

First Presbyterian Church
December 11th, 11:00 am – Morning Worship
Matthew Schultz– Pastor
David Hagen- Music Director
Jan Gruhn - Organist

Prelude: “Noel Suisse” Daquin

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Matthew Schultz

Introit Chancel Choir

✠ **Hymn:** “Lo! How a Rose E’er Blooming” #163

Time of Reconciliation Liturgist Diana Rotkis

Leader: When our faith is rooted deeply in you, God, our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness. But sometimes our lives become so entangled with the values of the world, that your values take second place.

All: We all, like sheep, have gone astray. Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Merciful God, remove from our hearts and minds all that prevents our lives being firmly rooted in you.

All: We all, like sheep, have gone astray. Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the times when we have acted against your commandments, served only ourselves, and acted as if we no longer have hope in your promises, we ask your forgiveness.

All: We all, like sheep, have gone astray. Lord, have mercy.

Leader: We confess our sin to God in the silence of our own hearts.

Moment of Silent Confession

Leader: Sisters and brothers, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God!

✠ **Response** Gloria Patri #805
All: 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.

Advent Reflection - Pastor Matt

Lighting of the Advent Candle Lamont Albertson & Bonnie Allen

Reader: Thousands of years ago, the Israelites were in misery. Their nation was diminished and depleted. Their holy places were lost. Their future seemed uncertain. Their one Joy was the deeply-held belief that one day, the messiah would come. This sustained Joy for the people.

Reader: Hundreds of years later, their Joy was made real with the birth of Jesus, also called “Emmanuel,” a Hebrew word which means “God is with us.” Today is the third Sunday of Advent, in which we joyfully remember those hundreds of years of faithful waiting.

Reader: As we light the candle of Joy we give thanks for the prophets of today who dare to live Joy, who resist the darkness in the world, and who call us to a life of faith.

Reader: Let us pray: God, so many in your world live without Joy, succumbing instead to cynicism and anger.

All: Open our eyes to your presence. Open our ears to your word. Open our hearts to your Joy.

Reader: Help us live into your Joy so we may be your light shining in the dark places of our world.

All: We pray this Joyfully, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Reader: God’s Joy lives on, around us and within us. We are called by God to share that Joy with the world. So this week as we pass the peace, instead of “Peace be with you,” please say “God’s Joy be with you.” If you like, you may respond with, “and also with you.”

Passing the Peace / Hope

Kid’s Time

Choral Anthem “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” arr. Lee Dengler
Scripture Isaiah 9:1-7 Page 683
Matthew 18:24 Page 975

Sermon Rev. Matthew
Schultz

✠ **Hymn** “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”
#20

Presentation of Tithes and Offering (Gifts can also be offered via our website)

Offertory “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” Arr., Manz
Response

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

Pastoral prayer/Lord’s prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen.*

✠ **Hymn** “On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”
#168

Benediction Chancel Choir

Postlude: “Savior of the Nations, Come” Manz

**WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUNDAY WORSHIP
December 11, 2016**

**"I am God, and there is no one like Me,
Declaring the end from the beginning."**

**And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor
Yeshua
Mighty God
Eternal Father
Prince of Peace, Immanuel
Priest Forever, King of Righteousness
Shepherd, Sun of Righteousness, Son of Man
Chief Cornerstone, My Standard to the Peoples
The Root of Jesse, Branch of David, King of Peace
The Lord Our Righteousness, The Messiah, Savior**

I AM

**And you shall call His name Jesus, God with Us
The Resurrection, The Life, Sunrise from on High
The Word, The Way, The Truth, Teacher and Lord
The Image of the Invisible God, Righteous Judge
The Light of the World, The Bright Morning Star
The Beginning, The Firstborn from the Dead
Son of God, Lion of the Tribe of Judah
Advocate, King of Kings, Lord of All
The Guardian of Our Souls
Head of the Church
Horn of Salvation
Lamb of God
Author and Perfecter of Faith, The First and the Last
The Beginning and the End, The Alpha and Omega**

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