

First Presbyterian Church
Winnebago, Illinois
December 13, 2015
10:30 a.m.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Prelude "What Child Is This?"
"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" Mary McDonald

Welcome/Announcements

*Hymn "The First Nowell" #56

Lighting of the Advent Candle

*Hymn "Advent Song" (v.3) insert

Prayer of Adoration and Confession: The Lord's Prayer

Assurance of Pardon: **Unison Prayer**
Most gracious Savior, remind us of your mercy, grace, and salvation. Help us to have clarity concerning your presence and your glory. Thank you that your power is as vibrant today as it was in your earthly ministry. Enable us to accept your forgiveness so that we can assist others to receive the gracious pardon that you have granted us this morning. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

*Gloria Patri #579

Announcements

Our Church Website: <http://www.thewfpc.org>
Our Prayer request email: first-pres-prayer@googlegroups.com

(prayer request cards are now available on the table in the narthex)

Please keep in prayer:

Dee Swigart. Paula Price. Stan Meyers.

All groups meet at the church unless otherwise specified.

Office hours for Pastor Carroll will be Monday and Tuesday from 2-6 p.m. His email is: pastor1@thewfpc.org

Session will meet on Monday at 7 p.m.

Deacons will meet on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Choir/Cantata members and their families. Please meet at Michelle West's home, Wednesday starting at 6 p.m. for practice followed by a potluck, bring a dish to pass.

Ruth Circle will meet at the home of Judy Mitchell on Tuesday, December 15th at noon. Please park by the garage on the north side of the house and enter through the north door.

Newsletter deadline for submissions is this Wednesday.

Workcampers are now selling Anna's Bucks for \$10 each. Help support the mission trip to Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

Church phone number 815-335-2051
 Pastoral Cell 815-742-7503
 Attendance 99
 Offerings \$2960.18

SHARING THE WORD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Every member a minister...

Advent readers Ryan Bailey, Chandler Ellis, Ryan Leitzinger
 Choir Director Michelle West
 Accompanist Lorita Ooyen
 Projectionist Kaleigh Freimuth
 Ushers Chuck Rittmeyer, Norm Dean, Jim Morrison
 Greeters Bill & Susie Newkirk
 Acolytes Evan & Alec Weavel

Looking ahead...

December 20 - Children's program

December 24 - 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service w/ Pastor Carroll

December 24 - 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service w/ Pastor Claire



This Cantata made possible through the Loretta Meyer memorial

THE GRACE OF JESUS CHRIST

2090

Advent Song
 (Light the Advent Candle)



1. Light the Ad - vent can - dle, one: Now the
 2. Light the Ad - vent can - dle, two: Think of
 3. Light the Ad - vent can - dle, three: Think of
 4. Light the Ad - vent can - dle, four: Think of
 5. Light the Christ - mas can - dles, now: Sing of



wait - ing has be - gun; we have start - ed
 hum - ble shep - herds, who filled with won - der
 heaven - ly har - mo - ny; an - gels sing - ing
 joy for - ev - er - more; Christ Child in a
 don - key, sheep, and cow; birth - day can - dles



on our way, time to think of Christ - mas day.
 at the sight of the child of Christ - mas night.
 "Peace on earth" at the bless - ed Sav - ior's birth.
 sta - ble born, gift of love that Christ - mas morn.
 for the King, let the al - le - lu - ias ring.

Refrain



Can - dle, can - dle, burn - ing bright, shin - ing



in the cold win - ter night; can - dle, can - dle,



burn - ing bright, fill our hearts with Christ - mas light.

WORDS: Mary Lu Walker (Luke 2:1-20)
 MUSIC: Mary Lu Walker
 © 1975 Mary Lu Walker

ADVENT CANDLE SONG
 77.77 with Refrain

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer..... **concluding with a unison prayer**
Most Holy God, thank you for being able to share our gratitude for the joys in our daily living. Being able to experience these joys helps us to more clearly appreciate how much you desire for your people to experience blessings in their lives. This allows us to better understand that you want us to approach you with our burdens and concerns. Thank you for the words of Paul when he encouraged us to bring our cares to you. This re-affirmed your declaration for us to come to you so that you could give us the rest that we needed. We proclaim a special thanks to you for the joys and we have presented our concerns to you in faith. We entrust these to you so that healing and grace can be manifested in all of our lives. In the name of the Lord we pray, Amen.

Presentation of Gifts and Offerings

“My Soul in Stillness Waits” Marty Haugen

*Doxology #592

*Prayer of Dedication **Unison Prayer**
Heavenly Creator, we appreciate the opportunity to worship you with our gifts, offerings, and tithes. Open our eyes and hearts and grant us wisdom as we share your blessings and your grace through these donations. Also, assist us in giving to others through our time, talents, and skills. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Cantata Choir Members

Soprano I

Sheila Brechlin
Judie Coots
Bev Williams

Soprano II

Jan Mitchell
Susan Gambrel
Gretchen Reuter
Lisa Rittmeyer
Rachel Rittmeyer

Alto

Joni Benning
Kylie Gray
Sue Jansen
April Haeflinger
Janet Klinger
Dixie Leden
Vicki Marcum
Christie Schweitz

Tenor

Jim Brechlin
Rick Carr
Richard Meyer

Bass

Lynn Coots
Jeff Fuller
Terry Schweitz

Narrators: Craig Clausen, Paul Haeflinger, Judy Mitchell

Actors: Ellen Adkins, Brian Nordstrom

“BELIEVE”

THE TRUTH OF CHRISTMAS

Created by Marty Parks

I. O Come, O Come Emmanuel

SCENE 1 *King Herod's Court in Jerusalem*

II. On This Silent, Holy Night

Soloists: Judie Coots & Bev Williams

SCENE 2 *The Inn at Bethlehem*

III. Come, Rejoice and Sing!

IV. His Love Reaching!

SCENE 3 *The Hills outside of Bethlehem*

V. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Soloists: April Haeflinger & Jim Brechlin

VI. Believe Finale

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn “He Came Down” insert

Benediction Unison reading
Today, we have worshiped God in music and praised the Lord in singing. We have experienced the comfort of the Holy Spirit and have been blessed with our Savior’s glorious presence. Now, let us go as God’s witnesses and share the joy of living for Christ by offering to others kindness, gentleness, and compassion so that they may experience the music that the Lord has for their lives. Amen.

Postlude “Canticle of the Turning” Rory Cooney

All music in our bulletin is protected under CCLI#1409680

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

He Came Down 137

He came down that we may have love; he

came down that we may have love; he came down that we may

Leader: Why did he come?

have love; hal-le-lu-jah for-ever-more.

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a melody line and a bass line. The lyrics are: "He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; hal-le-lu-jah for-ever-more." There are three measures with a triplet of eighth notes in the melody line.

Additional stanzas:

... that we may have light
... that we may have peace
... that we may have joy