

First Presbyterian Church

December 13, 2015, 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship

Matt Schultz – Pastor

Marie Matetich-Organist

Bill Hazelton-Liturgist

Prelude: The Snow Lay on the Ground Held

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

✠ **Hymn:** “Once in Royal David’s City” #161

Call to Worship/Lighting of the Advent Candles:
The Hinrichs Family

Leader 1: Our Call to Worship this week is also the lighting of the third Advent Candle – the candle of Joy. As we gather together to worship God, we reflect upon these words of Joy from Scripture:

Leader 2: “Sing praises to the Lord, for the Lord has done gloriously; Let this be known in all the earth.

All: Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Leader 1: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed.

All: Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy.

Leader 2: This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

All: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.”

-candles are lit-

Leader 1: We watch for the day when God’s joy will be known by all people. We wait in the shadows for the Light of the World to appear.

Leader 2: Come, let us walk in the light of God.

All: Come, let us worship God

Sung Response: Verse one of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.”

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

Time of reconciliation

Leader: Lord God, we praise you for sending light into this world.

All: We confess that we live as though the light had never defeated darkness.

Leader: We confess that we ignore the Savior you sent to be among us and to live in us.

All: We’ve kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season, and do not yearn for his coming each moment in our waiting hearts.

Leader: Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus. Prepare us for His return, and help us rejoice in the light.

All: ...so that your grace can illuminate the darkened places of our hearts.

Leader: We pause now for a moment of silent confession

Moment of Silent Confession

Leader: Sisters and brothers in Christ, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, all 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.

Passing of the Peace

The Primary Choir “Child In the Manger” arr, Brock

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” Phillip Nicolai

