

A Service of Lessons and Carols

December 16, 2018 ♦ 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church Rochester, Minnesota

Third Sunday in Advent

Prelude Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence arr. Cathy Moglebust
Jubilate Deo Handbell Choir

♦ **Carol 140** Once in Royal David's City IRBY
Please stand as the processional cross passes.
Stanza 1: solo
Stanzas 2-4: congregation sings

Lighting of the Advent Candles (8:30) Bradley and Sara Kluck
(11:00) The Remfert Family
Jeff and Elizabeth Remfert; Anne, Adam, Evan, and Joseph Gyura

Advent Candle Song 103 (stanza 3) Come Now, O Prince of Peace o-so-so
Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all people.

Carol 88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL
arr. Margaret Tucker

(ALL) O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

(WOMEN AND CHILDREN)

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

(MEN) O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily:
to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

(ALL) O come, Desire of nation, bind all people in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Lesson One from Genesis 3 Reader

Anthem The Tree of Life (Canticle 2 of *The Gift of Life*) arr. John Rutter
Words from the Collection of Joshua Smith (1784)

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit, and always green; the trees of nature fruitless be
compared with Christ, the apple tree.

This beauty doth all things excel; by faith I know, but ne'er can tell the glory which I now can see in Jesus
Christ, the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought, I missed for all, but now I see 'tis
found in Christ, the apple tree.

I'm wearied with my former toil, here I shall sit and rest awhile; under the shadow I will be of Jesus Christ,
the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; which makes my soul in haste to be with
Jesus Christ the, apple tree. Compared with Christ, the apple tree.

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Lesson Two from Genesis 22 Reader
Anthem A Spotless Rose arr. Bryan L. Greer

A spotless rose is growing, sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seer's foreshowing, of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light amid the cold, cold winter and in the dark midnight.
The rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing in Mary, purest maid;
For through God's great love and might the Blessed Babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night. A spotless rose she bare us in a cold winter's night.
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Lesson Three from Isaiah 9 Reader
Anthem For Unto Us a Child Is Born (MESSIAH) G. F. Handel

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.
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Anthem See Amid the Winter's Snow arr. Dan Forrest

See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below, see the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.
(Chorus) Hail, thou ever blessed morn, hail redemption's happy dawn, sing
through all Jerusalem: "Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Lo, within a manger lies He who built the lofty skies, He, who, throned in light sublime, sits
amid the cherubim. (Chorus)
Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was thine, Thus to come from highest bliss,
down to such a world as this. (Chorus)
Alleluia.
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Lesson Four from Isaiah 11 Reader

◆ **Carol 373** O Day of Peace JERUSALEM

Lesson Five from Luke 1 Reader

Anthem A Maiden Most Gentle arr. Andrew Carter

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing: Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King.
Ave, ave, ave Maria.
How blessed is the birth of her heavenly child, who came to redeem us in Mary so mild.
The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call the Lord of creation and Saviour of all.
Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare and marveled in awe at the babe in her care.
Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray;
Sing praise to the Saviour, sing endless 'Ave.'
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Lesson Six from Luke 2 Reader

Anthem Angels We Have Heard on High arr. Taylor Davis

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!
Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
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Anthem**Star Carol**

Robert Hobby

Earth has many a noble city; Bethlehem, thou dost all excel:
 Out of thee the Lord from heaven came to rule his Israel.
 Fairer than the sun at morning was the star that told his birth
 To the world its God announcing, seen in fleshly form on earth.
 Eastern sages at his cradle make oblations rich and rare;
 See them give, in deep devotion, gold and frankincense and myrrh.
 Sacred gifts of mystic meaning: incense doth their God disclose,
 Gold the King of kings proclaimeth, myrrh his sepulcher foreshows.
 May we lift our eyes in wonder, see thy star and worship thee;
 May the nations sing rejoicing, offer praise on bended knee.
 Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshiped at thy glad Epiphany,
 Unto thee, with God the Father and the Spirit glory be.

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Anthem**The Glory of the Father**

Egil Hovland

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth.
 In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God. In Him was life and the life was the light of men.
 He came to his own and His own received him not.

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◆ **Lesson Nine**

from John 1

Reader

Congregation, please stand as you are able.

◆ **The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)**◆ **Carol**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES, arr. John Rutter

- O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold him born the King of Angels!
 Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him Christ the Lord!
- God of God, Light of Light, Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
 Very God, Begotten, not created. Refrain.
- Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing all ye citizens of heav'n above;
 Glory to God in the highest. Refrain.
- Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
 Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. Refrain.

