



Second Sunday of Christmas January 2, 2022

*Draw near to God
for God is waiting for you.*

* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able
italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us sing...

Praise be to God!

Who dared to take on human flesh and dwell among us.

Praise be to God!

Who did not turn back in the face of evil and death.

Praise be to God!

Who continues to dance through our lives even now.

Let all that have breath sing praise to God.

*OPENING PRAYER

Gracious and all loving God, you call to us across deep waters and dark places. Yours is the light which guides us and the voice which we follow. We pray that you would reveal yourself to us as we worship you. May those without hope be encouraged; those who are sad, cheered; those who are seeking, find you; and may all things be according to your will. In the name of your beloved Son we pray. Amen.

*HYMN #147 The First Nowell

1. The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

3. And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain.*

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest; o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain.*

5. Then entered in those wise men three, full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain.*

6. Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought. *Refrain.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ Child, those who dropped all that they were doing and traveled to worship the coming of God's love into this world. We would like to be those who cared for God in infant vulnerability; who tickled and cuddled and comforted the growing child, that he might know love and safety.

And yet, merciful God, we must recognize all the times we are more like Herod. Whenever we, in our actions or in our inactions, find our own need for control more compelling than the needs of others for health and safety. Whenever we cling to the security of our privilege, rather than standing up for the rights of the oppressed. Whenever we are complicit in the harming of innocents for the sake of profit, or power, or because we fear to know, and to change, the injustices of this world.

Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name, without counting the cost. In the name of Christ, the one who showed us the way, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND BLESSING

... Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 96

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

**HYMN #108* Of the Father's Love Begotten

1. Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega; he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore!
2. By his Word was all created; he commanded; it was done: heaven and earth and depths of ocean, universe of three in one, all that sees the moon's soft shining, all that breathes beneath the sun, evermore and evermore!
3. O, that birth forever blessed when the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race, and the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore!
4. This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord, whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word. Now he shines, the long expected. Let creation praise its Lord, evermore and evermore!
5. O ye heights of heaven, adore him. Angel hosts, his praises sing. Powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be silent; every voice in concert ring, evermore and evermore!
6. Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be. Honor glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore! Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON John 1:1-5, 10-18

SERMON The Word Made Flesh

RECOGNITION OF THE OFFERING

**DOXOLOGY*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

God of all good gifts, who gives freely to us, have mercy on us and grant us the peace that only the Prince of Peace can provide.

Grant that our lives would be an offering, and that our work would be a good gift, just as the gifts that the magi brought, pleasing to you and fit for the king of all creation.

We look to you, our Prophet, Priest and King, to rule the world with justice, and to give salvation to all who call upon you. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS (Please hold your elements up as the Words of Institution are spoken)

UNISON PRAYER

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal realm. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**HYMN #127* Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald angels sing. Jesus, the light of the world.

Glory to the newborn King. Jesus, the light of the world.

Refrain: We'll walk in the light, beautiful light. Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.

O, shine all around us by day and by night. Jesus, the light of the world.

2. Joyful all you nations, rise. Jesus the light of the world.

Join the triumph of the skies. Jesus, the light of the world. *Refrain*

3. Christ by highest heaven adored; Jesus the light of the world.

Christ, the everlasting Lord. Jesus, the light of the world. *Refrain*

4. Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Jesus the light the world.

Hail, the Sun of righteousness! Jesus, the light of the world. *Refrain*

**BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE

Church Staff

Susan Fall, Pastor Leanne Yerkes, Director of Music
Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator Jason Gordon, Youth Director
Mary Ann Welsh, Treasurer Chris Miterko, Grounds Keeper



ANNOUNCEMENTS: January 2, 2022

****TRIVIA NIGHT (January 8) IS POSTPONED UNTIL FEBRUARY 5 DUE TO INCREASED NUMBER OF COVID CASES**

SPECIAL OFFERING – Last day:

As night fell on December 10, a horrific line of powerful tornadoes ripped across several states. One of these tornadoes was on the ground for a terrifying and unprecedented 250 miles, more than 200 of those miles in Kentucky alone, where the town of Mayfield saw the catastrophic destruction of much of the downtown area, including the Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist churches.



In the wake of these terrible and catastrophic storms, it is the role of ordinary people of faith like us to shine as light in this bleakest of winters. We are called to be the hands and feet of God as we reach out to shelter, feed, care for and help rebuild the lives of those who have lost loved ones, homes, work and a sense of safety as a result of the tornadoes. We are invited to stand with them — and to stand together — bearing witness by our gifts and prayers that God is indeed incarnate among us, no matter what.

If you are able, please make a donation to assist those in need following this storm. Please mark your gift “Tornado Relief.” All the contributions will be sent to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance who are already on the ground in the areas of the recent devastation providing much needed help.

Wednesday noontime lunch: Bring your lunch and join us in Fellowship Hall, January 5 at noon. All are welcomed for a midweek get together.

In our thoughts and prayers:

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Natalie Pizza, Bill Wark, Raymond Tinari, Dick Wright, Sally Thiessen, Faith Hyndman, Jim Turner, Chris Lucera

Calendar: January 4 - 7:00 pm Session Meeting

January 5 - Bring your Lunch and gather with us for a mid-week lunch and fun. All our welcome!!!