

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

Service for the Lord's Day

11 a.m.

December 31, 2017

First Sunday after Christmas Day

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 after the service.

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

Jesus is ...

Gathering

Prelude

What Child Is This? (Greensleeves)

Richard Purvis

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.

Welcome and Announcements

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

Unison Prayer of Invocation

Faithful Jesus, we wait for you to come again.

We know that you will because you already have.

You have come to show us how to be truly human.

You have come to bring living water.

You have come to reign over the whole cosmos.

You have come to gather your people as a shepherd gathers his flock.

You have come to save us from sin and death.

Prepare us for your coming so that we may rejoice with all the saints on that day.

We pray in the name of the one who came and who is to come, Jesus Christ.

◆ **Hymn 87**

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN

Jesus is ... the New Adam

Confession and Assurance

Remembering the Word

Genesis 2:4-9
Colossians 1:15-20

Hymn 108

Of the Father's Love Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Responsive Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you who shaped out of nothing all that is,

Forgive us for returning empty-handed.

You who called forth light,

Forgive our preference for the dark.

You who sent Jesus, the firstborn of all creation,

**Forgive us when we ignore him. Re-make us in the image of your Son,
Jesus Christ,**

So that the light of Christ may shine in and through us. In your Son's name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Through the work of Jesus, God has reconciled us to himself, and we rejoice with the angels proclaiming Glory to the newborn King. Peace on earth. God and sinners reconciled. Jesus was born so that we no longer die, and so that we may be born again.

Amen! Thanks be to God!

◆ Hymn 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

Jesus is ... the New Noah

Remembering Our Baptism

Remembering the Word

Genesis 7:1-5
1 Peter 3:18-21

Remembering our Baptism

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thank you God, for the promises we received through baptism. Help those of us who are young in the faith to go from the milk to the meat of the Word and no longer be as babies in Christ. Help those who are mature to continue to grow in Christ-likeness, to be steadfast, and to be fruitful with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hymn 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

Jesus is ... the Davidic King

Thanksgiving for God's Covenants

Remembering the Word

2nd Samuel 7: 11-14, 16
Luke 1:30-33

Hymn 145

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

Remembering the Word

Luke 2:4-7

Responsive Prayer of Praise

Heavenly Father, in the days of Noah, you placed a rainbow in the sky as the sign of your covenant with us and the animals, that you will never again destroy the earth with water. You keep your promises, God. We praise you.

In the days of Moses, you wrote your word on tablets of stone, a sign of the covenant with the children of Israel, to direct your people toward you, and to bless them with a flourishing society. You keep your promises, God. We praise you.

In the days of David, you promised to raise up one of his descendants to a kingship that would never end. You gave us your son. Jesus, also a son of David, who rules not as a dictator, but as a servant-king. You keep your promises, God. We praise you. Amen.

Jesus is ... the Good Shepherd *Meditation on Christ's Care for Us*

A Litany based on Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, and takes care of all my needs.

The Lord is my shepherd, and takes care of all my needs.

The Lord watches over me. The Lord takes care of all my needs, gives me a home to live in, gives me water to drink, and gives meaning to my life.

The Lord is my shepherd, and takes care of all my needs.

The Lord guides me along the right way. Even when I'm waking by myself into a strange place, I don't feel scared because I know that the Lord is with me to help me and give me courage.

The Lord is my shepherd, and takes care of all my needs.

The Lord gives me food to eat. I always have enough to drink. The Lord has blessed me with many things. I will never be able to repay the kindness of the Lord.

The Lord is my shepherd, and takes care of all my needs.

Remembering the Word

John 10:11-17

A Time of Silent Reflection

Since Christ cares for us – we care for others. Let us offer our gifts to God.

Offertory

At the offertory Still, Still, Still
(Ushers will bring the offering forward.)

Paul Manz

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn 136

Go Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

Jesus is ... the Savior *Praise for Jesus' Saving Acts*

A Poetic Reflection

Gifts from God

Ann Weems

Hymn 110

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

Remembering the Word

Luke 2:25-32

◆ **Hymn 133**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

Responsive Benediction

Now, Master, you are letting your servants go in peace as you promised;

For our eyes have seen the salvation that you have made ready in the sight of the nations.

A light of revelation for the Gentiles

And glory for your people Israel.

Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Postlude

O Come, All Ye Faithful (Adeste Fideles)

Raynor Taylor

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.

Calendar for the week of December 31 – January 7 (and beyond)

SUNDAY – December 31

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

The **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by Margie Schaaf in memory of loved ones.

A **nursery** for infants through 3-year-olds is staffed during the service. We also offer a space for nursing mothers.

MONDAY – January 1

Happy New Year! The church will be closed.

TUESDAY – January 2

Deacons will meet with the Session January 16 for their Souper Start supper.

Some committees are meeting and some have rescheduled. Check with your lead elder if you aren't sure about yours.

WEDNESDAY – January 3

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

No Wednesday activities at the church this week. Wednesday activities resume January 10

THURSDAY – January 4

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

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY – January 7

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

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

Session has called a **Meeting of the Congregation** on January 7 at 9:30 a.m. for the purpose of electing two Deacons and a member of the Endowment Committee. The Committee will present the names of Laury Schalaus and Alex Kuisle for Deacons and Tim Smith for the Endowment Committee.

TUESDAY – January 9

Grief Support Group meets at 11 a.m.

Madrigal Team meets at 5:30 p.m.

Festival of Music Committee meets at 7:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY – January 10

Kitchen Guild meets at 1 p.m.

All Wednesday activities are back on schedule.

THURSDAY – January 11

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.

FRIDAY – January 12

Sitter Service meets from 5:30-9:30 p.m. Sign up January 7 in the church office or call the office by Tuesday, January 9.

SATURDAY – January 13

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

SUNDAY – January 14

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

New officer/Session training and examination at 9:30 a.m. in the activity center.

Ordination and Installation of new officers at 11 a.m.

For Your Information

Pledge statements. We will mail final statements for 2017 about January 8. To be considered a charitable donation in 2017 we either need to receive your donation by December 31 or your envelope needed to be postmarked by December 31. Be aware that many post office drop boxes won't pick up or post on December 31 or even December 30.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in working security Wednesday and Friday evenings from about 6:30-9:30 p.m. and occasionally on Sunday mornings please contact the church office.

Offering envelopes for 2018 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.

Get connected at First Presbyterian Church. Text the word connect to [507-200-3175](tel:507-200-3175).

WEATHER ADVISORIES 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 send you an e-mail (if possible). Whenever canceling is a possibility, please check these sources for up-to-date information.

Among the Church Family

Happy Birthday to Marie Bolton who will celebrate her 94th birthday January 3.

Happy Birthday to Jane Irving who will celebrate her 95th birthday January 6.

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Aura Jean Peterson, who died December 21. Jean's memorial service will be next week at First Presbyterian.

About Our Church

Rev. Thomas J. (T.J.) Parlette, Pastor
Rev. Jay P. Rowland, Associate Pastor
Lee J. Afdahl, Director of Music/Organist
Susanna L. Stone, Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education

Kathleen M. Kruger, Music Assistant
Susan K. Kruger, Office Administrator
Harry E. Coleman, Facility Manager
Brian D. Stevens, Custodian

Child Care staff: Esther Lebron, Margie Schaaf, Taylor Smith
Security and custodial personnel: Steven Aug, Sally Evans, Tami Rinn

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.)