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Benediction (please be seated)**Postlude**Pastorale from *The Christmas Concerto*

Arcangelo Corelli

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.

◆ **Those who are able please stand.****Today's readers are:**

8:30

11:00

Lesson 1	Frank Sharbrough	Jay Beck
Lesson 2	Charlotte Higgins	Tyler Van Buren
Lesson 3	Jay Youmans	Bernie Swenson
Lesson 4	Alice Kerr	Janet Hosier
Lesson 5	Julie Doppler	Molly Destro-Borgen
Lesson 6	Leslie Litwiller	Gregg Erickson
Lesson 7	James Dyck	Holly Ebel
Lesson 8	Van Jacobsen	Jane Hallman
Lesson 9	Jay Rowland	T. J. Parlette

We thank these people for their ministry through music:

Calvin and Chancel Choirs and Jubilate Deo Handbell Choir
Church Orchestra:

Violin: Dwight Jennings, Anne Judisch, Amy Lindstrom, Nicholas Ouellette, Melissa Wobig

Viola: Mae Cutrer, Grafton Parlette, John Vettel

'Cello: Lea Dacy, Brie Doppler, Kay Tate

Bass: Blake Bonde

Flute: Ariel Boswell, Anne Gyura, Maddie Perkins, Chelsea Rostad

Oboe: Kristina Hesby, Sela Rist

Clarinet: Karin Braun, Jenny Matoush

Horn: Andrea Sivertson, Ellington Starks

Trumpet: Warren Bandel, Kyle Doppler, Lettie Eckberg, Andrew Thoreson

Trombone: Dennis McMillin, Ryan Perkins

Tuba: Paul Herr

Percussion: Gabe Perkins

Timpani: Jeremy Braun

Organ: Lois Marsh

Piano: Zoe Abrahamson

Conductor: Lee Afdahl

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.
- Large print copies of the hymns are available. Please ask an usher for them.
- 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. **

Calendar for the week of December 16-December 23 (and beyond)

SUNDAY – December 16 (Advent 3)

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

The **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by The Buchanan Family (Dan, Tammy, Zachary, and Colin) in celebration of Dan and Tammy's wedding anniversary.

A **nursery** for infants through 3-year-olds is staffed throughout the morning. We also offer a space for nursing mothers. An usher will be happy to direct you if you don't know where the nursery is located.

Education hour:

9:40-10:45: Nursery - preschool (3-years-old)

9:40-10:45: Sunday school/education hour for grade 6 – adult education

9:40-10:20: Calvin Choir for grades 2-5

9:40-10:20: Sunday school for age 3-grade 1

10:20-10:50: Cherub Choir for age 4-grade 1

10:20-11:00: Sunday school for grades 2-5

Adults:

9:40 a.m.: *Current Events: Clipped from the papers* (lounge/E-207)

9:40 a.m.: *Kerygma Study: "The Jesus Movement and the World of the Early Church"* (south fireside room/A-104)

The annual service of **Lessons and Carols** is being led by the Chancel and Calvin Choirs with handbells, orchestra and organ at both 8:30 and 11 a.m. worship hours. The service, including the reading of nine lessons, carols and anthems, is based on the traditional English service of the same name.

Covenant Fellowship. Dave and Char Ellefson have invited us to gather for our annual Christmas Party at 6 p.m. at The Waters on Mayowood (827 Mayowood Road SW, Building 823). Please bring an appetizer and a dessert to share (and any serving utensils you need) plus a wrapped white elephant gift. Paper plates and eating utensils will be provided. Please reply to Char Ellefson (tealstone16@msn.com or 507-358-3865).

MONDAY – December 17

Items for the **January newsletter** are due either to fpc_carol@hotmail.com or in the church office.

Esther Circle will meet at NOON in the lounge for a potluck luncheon.

First Players will collaborate with The Notochords jazz band for their winter concert. The concert begins at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. Both the Beginning Band and Concert Band will play and be joined by our guests, The Notochords jazz band. Come hear great music by great musicians, in a variety of genres! Everyone is invited!

TUESDAY – December 18

Session meets at 7 p.m. in the south fireside room.

WEDNESDAY – December 19

Priscilla Circle will meet at 10 a.m. in the social hall with a 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.

