

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF IONIA
DECEMBER 31, 2017
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

MINI-CAROL/HYMN SING

#15 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

#8 Hark the Herald

CHIMES OF THE HOUR

INTROIT (INSERT)

“Emmanuel”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens’

praise him in the heights!

Congregation: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all

his host!

Pastor: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shin-

ing stars!

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

Congregation: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

Pastor: He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Congregation: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

Pastor: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

All: Let us praise the name of the Lord together, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

*HYMN 12 Carol booklet

“O Come All Ye”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(in Unison)

God of glory, you have given us a new name and robed us in salvation through your Son Jesus. But we do not always respond when you call, nor do we always re-

joy in your salvation, making it difficult for those in our lives to see in Jesus the good news of great joy which is for all the peoples. Forgive us our unbelief and our apathy, from which come ugly thoughts and actions that are not at all in keeping with the good news we claim to profess. Open our hearts to receive from your Spirit and in your great mercy grant us repentance and renewal, we pray.

KYRIE HYMN 572

“Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.”

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news. As the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is planted in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up among you before all the nations. You will be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, a royal diadem in the hand of your God. Believe this good news and live! **Amen.**

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

Liturgist: *Galatians 4:4-7* Page 1014 Pew Bible

Liturgist: The Word of the Lord!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Pastor: *Luke 2:22-40* Page 889-890 Pew Bible

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord!

Congregation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

John 14:23-29 Page 939 Pew Bible

SERMON

"God Has Time For Us"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Page 14 - Hymnal
The Apostles' Creed

*HYMN 14 CAROL BOOKLET

"Joy To The World"

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ending with "The Lord's Prayer" Page 16 in Hymnal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn 592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 13 CAROL BOOKLET

"Go Tell It On The Mountain"

*BENEDICTION

*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: Dr. Chris Dorn; ***Liturgist:*** Megan Ransom;

Greeters and Ushers: Warren and Sue Thompson, Keith

Sterner; ***Fellowship:*** Pat Gustafson and Norma Kilpatrick;

Flowers: Linda Hood and Worship Committee

Serving in Worship next Sunday:

Liturgist: Lee Hunsberger; *Greeters and Ushers:* Duane and Judi Emlinger, Linda Steele; *Communion Preparers:* Judi Emlinger, Evelyn Ransom; *Communion Servers:* Ami Cox, Bil Robinson, Marilyn McKay; *Children's Message:* Sue Thompson *Fellowship:* Arnolds

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

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your help is needed for Sunday Fellowship hour and altar flowers.

Please remember to sign up.

Linda and I thank you kindly for that given to us for the holidays.

Mike

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

- 12/31 8:30 A.M. Harkness Hand Bells practice
10:00 A.M. Worship – Guest Speaker, Dr. Chris Dorn
11:00 A.M. Fellowship and Refreshments
- 1/3 9:30 A.M. Quilters
- 1/4 10:30 A.M. Travelogue for Presbyterians on the Go
2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
- 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

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