

First Presbyterian Church
Winnebago, Illinois
December 20, 2015
10:30 a.m.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Prelude "Carol Medley" Mark Hayes

Welcome/Announcements

*Hymn "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" #31

Lighting of the Advent Candle

*Hymn "Advent Song" (v.4) insert

Call to Worship: (Psalm 36:5 – 9) **Unison Reading**
Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, Lord, preserve both people and animals. How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession: The Lord's Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness: **Unison Prayer**
Most gracious Savior, remind us of your mercy, grace, and salvation. Help us to have clarity concerning your presence and your glory. 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.

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 Tuesday from 9 a.m. till noon. His email is: pastor1@thewfpc.org

Choir there will not be any practice this week.

2015 Year end reports please submit your reports via email to: secretary@thewfpc.org All reports are due no later than January 6.

Church office will be closed Christmas eve and Christmas day.

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

2016 Offertory envelopes are available on the table in the narthex.

2016 Flowers and Bulletins sign up sheets are on the bulletin board. Bulletins are \$20, Flowers are \$25.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn "He Came Down" insert

Benediction Unison Reading

Today, we have received the word of the Lord through the children's message about Christ. We are grateful for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that has blessed us with God's most holy presence. Now, let us take the children's message of Christ to our community so that the Lord can be glorified. In Jesus name, Amen.

Postlude "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Cindy Berry

All music in our bulletin is protected under CCLI#1409680

Church phone number 815-335-2051
Pastoral Cell 815-742-7503
Attendance / Offerings 151 / \$2926.25

SHARING THE WORD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Every member a minister...

Advent readers Jacob Bryden, Logan McCray
Projectionist Rachel Rittmeyer
Ushers Chuck Rittmeyer and volunteers
Greeters Matt & Thessa Mitchell
Acolytes Renee Rittmeyer, Riley Starkey

Looking ahead...

December 24 - 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service w/ Pastor Carroll
December 24 - 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service w/ Pastor Claire
December 27 - Pastor Carroll w/ special music

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

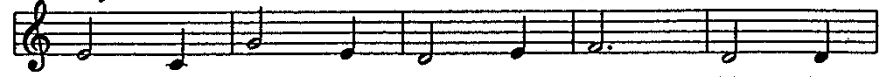


wait - ing has be - gun; we have start - ed
hum - ble shep - herds, who filled with won - der
heaven - ly har - mo - ny; an - gels sing - ing
joy for - ev - er - more; Christ Child in a
don - key, sheep, and cow; birth - day can - dles



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

*Gloria Patri

#579

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer.....**concluding with Unison Prayer**
Most Holy God, thank you for being able to share our gratitude for the joys in our daily living. We appreciate the words of Paul where he encourages us to bring our cares to you. This re-affirms your declaration for us to come to you so that you can give us the strength that we need. We proclaim our gratitude for the joys and we present 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

“The Coventry Carol”

Cindy Berry

*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 name we pray, Amen.

Passing of the Peace

RECEIVING THE WORD

Message: ***The Good News Flash***

2015 Sunday School Christmas Program Cast:

Ella Maher – Editor-In-Chief

Katie Erb – Assistant Editor

Reporters:

Brady Schaller, Renee Rittmeyer, Avery Schaller

Thea Mitchell - Mary

Mitchel Cunningham - Joseph

Grace Erb - Angel

Michael Cunningham – Innkeeper

Charlotte Maher – Innkeeper’s Wife

Alex Weavel – Shepherd

Jason Luna – Shepherd #1

Logan Gray – Shepherd #2

Riley Starkey – Shepherd #3

Emma Storey – Shepherd #4

Rascal Haeflinger, CTD – Lamb

Choir Members:

Mikayla Gray, Ava Reuter, Joe Erb, Zoe Reuter

Ryan Ackerman, Tianna Mitchell, Taggert Freimuth, Isabelle Gray

April Haeflinger – Director

Jon Storey – Director’s Asst.

Angelica Storey – Choir Director

Dixie Leden – Accompanist

Hayley Starkey – Stage Manager

Evan Weavel – Prop Design

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

have love; hal-le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

Leader: Why did he come?

Additional stanzas:

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