for one of 3 shifts: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., 1 - 4 p.m. or 4 - 7 p.m. We need 3 gift wrappers and 2 cashiers for each shift. Donations received will assist Habitat in building homes for four families with a total of 15 children. Call or e-mail Marcia Dollerschell (mgdoller@aol.com or 507-398-9397) if you can help with this worthwhile project.

**Esther Circle** will meet at noon in the lounge for a potluck lunch. Please bring a dish to pass and some Christmas goodies to share.

**WEDNESDAY – December 23**

**The Bible study** "The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem" led by Rev. Parlette WILL be held.

All other Wednesday activities are cancelled.

**THURSDAY – December 24 (Christmas Eve)**

**Services of worship** at 4 p.m. and 11 p.m.

- 3:00 Cherub and Calvin Choirs and youth handbell choirs warm up.
- 4:00 Worship service with Calvin and Cherub Choirs and Alleluia Ringers and Joyous Praise handbell choirs.
- 10:00 Chancel Choir and Jubilate Deo handbell choir warm up.
- 10:30 Prelude with soloists, ensembles, ringers and choir.
- 11:00 Candlelight service.

**FRIDAY – December 25 (Christmas)**

Pause in the midst of your busy day to celebrate with family and friends the birth of our Lord and savior, for unto you was born this day in the city of David a savior, who is Christ your Lord. No services will be held at the church.

**SUNDAY – December 27**

One service of worship at 11 a.m. No Sunday school.

***For Your Information***

Photo sessions for our **church picture directory** will take place this Wednesday through Saturday in the Great Room on the lower level. Remember to bring your smile--and a donation for Channel One! It's an opportunity to share our joy with the community at this blessed season. There are still a few appointments available for the January 12-16 photo sessions. Contact Jane Hallman (507-993-6652) or the church office to make an appointment.

Pick up a copy of the PCUSA **Advent devotional calendar** at the welcome desk or in the church office.

**Spread Christmas joy by ringing a bell for the Salvation Army.** The Social Concerns Committee encourages FPC members to support the Salvation Army's Christmas Red Kettle campaign by spending an hour or two ringing bells at one of their collection sites. Every hour is important because a one-hour shift, on average, raises \$50 compared to zero for an unstaffed kettle. To volunteer, phone 288-3663, ex. 101 or register online at [www.RochesterSA.org](http://www.RochesterSA.org) or [www.RegistertoRing.com](http://www.RegistertoRing.com). A community menu will appear. Choose Bell-Ringing and follow the prompts. If you would like additional information or need assistance signing up, call **Al Dollerschell** (282-5025).

**Alternative Giving Opportunity.** Members of the Mission Committee will be in the atrium with information about making an alternative Christmas gift through the Presbyterian Mission Agency. This is a chance to give a gift in honor of someone who has everything or to give a gift in memory of a loved one. Gifts may be in any amount. Please consider this Christmas shopping opportunity.

**2016 budget update:** Please keep those pledge cards coming! In November we dedicated our pledges to help underwrite FPC's General Budget and Outreach Budget for 2016. Projected pledges and related income now total \$709,076, leaving a gap of about \$104,000 between income and committee requests. If you haven't returned your pledge card yet, please do it soon. Thank you! Thanks to those who have already responded! If you have any ideas on how to deal with the shortage, please contact any member of the finance committee. [Tim Smith (lead elder), Jackie Moen, Ken Boyer, Carol Evans, T. J. Parlette]

**Offering envelopes** for 2016 are in the social hall. If there isn't a box with your name and you want to use envelopes, check in the church office. We also have boxes of envelopes available for children and youth.

As you consider your **year-end financial donations**, please make your church a high priority. Gifts can be given to your General Budget or Outreach pledges for either this year or next year, as an "over and above" donation, designated for the Endowment Fund, or designated for special programs within the church. Talk to Carol Evans if you have any questions.

The congregation is invited to an **Open House to celebrate Zella Boutelle's 100th birthday** on Sunday, December 27, between 1 and 4 p.m at Samaritan Bethany Home (24 Eighth Street NW). If you are unable to attend, you can send birthday greetings to her at Samaritan Bethany Home / 24 8th Street NW #5-2461 / Rochester 55901.

**Children's Christmas Pageant  
Sunday, December 20, 11 a.m.**

*Practice for ages 8-11  
December 6 and 20 during education hour  
Practice ages 4-8  
December 13 and 20 during the education hour*

Please ensure that your child goes to music rehearsal during the education hour during these Sunday practice days. It's going to be a great time for the children to learn the Christmas story and provide a special ministry to the rest of our church.