

ORDER OF SERVICE
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23, 2018

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Announcements & Affirmation of Community

Minute for Mission

Prelude "Noel Bourguignon" arr. Russell

Call to Worship

Leader: Out of little Bethlehem comes one who is to rule in Israel.

People: He shall be great to the ends of the earth.

Leader: Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

People: God's mercy extends from generation to generation.

Holy is God's name!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLES

The Burgin Family

SUNG RESPONSE

Light the Advent candle, four;
Think of joy for ever more;
Christ Child in a stable born,
Gift of love that Christmas morn.

Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

***Hymn** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Red#119

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. Though we have heard Mary's song, we still seek security in pride and power and possessions. Though we know your story, we resist the costs of following you. We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We

turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for justice you intend. Make us messengers of the peace you bring. As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. Amen. (silent prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

***Gloria Patri** (#579)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Sharing the peace of Christ

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Children's Time

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Cullen Elliot Keleher
Son of Brandon and Catherine Keleher

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Anthem "Praise Ye the Lord" Camille St. Saens

Prayer of Illumination

Gospel Reading Luke 1:39-55 pg. 57

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "The First Believers"
Rev. Dr. Timothy J. Luoma

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

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

Offertory Invitation

Offertory “Will We Know Him?” Don Besig & Nancy Price

***Doxology**

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (sins)

Prayer Response “Amen”

***Hymn** “Angels We Have Heard on High” Red#113

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** “Love Has Come” French Melody

Postlude “Fum, Fum,Fum” arr. Russell

All are asked to remain seated during the postlude

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: Rev. Dr. Timothy J. Luoma

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Janet Booth

COORDINATOR OF YOUTH PROGRAMS AND

CHURCH EVENTS: Cynthia Allen

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Vicki Washburn

ORGANIST: David Carpenter

CLERK OF SESSION: Judy Bunnell

MODERATOR OF DEACONS: Anne Bailey

SEXTON: Sally Ann Blow

MISSION STATEMENT

*To
Worship Christ
Teach Faith
And
Practice Love*

Child care is available during the service – please talk with an usher if you need directions.

If you are visiting, please feel welcome to come to Fellowship Hall, following the service.

PRAYER FAMILIES FOR THE WEEK December 23, 2018

Dan, Jackie, Bode, and Lucas Curilla
Celeste D'Avignon-Krieg, Stephen, Felicia and Letitia Krieg
Kristy Dantes
Bob Davis

PRAYER CONCERNS

John Mazur
Leona Woodbridge
Pam Deeb
Chuck Stacey (Tracey Luoma's step-grandfather)

Kenneth and Barbara Burdo
Louise Meisenheimer

This Sunday we thank:

GREETER: Judy Bunnell
USHERS: Donna and Tim Hanrahan
WORSHIP LEADER: Sally Meisenheimer
HOSTS & HOSTESS: Doris, Ron and Benjamin Pomerance
Children's Time Leader: Janora Stone

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Please join us for ...

A Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols at the First Presbyterian Church, beginning at 7:00 pm.

It's that time of the year ...Please submit your council and committee *annual reports* to the church office **via e-mail** office@presbyplatt.org
Your promptness will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Pastor Tim will be out of the office from December 25th to January 2nd. If you have a Pastoral Emergency please contact Rev. Lori Danielson, at 518-297-6010 or danielsonxyz@gmail.com, or Judy Bunnell at 518-561-8011 or judybunnell1@gmail.com.

There will be a wrap-up meeting of this year's **Tea and Bazaar** and the distribution of the profits. Anyone interested in commenting on where the profits are distributed or have comments (what went right and what went wrong) regarding the T&B are invited to attend a meeting on **Sunday, January 20th, after church in the library.**

Worship Leaders for December-January

December 24- Judy Bunnell
December 30- Matt Burgin
January-6 Emma Snook
January 13-Carla Hausrath

Church Office Hours:

The Church office will be closed this coming week from December 24-26.
The office will be open Thursday, December 27th from 9 am-2pm.

2019 Pledge Update

As of **December 18th**, we received 49 pledges totaling **\$193,180**. If your pledge card isn't among the **49** received thus far, please complete it and turn it in as soon as possible. You may put it in the offering plate. There are extra pledge cards in the pews if you misplaced yours.

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