

First Presbyterian Church

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Celebrating our history, we look toward our future.



The Order of Worship

**First Sunday after Christmas / Epiphany
December 31, 2017**

WELCOME. *We are delighted to have you with us this morning!
Following worship, please join us for fellowship and refreshments.*

Large Print Hymnals and Children's Activity Bags
are available from the Usher.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

One: O come, let us adore him

All: whose coming was announced by the prophets.

One: O come, let us adore him

All: whose message was proclaimed by the angels.

One: O come, let us adore him

All: whose glory was hailed by the shepherds.

One: O come, let us adore him! Let us worship God.

***Hymn Medley**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (1 verse)

“Angels From the Realms of Glory” (2 verses)

“What Child is This” (2 verses)

“Good Christian Friends Rejoice” (2 verses)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

*Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn king.*

*All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn king.*

*What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

*Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

*Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ was born today.
Ox and ass before him bow,
And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!*

*Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
And we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!*

***Prayer for the Day**

Glory be to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill toward those who God favors.

For unto us is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

We praise you. We bless you. We glorify you.

We give thanks for this great gift of your mercy.

**Grant that we might share the divine life of Christ,
who humbled himself to share our humanity.**

May the angels sing again to us of peace for body and soul.

May the manger call us to expressions of love and devotion.

May the star set our course once more in a firm direction.

May the wise ones show us your spirit of giving.

And may your Holy Spirit linger in our hearts,

and be born anew in our lives this Christmas. Amen

***The People's Response**

"Gloria, Gloria"

*Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia!
(sung through twice)*

***The Peace**

One: Since God has redeemed and forgiven us in Jesus Christ,

All: Let us forgive one another.

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the signs of peace with one another.

*You are invited to greet those around you
with words and signs of God's reconciling peace.*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:1-15

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Home by Another Way"

Rev. Dr. Steve Robertson

***Hymn #151**

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

Stanza 1 – **All sing**

Stanza 2 – Women sing

Stanza 3 – **All sing**

Stanza 4 – Men sing

Stanza 5 – **All sing**

**When the fullness of time came God sent his Son,
his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory,
into this world, who took the nature of humanity from the
substance of a woman, a virgin, by means of the Holy Ghost.
And so was born the “just seed of David,”
the “Angel of the great counsel of God,”
the very Messiah promised,
whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel,
true God and true man,
two perfect natures united and joined in one person.
We acknowledge and confess that this wonderful union
between the Godhead and the humanity in Christ Jesus
did arise from the eternal and immutable decree of God
from which all our salvation springs and depends. Amen.**

Reception of Tithes & Offerings

***Offertory Response**

Tune: GOD REST YOU MERRY

*Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place.
To share Christ's peace and show your love,
Each other now embrace.
This welcome word of God's good news,
Brings us redeeming grace.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

***Offertory Prayer**

The Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (Traditional)

**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 #147** *"The First Nowell"* verses 1, 3, and 6

***Charge and Blessing**

***Response**

Hymn #119 *"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"* verse 1

*Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

Postlude

Prayer Requests/Prayer Chain: Prayer requests can be written on the blue cards found on the table at the back of the Fellowship Hall. Pass the card to the pastor during the Passing of the Peace.

This service is broadcast each Sunday on station KDWA 1460 AM/97.7 FM, and is lived streamed on www.kdwa.com.