

ORDER OF SERVICE
Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Announcements & Affirmation of Community

Prelude "Praeludum" Gordon Young

Call to Worship

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the holy name of the most high God.

People: The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Leader: Proclaim the mercy of the One who comes as one of us.

People: The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Leader: Trust and do not be afraid.

People: The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Leader: With joy you will draw water from the wells of peace

People: The Lord is our strength and our salvation. Hallelujah!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLES

The Snook Family

SUNG RESPONSE

Light the Advent candle, two:
Think of humble shepherds,
who filled with wonder at the
sight of the child of Christmas night.

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

***Hymn** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" Red# 93

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

The Lord is near. In your presence, Holy God, we confess that we need repentance. We have broken your commands against idolatry.

We do not live in peace with your creation or your people. We have not trusted your word, and we are afraid. Forgive us, restore us, and turn our shame into praise, for the sake of the One who proclaims the good news and for the sake of all the world. 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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading Zephaniah 3:14-20 pg.877

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem "Are You Looking for Jesus?" Robert Wetzler

Gospel Reading Luke 3:7-18 pg. 60

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Warning Signs"
Rev. Dr. Timothy J. Luoma

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn** "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Offertory Invitation

Offertory “A Communion Hymn for Christmas” Tom Fettke

***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**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer (sins)

Prayer Response “Amen”

***Hymn** “Watchmen, Tell Us of the Night” Red# 97

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** “Star Child” Carlton Young

Postlude “Paen” Gordon Young

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

Come join us as we go Christmas Caroling.....



Friday, December 14, 2018

Join us for caroling on Friday,
December 14th at 6:30 pm starting at
Lake Forest Retirement Community.
We will carol several other places
before going to Stuart and Linda Voss'
home at 38 Hillcrest for refreshments.
Please bring a dozen cookies to share.

Worship Leaders for November-December

December 16- Zaidee Laughlin

December 23- Sally Meisenheimer

December 24- Judy Bunnell

December 30- Emma Snook

Church Office Hours:

Monday 1:00-4:00 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday 9:00-4:00 pm, Thursday 9:00-2:00 pm

This week:

Monday: 5:00 Decons Meeting

Tuesday: 12:00 noon Interfaith Council Meeting

Lutheran Church the Redeemer

6:00 pm Buildings and Grounds

6:00 pm Personnel meeting

Wednesday: 10:00 am Bible Study

6:00 pm Finance meeting

Friday: 6:30 Christmas Caroling

Saturday: 9:30 am-Pageant dress rehearsal followed by Advent Festival

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 9, 2018

Jean, Kwangseek, Eunice and Eusung Choe

Diane and John Cohen

Scott, tessa, Carsen and Camron Coleman

Dan and Teresa Collins

PRAYER CONCERNS

John Mazur

Leona Woodbridge

The family of Edna Webster

Pam Deeb

Chuck Stacey (Tracey Luoma's step-grandfather)

The Family of Anne Hollop

Kenneth and Barbara Burdo

Peg and Bob Warner

Louise Meisenheimer

Barbara Thompson

This Sunday we thank:

GREETER: Donna Corodimas

USHERS: Trevor and Zaidee Laughlin

WORSHIP LEADER: Jennie Booth

HOST & HOSTESS: The Duley Family

Call for Special Congregational Meeting

A Special Meeting of the Congregation is called for Sunday, December 16th, 2018 immediately after the last hymn of Sunday morning worship to receive the report of the Nominating Committee and electing: 1) elders and deacons to fill vacancies on Session and the Board of Deacons and 2) four congregational members of the 2019 Nominating Committee.

This is normally a very brief meeting. Reminder, any youth that have been confirmed are voting members of the congregation and we appreciate your presence for establishing a quorum.

Christmas Candlelight Concert *Sunday, December 16 at 4:00 PM*

The Adult Choir is proud to present their **annual Christmas Candlelight Concert on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 4:00 PM.** The choir will sing a lovely selection of seasonal anthems which are sure to prepare your heart for the coming of the Messiah.

All are encouraged to attend: families, children, students, adults, and seniors. Please invite a friend or neighbor to come with you. We look forward to a full house. The concert will last about one hour and will have the traditional candles lit. There will be a reception in Fellowship Hall following the concert.

Won't you take time out from your busy, holiday schedule and come to this special performance?

Our mid-week Bible Study Continues!

We meet each **Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Memorial Room.** We are reading the book of "Romans" and have read and discussed up to chapter 11.. All are welcome, come join us!

We would like to express our appreciation to Bill and Kerry Haley of the **Haley Christmas Tree Farm** who have been very generous in donating the Christmas trees in both the sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall. They have additionally been very gracious with allowing us to make wreaths for the Tea & Bazaar on their equipment.



Local Mission Christmas Tree Ornament Project

- The congregation is once again providing Christmas gifts to children in Clinton County. Local Mission Council received a list of wishes/needs from the Department of Social Services for children in some of the families they serve. There are still some colored ornament tags hanging on the tree in Fellowship Hall with each ornament representing one gift request. The

ornament message contains the first name of the recipient, age, gender, requested item description and clothing size, if appropriate. When children receive gifts from us, they are not served by the Christmas Bureau.

Congregation members are encouraged to take an ornament, - both parts, as each ornament will have two (duplicate) parts tied together. After purchasing the item, return the gift, unwrapped, with both parts of the ornament taped to it, to the tree in Fellowship Hall either next Sunday, December 16th or to the church office during the week. All gifts need to be received at church by December 16th.

Gift items should be new. Depending on the requested gift, two or more persons might jointly purchase the item. Please **DO NOT WRAP THE GIFTS.** Please ask the store for, and include with the gift, a gift receipt. If you have any questions or have trouble finding an item, please contact Judy Bunnell (518-561-8011), Lyn Mulholland (518-573-6956).

2019 Pledge Update

As of **December 4th**, we received **45** pledges totaling **\$179,740.** If your pledge card isn't among the **44** 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.