



***First Presbyterian Church of Winnebago:***  
***Where community, faith, family, and friends come together.***

First Presbyterian Church of Winnebago  
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Rev. Lisa Lopez-Meyer  
Pastoral cell: 815-742-7503

**Christmas Eve Worship Service**  
**Wednesday, December 24, 2025**  
**10:30 pm**

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PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: "Emmanuel Soon Will Appear"

~Lighting of the Advent Candles and Christ Candle~

**Unison Prayer: Glorious Lord, we exalt your name and praise your goodness for taking human flesh and entering into this broken world for our sake. In Jesus Christ, you show how near you come to us. In Jesus Christ, you offered the grace to cover all our sin. In Jesus Christ, we have the hope of a world made new by your grace. Glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for the good news of the Christ-child! Amen.**

\*Hymn                      "O Come, All Ye Faithful"                      #133

Responsive Prayer of Confession and Adoration

Almighty God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus to us,  
the Word made flesh,  
so that we could belong to the kingdom of heaven.

**What can we give you for the gift of our salvation?**

**How can we respond to the blessing of our hope?**

We can only tell the truth about our lives, and offer our hearts and hands to you once more.

**For we know we have lost our way, yet your righteousness keeps calling us to You.**

*(Continued)*

*(We light our candles and sing by candlelight)*

\*Hymn:                      "Silent Night, Holy Night!" (v.1-4)                      #122

Benediction

Postlude

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***Merry Christmas!***

*Every member a minister...*

Candle-lighters: Greg & Renee Rittmeyer  
Readers: Terry Schweitz, Stacy Weavel, Bev Williams  
Communion Servers: Joe Erb, Greg Rittmeyer, Mat Smith  
Ushers: Joe & Janet Erb  
Projectionist: Joe Erb Jr.

*If you brought an offering today for the work of God  
through the church, please place it on the plates by the doors  
of the sanctuary as you leave.*

***Thank you for your generosity!***

Second Scripture Reading: The Birth of Jesus

Luke 2:1-7

\*Hymn: "What Child is This" #145

Third Scripture Reading: Good News of Joy for All People

Luke 2:8-14

\*Hymn: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" # 119

Fourth Scripture Reading: A Time to Praise

Luke 2:15-20

Meditation: "The Odd and Glorious Story"

\* Hymn: "Joy to the World" #134

### **THE LORD'S SUPPER**

(All Christians welcome-you don't have to be Presbyterian)

(Gluten Free option available)

Invitation (John 1:1-5)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Breaking of the Bread

Prayer after Communion

The Nicene Creed

Forgive us, Lord,

for the many ways we prefer the darkness to the light.

**We don't always tell the truth,  
and we hold grudges in our hearts.**

Forgive us, Lord, for doubting the power of your love.

**We don't expect the world to be changed.**

**We don't expect your miracles. We question your ways.**

Fill us with the wonder of what you have done in Christ,  
that we may believe your promises and be healed through hope.

**Let us rejoice in the mystery of You becoming one of us. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Christ has come! The Savior is here! Lowly as we are, God has remembered our sufferings. Vulnerable as we are, God has chosen to become one of us. The Holy God understands every one of our experiences and forgives each one of our missteps. Sing the glory of God's name! Our salvation is very near! **Thanks be to God!**

\*Hymn: "Raise a Song of Gladness" #155

Passing of the Peace

Choir Anthem: "Bethlehem Wind"

### **RECEIVING THE WORD**

First Scripture Reading: The Glory of the Son

Hebrews 1:1-12

Prayer: **Eternal God, let us be so in awe of your Son Jesus, that we seek him day and night, rejoicing in his everlasting glory. Let us be so captured by the radiance of the Light, that the darkness may not tempt us, and the shadows never reach our soul. Guide us, Blessed Lord, through the One you sent to be the righteous King. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**