Wednesday Activities	
4:15	Alleluia Ringers (grades 2-5)
5:00	Youth Choir (grades 6-12)
5:45	Middle School youth group (grades 6-8)
5:45	Senior High youth group (grades 9-12)
6:30	Adult Bible study – <i>Half Truths: God helps those who help themselves, and other things the Bible doesn't say</i> (led by Rev. T. J. Parlette)
7:00	Joyous Praise handbells (grades 6-12 & adults)

THURSDAY – December 20

Chancel Choir and **Jubilate Deo Bells** will have a Christmas Party at 6 p.m.

SUNDAY – December 23 (Advent 4)

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

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. The Offering distributes gifts 50/50 to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Please give generously.

Sunday school classes through high school are cancelled so students can rehearse for the Christmas Pageant to be presented on Christmas Eve at the 4 p.m. service.

All kids are invited to be a part of the pageant (and any out-of-town grandkids or relatives are welcome, too!). Children need not be regular Sunday School or choir attendees to participate in the pageant; the one requirement is that anyone participating in the Christmas Pageant must attend rehearsal on Sunday, December 23 from 9:40 - 10:50 a.m. Any children interested in learning the Christmas Pageant songs are encouraged to attend choir rehearsals this week.

We also need Christmas Pageant volunteers. Please let Susanna know if you are interested in helping assist with the pageant in any way!

MONDAY – December 24 (Christmas Eve)

The church office will close at noon.

Christmas Eve Services at 4 p.m. and 11 p.m.

The **Deacons Offering** will be received at both services.

3:00 Cherub and Calvin Choirs and Joyous Praise bells warm up.

4:00 **Service of worship and Children's Pageant** with Calvin and Cherub Choirs, Joyous Praise handbell choir, and Sunday school children.

10:00 Chancel Choir and Jubilate Deo handbell choir warm up.

10:30 Prelude with ensembles, handbells, and choir.

11:00 **Candlelight service** with Chancel Choir and Jubilate Deo.

TUESDAY – December 25 (Christmas Day)

Merry Christmas!

No services will be held at the church. The church will be closed.

WEDNESDAY – December 26

The church will be closed.

All Wednesday activities at the church are cancelled.

SUNDAY – December 30

One service of worship at 11 a.m. We welcome you to a special service of Christmas carols and liturgy on the first Sunday after Christmas. No Sunday school or choir rehearsals. Child care will be provided.

For Your Information

Music for today's Lessons and Carols Service was purchased with donations given in memory of Gordon Danielson, Donald Hann, John Tillotson, and in honor of Carol Shaffer's ordination anniversary.

Calling all FPC high school musicians! We are looking for high school musicians to be part of this year's Christmas Pageant at the 4 p.m. Christmas Eve service. During this year's pageant, high school musicians will provide musical accompaniment for the carols. Please email Susanna (stone.susanna@fpcrochester.org) if you are interested.

Pick up a copy of **Holiday Memories and Traditions**, an Advent devotional booklet written by members of First Presbyterian Church. You are welcome to take extra copies and give them to friends, family, and neighbors. There are also copies of the PCUSA **2018 Advent devotional calendar**, "*God Lifts the Lowly*," at the welcome desk or in the church office.

Help celebrate the Advent season with a \$15 donation to the **poinsettia fund**. The plants are decorating the sanctuary in December and will then be delivered by the Deacons to our 40 C.A.R.E. members. To contribute, put your check (note for poinsettias) in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

As you consider your **year-end financial donations**, please make your church a high priority. Gifts can be given to your General Budget, Outreach, or Capital Campaign 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.

Offering envelopes for 2019 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.

Alternative Giving Opportunity. Visit the Mission Committee display in the atrium for 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.

Stewardship 2019: Do all the good you can. As of December 12, we have received 214 pledges for \$677,502. With a goal of \$820,000, the pledges combined with other projected income leaves us about \$63,800 short of what we need to fund our church's staff and programs in the coming year. If you haven't made your commitment yet, please mail it to the church as soon as possible or put it in the offering plate Sunday so we can plan next year's programs based on available resources. This week members received a letter outlining our additional needs. We would be blessed if you would be able to respond generously. Extra pledge cards and special donation forms are in the atrium and church office.

Among Our Church Family

Congratulations to Robert and Susan McClocklin who will celebrate their 52nd wedding anniversary December 17.

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
Susan K. Kruger, Office Administrator
Kathleen M. Kuisle, Calvin and Cherub Choirs
Janine M Yanisch, First Players bands
Harry E. Coleman, Facility Manager
Child Care staff: Esther Lebron, Margie Schaaf, Brenda Thorson
Security and custodial personnel:
Sally Evans, Vera Herr, Tami Rinn, Bob Schalaus, Tyler Sczurek

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.)