

First Presbyterian Church  
Winnebago, Illinois  
November 27, 2016  
10:30 a.m.

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Liturgical color is purple for the season of penitence and preparation

**PREPARING FOR THE WORD**

Prelude "Prepare the Way, O Zion" Lani Smith

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Worship **Unison Reading**  
**Reverence for the Lord is pure, lasting forever. The laws of the Lord are true; each one is fair. They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold. They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb. They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them. May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. Then, the praises of my heart will honor Christ my Savior. Amen and Amen.**

\*Hymn "Let All Things Now Living" #554

Lighting of the Advent Candle The Starkey Family

\*Hymn "Advent Song" (v.1) insert

Call to Confession: **Unison Reading**  
**Heavenly Creator, we reverence you with our praise and thanksgiving. We know that you are pure and holy and that your commandments are true and just. They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them. (cont'd.)**

**Announcements**

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

**Please keep in prayer:**

Judy Coots

All groups meet at the church unless otherwise specified.

**Pastor Carroll** will in the office Wednesday and Thursday morning.  
His email is: [pastor1@thewfpc.org](mailto:pastor1@thewfpc.org)

**Devotionals** are now available on the table in the narthex.

**Choir** will meet on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

**Anna's Bucks** are available, they are \$10 each, see Barb Whitney.

**Kaufman Nativity Open House** Sue Kaufman is graciously opening her home to the congregation on December 4 from 1-3 p.m. for a viewing of her nativity collection. Light refreshments will be served. Sue's address is: 308 W. Runyard St. in Winnebago.

**Giving three ways** We have three ways to help in our community this year. Adopt a child, Katie's Kids or the Mitten tree. If you have any questions please call the church office.

**Middle Creek** is offering one worship service on Christmas morning: Cocoa and Carols, 10:20 a.m. Feel free to come in your pajamas if you want. The cocoa will be waiting for your arrival. The children will be opening stockings that help tell the story of Jesus' birth. All are welcome. Middle Creek is a fully accessible facility.

## POINSETTIA SALE

The Worship Committee is taking orders for poinsettias to add beauty to our sanctuary during the Christmas season. They will be on display December 11-18 and may be taken home after the worship service on December 18.

### Orders due by December 4

Return completed form and payment to April Haeflinger. If you have questions call April at 815-979-0492.

\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia(s) @ \$12.50 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Pink

\_\_\_\_\_ Total - ***Make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church***

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

**May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. Cleanse me from my faults and failures and keep your servant from sin. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of transgressions and debts.**

Assurance of Pardon: Unison Reading  
**Merciful Savior, your servant has sincerely approached you with praise, adoration, and thanksgiving. I have obeyed your instructions and confessed my wrongdoings with a contrite heart and humble spirit. Therefore, by your promises of grace and love, I am forgiven and pardoned from my sins. In Jesus name, Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri #579

Sharing of Joys and Concerns  
Pastoral Prayer concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Puppet Show "Giving As God Gives"

Minute for Missions Katie Forcier / Mitten Tree

\*Hymn "We Gather Together" #559

Presentation of Gifts and Offerings  
"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Robert Lau

\*Doxology #592

\*Prayer of Dedication Unison prayer  
**Loving Creator, we are very grateful for another opportunity to worship you. We know that your blessings are always given to us with gracious love. With heartfelt thanks we present our gifts, tithes, and offerings. Please bless what we have generously given so that the good news of Christ will be liberally shared in our community. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

**RECEIVING THE WORD**

Scripture: Psalm 19:1 – 4; 7-8 pg. 564

Message: “Thankfully Preparing for the Gift of the Son”  
Dr. Carroll Smith

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\*Hymn “May the Lord, Mighty God” insert

Benediction

Postlude “Come, Christians, Join to Sing” H. R. James

All music in our bulletin is protected under CCLI#1409680

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Church phone number	815-335-2051
Pastoral Cell	815-742-7503
Attendance	97
Offerings	\$2027.00

**SHARING THE WORD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**

*Every member a minister...*

Accompanist	Karen Neimeier
Puppeteers	Jr. High Sunday School class
Projectionist	Rachel Rittmeyer
Ushers	Greg & Chuck Rittmeyer
Greeters	Jeff & Ann Fuller
Acolytes	Mitchel Cunningham, Taggert Freimuth

First Presbyterian's Annual  
Christmas Cookie & Candy Walk  
& Mini-Bazaar

*Saturday, December 3rd  
9:00 a.m. to Noon*

*Your choice of delicious homemade  
Christmas cookies and candy*

*Gifts from our mini-bazaar*

*Cookies - \$5.00 per lb.  
Candy - \$4.00 per ½ lb.*

*Join us for a cup of coffee and fellowship too!*

Sponsored by:  
The Presbyterian Women

Each woman of the church is asked to provide a minimum 3 dozen homemade holiday cookies. Please have cookies and candy at the church on Thursday, December 1 between 3-5 p.m. or Friday, December 2 between 2:30-6 p.m. Questions? Contact: Avis Lind, Faye Reed, Marian Pedrick, Carol Meyers or Bev Barker.

