

First Presbyterian Church  
Winnebago, Illinois  
December 31, 2017  
10:30 a.m.

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Liturgical color is white for the redemptive work of Jesus Christ

**PREPARING FOR THE WORD**

Prelude                      “Silent Night”                      Mark Hayes

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Worship: [from Psalm 40 and 105]                      **Unison Reading**  
**I called upon the Lord and He turned to me and heard my prayer. Praise the Lord, He lifted me and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Let the people of the LORD rejoice in his works. Let the saints of God sing to the LORD all the days of their lives. This Sunday morning I enter the Lord’s house with a joyful heart and I will worship and celebrate Christ with praise and singing for the glory of God. Amen, Amen.**

\*Hymn                      “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!”                      #28

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:                      **Unison Reading**  
**Heavenly Creator, you are faithful to keep your promises and I ask that you forgive me of my sins through your love and mercy. Make me holy by your wondrous grace and place a new song of praise in my heart. I humbly make my request in Jesus’ holy name. Amen.**

**Announcements**

Our Church Website: <http://www.thewfpc.org>

All groups meet at the church unless otherwise specified.

The church offices will be closed Monday, January 1.

**Flooring Project** Phase one starts January 2-6, this will include both staircases. Access to the building will be very limited. *Please call ahead for availability.*

**Pastor Carroll** is in the office on Thursday morning, this is subject to change, due to the flooring project. His email is: [pastor1@thewfpc.org](mailto:pastor1@thewfpc.org)

**Annual reports** are due by Wednesday, January 10.

**No choir practice** until January 10.

**Workcampers** are selling Anna's Bucks again this year. Please see Jake Smith, Logan Gray, or Barb Whitney.

**Installation of new officers** will be during fellowship on January 7. Meet our new moderator, Pastor Stephen Bowie.

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**The Session of First Presbyterian Church has called for a Special Congregational Meeting, Sunday, January 7, immediately following the worship service. The purpose of this meeting is for electing of one additional officer for the Session.**

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**Annual Congregational Meeting** will be on January 28 after the worship service.

**2018 Directory Updates** If your phone number or address has changed please let the office know. We also use these numbers for our funeral and emergency committee.

# Looking ahead...

January 7 - Choir performs, Fellowship  
Congregational meeting and installation of officers  
January 14 - Children's choir  
January 21 - Choir performs  
January 28 - Annual Congregational meeting

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Church phone number 815-335-2051  
Pastoral Cell 815-742-7503  
Attendance 80/72  
Offerings \$1909.00/\$57.00  
2018 per capita is \$36.34 per member

**Remember or honor** loved ones by sponsoring flowers and/or bulletins. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board. Bulletins are \$20 / Flowers are \$15 (1) or \$25 (2) arrangement(s).



*Flowers today are sponsored by:  
Sue Luna in memory of her mother, Kathleen Greenland*

Assurance of Pardon: [from Galatians 4] **Unison Reading**  
**The Bible declares that Christ came to give people forgiveness, pardon, and salvation. I am sincerely grateful that forgiveness is promised to me when I humbly approach my Heavenly Creator. I accept the pardon that is provided to me through the love, grace, and sacrifice of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri #579

Sharing of Joys and Concerns  
Unison Prayer concluding with the Lord's Prayer  
**Wonderful Savior, you are so good to us. We give you thanks for the joys and are grateful for the many blessings that you provide for us. Lord, we also lift to you our concerns of health, sickness, and illness as well as the spiritual and physical needs that we experience in our daily lives. We ask for your love, your healing touch, and your guidance because we need your strength and wisdom so we can share your grace and mercy to those that are around us. We ask all of this in your wonderful name and we pray as you taught your disciples...**

\*Hymn "In the Bleak Midwinter" #36

Presentation of Gifts and Offerings  
"Come To The Stable With Jesus" Geoffrey O'Hara

\*Doxology #592

\*Prayer of Dedication **Unison prayer**  
**Most Holy God, we thank you for our blessings and for the opportunity to worship you in giving gifts, offerings, and tithing. Bless us as we share the good news of Christ through our talents, skills, and time. In Jesus holy name we pray, Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

**RECEIVING THE WORD**

Scripture: Ephesians 1:3, 7,18; Romans 12:6 pg. 1190;1156

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

Message: "Gifts to Share Hope in a New Year"  
Dr. Carroll Smith

**He Came Down 137**

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\*Hymn "He Came Down" insert

Benediction Unison prayer  
**This morning we have celebrated our Lord by offering words of praise and thanksgiving, songs of worship, and learning about the Savior through His holy word. In the days ahead, let us fulfill the mission of this church as we complete the mission of Christ by offering gifts of hope to others. We are assured that our Savior will provide the Holy Spirit to guide us and strengthen us as we share Jesus with others. Go with God's smile of approval and His most gracious peace. Amen.**

Postlude "Little Town Of Bethlehem" Jim Brickman

All music in our bulletin is protected under CCLI#1409680

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**SHARING THE WORD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**

*Every member a minister...*

Accompanist Dixie Leden  
Projectionist Kaleigh Freimuth  
Ushers Volunteers and Chuck Rittmeyer  
Greeters Volunteers  
Acolytes Thea & Tianna Mitchell

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