

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
Christmas Day

December 25, 2016

10:00 a.m.

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response

***Come and worship, come and worship!
Worship Christ the newborn king!***

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Concerns of the Church

Prelude "The First Noel" arr. Smith and Hustad
Beverly Bright – piano; Key Ten Eyck - organ

Call to Worship

Christ is born! Alleluia!

Jesus is among us. Alleluia!

The Word has become flesh.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

* Hymn 143 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"
Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Almighty God,

our hearts have not been open to all

that you have revealed to us in the birth of your Son.

You sent Christ to be born as a helpless child,

yet we have not attended to children in need.

You chose humble Mary to be mother of our Lord,

but we have not attended to the struggles of women.

The holy family could find no room in Bethlehem but a stable,

and yet we have not listened to the cry of the homeless.

Forgive our lack of attention and free us for joyful compassion,

that we may know Christ in serving others;

through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, we pray. Amen.

* Silent Confession

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Isaiah 52:7-10 (OT, p. 683)

Hymn 136 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

A Time with Children

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-4 (NT, p. 218)

Hymn 147 "The First Nowell" (verses 1, 2, 6)

* Gospel Lesson: John 1:1-14 (NT, p. 91)

Sermon: "Make It Real"

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 119 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

* Affirmation of Faith: Nicene Creed (Hymnal, p. 34)

Offering and Dedication of Christmas Joy Offering

Offertory "What Child is This?" arr. Wells

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

We invite you forward by the center aisle to receive the bread and the cup.

Solo

"Lullaby"
Frank Jones, soloist

Beck

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn 132 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Congregational Amen (601)
- * Postlude "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" arr. Lasky

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers this morning have been given by John Conklin to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jo.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Judy Cutler
Ushers	Betty Keen, Gwynne Gilbert
Welcomer	John Conklin



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

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LUKE 2:11, ESV

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.