

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF IONIA
JANUARY 7, 2018
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

CHIMES OF THE HOUR

INTROIT

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Arise, shine, for our light has come!

Congregation: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Pastor: Let us praise the lord together.

**Congregation: The sun shall no longer be our light by
day, nor will the brightness of the moon
shine on us,**

Pastor: For the Lord will be our light, and our God will be
our glory.

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

**Congregation: The Lord will be our everlasting light,
and our days of sorry will end.**

Pastor: Come, let us sing to our light and salvation.

*HYMN 66

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(in Unison)

**O God, our guide, who once used a star to lead people to
Christ, we confess our poor sense of direction. We let
ourselves become confused, easily distracted, and lose
our way.**

**We fail to follow the signs you provide. Forgive our
wayardness, O God. Lead us to the Christ so that we
may follow his ways to you. Amen.**

KYRIE HYMN 572

*"Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us,
Lord have mercy upon us."*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true, but if we walk in the light as he himself is he light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. The Peace of Christ be with you!

Congregation: and also with you.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: Christ has given us peace that surpasses all understanding. The peace of Christ be with you!

Congregation: The peace of Christ be with you also!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: *Isaiah 60:1-6*

Pew Bible Page 639-640

Second Reading: *Matthew 2:1-12*

Pew Bible Page 835-836

SERMON

"A Grateful Encounter"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Page 14 - Hymnal
The Apostles' Creed

COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing...

Congregation: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

among you and remain with you always. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

Please sign the red attendance folder in your pew, sharing your name with those near you and making formal your gift to God of this hour. If you give your complete address and phone number, we will keep you informed about upcoming events.

Serving in Worship Today:

Guest Minister: Rev. David Veldt; *Liturgist:* Lee Hunsberger;
Greeters and Ushers: Duane and Judi Emlinger, Linda Steele;
Communion preparation: Jud Emlinger, Evelyn Ransom;
Communion Servers: Ami Cox, Bill Robinson, Marilyn McKay;
Fellowship: Arnolds

Serving in Worship next Sunday:

Guest Minister: Dr. Chris Dorn; *Liturgist:* Sue Reglin; *Greeters and Ushers:* Kathy and Jim VanSyckle, Shelly Reglin; *Children's Message:* Kathy VanSyckle; *Fellowship:* Headstart Movie Day

Elders serving on Session: Dr. Jan Arnold, David Hanson, Lavonna Hoover, Evelyn Ransom, Sue Reglin, Cindy Rozich, Dr. Keith Sterner, Dr. Warren Thompson, Kathy VanSyckle

Music Fund: Elder Bill Robinson

Shaver Children's Fund: Elder Judi Emlinger

Head Start Initiative: Elder Sue Thompson
Clerk, Margaret Gregory

Treasurers, Barb Klenk and Norma Kilpatrick

Music Leader

Harkness Handbell Choir Director

Administrative Assistant

Custodian

Mike Kaufman

Cindy Rozich

Deb Montgomery

Steve Slaughter

COME ENJOY!

Retirees Fellowship: Norma Kilpatrick, President (527-4144)

good friendship, good activities, 3rd Thursday

Quilters Fellowship: Carol Shier, Chairperson (616-755-0963)

fun, fellowship, and helping hearts 9:30 a.m. Wednesday

Prayer Shawl Group: Evelyn Ransom and Mary Williams, Co-

Chairs Making lap robes and shawls for those who need them

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Bless, O Lord, the one you are sending to be our next pastor.

When that person is joyful, guide that person to be prayerful.

When that person is tempted, stay by that person. In all seasons

send that person the companions you intend and the good

judgment and good heart to embrace them.

Living Waters for the World allows people to see the world

through a new set of eyes, and invariably changes them. God

empowers people of faith to be agents of change. First

Presbyterian Church is committed to supporting Living Waters with Mission Offerings collected in January and June. The money collected supports communities that have available, but contaminated water. Living Waters has developed water purification systems that filtrate and disinfect the water in communities removing bacteria, chlorine-resistant organisms and other impurities. More clean water means more lives changed and more lives saved. Jesus Christ is Living Water for our bodies and souls. We ask that the members of this church extend your generous support to the ministry of Living Waters for the World on Sunday, January 7th with your Mission Offering.

Mission Committee

Sunday January 14th Family Movie Day. Worship, Pizza lunch and "Cars 3" (Movie at Ionia Theatre) all Families are welcome for this fun, free event. Please note that Family Night will not be held in January 2018.

CALENDAR

- 1/7 8:30 A.M. Harkness Hand Bells practice
- 10:00 A.M. Worship - Guest Speaker, Dr. Chris Dorn
- Missions offering
- 11:00 A.M. Fellowship and Refreshments
- 1/10 9:30 A.M. Quilters
- 1/11 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
- 1/14 8:30 A.M. Harkness Hand Bells practice
- 10:00 A.M. Worship - Guest Speaker, Dr. Chris Dorn
- 11:00 A.M. Fellowship, Refreshments, Head Start Movie
Day
- 1/15 7:00 P.M. Session Meeting
- 1/17 9:30 A.M. Quilters
- 1/18 9:00 A.M. Deadline for February Newsletter
- 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
- 5:00 P.M. Soup Kitchen, Team #3, Cindy Rozich, Captain

SEE WHO WE ARE

Christian Service Center

clothing and household goods we donate for neighbors

Crop Walk

walking or rocking we help to feed the world

Souper Bowl of Caring

homemade soup prepared and served to collect funds for local soup kitchen

March Into Reading

books we give to Head Start youngsters

Faithful Friends

Head Start classroom volunteers & family support

Ionia County Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

groceries we collect and food we serve for a neighborhood center

Bear Buddies

near Christmas, we collect small stuffed animals for use in hospital emergency room, patrol cars of police officers, and spouse abuse center