

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

Service for the Lord's Day
December 25, 2016
Christmas Day

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 atrium following the service.

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

The Poetry of Christmas **A Christmas Day Worship Service**

Prelude

Once in Royal David's City
Lo, How a Rose Is Growing
I Wonder as I Wander
Still, Still, Still

Robert Buckley Farlee
John Leavitt
Niles, Sanborn
Robert Lau

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.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Liturgy by Judith Smithson
T.J., Juliet, Grafton, and Thomson Parlette

Advent Candle Song 92 (stanza 1) While We Are Waiting, Come

WAITING (CASON)

Call to Worship

James Sessler
(adapted from Thomas a Kempis)

O Love, how deep, how broad, how high, beyond all thought and fantasy. That God, the Son of God should take our mortal form for mortal's sake.
God sent no angel to our race, of higher or lower place; but wore the robe of human frame, and to this work God came.
All glory to our Lord and God, for love so deep, so high, so broad. The Trinity whom we adore forever and forever more.

Carol 108

Of the Father's Love Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

In the Beginning

Miriam Therese Winter

Prayer for Christmas Day (unison)

On this day, Gracious Lord, you come to us as Word, as light, as flesh. Teach us to know you so well that our lives may befriend this world you have made, in the name of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

Carol 117	While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks	WINCHESTER OLD
	<i>Bethlehem</i>	<i>Bliss Carman</i>
Carol 123	It Came Upon a Midnight Clear	CAROL
	<i>Sharon's Prayer</i>	<i>John Shea</i>
Sacrament of Baptism (see page 3)	Quinn McMillan Hay Daughter of Niall David Hay and Emily Ann Hay Granddaughter of Ian and Eileen Hay	
Carol 146	Gentle Mary Laid Her Child	TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM
Reading from the New Testament	Colossians 1:15-20	
	<i>Here It Begins</i>	<i>Anonymous</i>
Carol 124	Still, Still, Still	STILL, STILL, STILL
	<i>A Hymn on the Nativity of My Savior</i>	<i>Ben Johnson</i>
Carol 145	What Child Is This	GREENSLEEVES
	<i>And Now God Says To Us</i>	<i>Karl Rahner</i>
Carol 143	Angels, from the Realms of Glory	REGENT SQUARE
Offertory	Greensleeves	Richard Purvis
	<i>Christ Climbed Down</i>	<i>Lawrence Ferlinghetti</i>
Carol 147	The First Nowell	THE FIRST NOWELL
	<i>If Ye Would Hear the Angels Sing</i>	<i>Dora Greenwell</i>
Benediction		
Postlude	God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen	W. S. Lloyd Webber

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.

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
 Kathleen M. Kruger, Music Assistant
 Susan K. Kruger, Office Administrator
 Harry E. Coleman, Facility Manager
 Vera B. Herr, Custodian
 Child Care staff: Kelly Bock, Woo-Jung Ra, Margie Schaaf
 Security and custodial personnel: Steven Aug, Sally Evans, Sue Kruger, Tami Rinn, Eric Schwartzbauer
 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.*
 Member: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Sacrament of Baptism

Introduction

Presentation

Professions of Intent and Faith

Blessing of the Water

Baptism

Welcome

Elder: Quinn McMillan Hay is now received into the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. Through baptism God has made her a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. People of this congregation, I charge you to nurture and support Quinn, that she and all baptized children may become faithful disciples.

Congregation: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome Quinn McMillan Hay and all children into Christ's church. We promise to love, encourage, support and share the gospel with all children that they may know and follow Christ.

Elder: The peace of God be with you

Congregation: And also with you.

The baptismal candle and rose are gifts from the congregation to the family of Quinn McMillan Hay. The rose symbolizes our joy in the life of each child and the candle symbolizes our commitment as a congregation to support the parents in raising their children in the Christian faith. The baptismal banner celebrates the sacrament of baptism. The shell with drops of water is a symbol of Jesus' baptism. The water of Baptism links us to the goodness of God's creation, the grace of God's covenant with our ancestors and the living water offered by Jesus.



Calendar for the week of December 25 – January 1 (and beyond)

TODAY – December 25

The **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by Robert and Ann Groover in memory of loved ones, family and friends.

A **nursery** for infants through 2-year-olds is staffed throughout the morning. We also offer a quiet space for nursing mothers.

MONDAY – December 26

Church will be closed.

WEDNESDAY – December 28

No Wednesday activities this week.

SUNDAY – January 1

Worship and communion at 11 a.m. only.
No Sunday school classes today.

MONDAY – January 2

Church will be closed.

TUESDAY – January 3

Most committees meet. Check with your lead elder if you aren't sure about yours.

WEDNESDAY – January 4

Worship and communion at **Charter House** at 1 p.m.

All Wednesday activities resume.

THURSDAY – January 5

Jubilate Deo Bells rehearses at 6:15 p.m.

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY – January 7

Help "**undecorate**" the church at 9:30 a.m. There will be jobs for everyone and snacks to keep you going.

SUNDAY – January 8

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

New officer/Session training and examination at 9:40 a.m. in the great room.

Ordination and installation of deacons and elders at the 11 a.m. service.

One of our **parish nurses** will be in the library between services January 10 and available to take your blood pressure.

MONDAY – January 16

ALL **Annual Reports** are due either in the office or e-mailed to fpc_carol@hotmail.com.

For Your Information

Offering envelopes for 2017 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.

Pledge Statements. We will mail final statements for 2016 about January 6. To find out before then if you fulfilled your 2016 pledges, stop in or call the church office (282-1618). To be considered a charitable donation in 2016 we either need to receive your donation by December 31 or your envelope needs to be postmarked by December 31.

2017 budget update. In November we dedicated our pledges to help underwrite FPC's General Budget and Outreach Budget for 2017. Projected pledges and related income now total \$762,165, leaving a gap of about \$36,569 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!

Each year our church activities are summarized in the "Annual Reports to the Congregation." If you are responsible for writing a report, we need it in the church office by January 18. The best reports are those sent to Carol via e-mail or a Word attachment to an e-mail (evans.carol@FPCRochester.org).

Among Our Church Family

Happy Birthday to Marie Bolton who will celebrate her 93rd birthday January 3.

Happy Birthday to Jane Irving who will celebrate her 94th birthday January 6.

We extend our condolences to Tom and Vicki Pileggi on the death of Tom's mother, Virginia Pileggi, December 9. Virginia lived in Wausaukee, Wisconsin.

We extend our condolences to Paul and Shelley Steger on the death of Paul's father December 18 in Wisconsin.