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

# “May the Lord Mighty God”

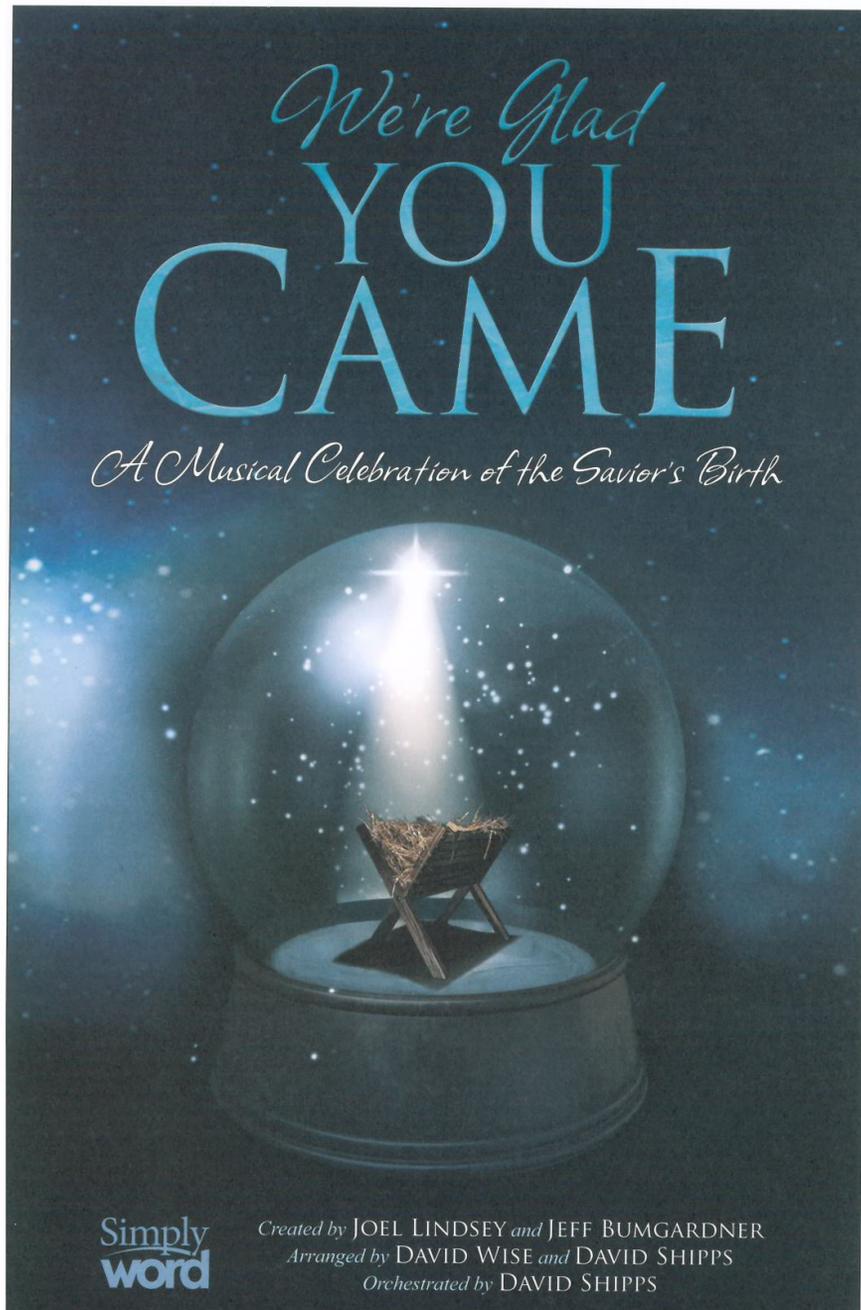
May the Lord Mighty God  
 Bless and keep you forever.  
 Give you peace, perfect peace;  
 Strength in every endeavor.  
 Lift up your eyes and behold his grace  
 And His strength forever.  
 May the Lord Mighty God  
 Bless and keep you forever.

## Looking ahead...

- December 4 - Ordination and Installation of 2016 officers
- December 11 - Christmas Cantata followed by Fellowship
- December 18 - Children's program
- December 24 - Christmas Eve early service (4:30 p.m.)
- December 24 - Christmas Eve candlelight service (10:30 p.m.)
- December 25 - Services at Middle Creek 10:20 a.m.)



*Flowers and bulletins today are sponsored by Jeff & Ann Fuller:  
 In honor of Family*



Join us December 11 for the Annual Christmas Cantata  
Fellowship to follow