

First Presbyterian Church
Service of Worship
Sunday, December 6, 2015
at 11 a.m.



THE CHURCH GATHERS . . .

PRELUDE

With the first notes of the organ, please silently prepare yourself for worship.

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND SHARING OF COMMUNITY LIFE

HYMN OF PREPARATION #9 (*Choir and Congregation*) Verse 2

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:

THE CANDLE OF PEACE

Susie Barber and Family

Family: We light this candle in hope. *Light the first candle*
We light this candle for peace. *Light the second candle*

Hear God’s promise of peace from Isaiah 11:1-10:

Reader 1: vs 1 – 5

Reader 2: vs 6 – 10

Family: Let us pray.

Family and Congregation:

Faithful God, you are at work to restore all of creation in its intended harmony. Give us your shalom that we may be reconciled to all enemies in the peace that passes all understanding through Christ Jesus our Lord. God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE #11**

“O Lord, How shall I meet you?”

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet you. We study the trends of our times and are suspicious of good news. We trust in things that pass away and forget your eternal promise. Forgive us, God of grace. Strengthen us, by your hand, so that we may be ready for that day when you come to reign in glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***PERSONAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION IN SILENCE**

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE AND GRATITUDE #579**

“The Gloria Patri”

TO HEAR AND REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD...

A TIME FOR OUR CHILDREN

Children ages 5 and under are excused to go downstairs following our Children's time.

ANTHEM

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Text: Frans Mikael Franzen

Music: Then Svenska Psalmbroken, arr. Jesse Benton

Prepare the way, O Zion; your Christ is drawing near!
Let ev’ry hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, fore told in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.

He brings God’s rule, O Zion; he comes from heav’n above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, peace, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Saviour’s rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in ev’ry place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 1:5-25

Pew Bible Page #831

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON

Rev. Emily Proctor

“How Not to Receive Good News”

TO RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD...

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION #327

“O Word of God Incarnate”

***AFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God
the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF SILENT PRAYER

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND SUPPLICATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

**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.**

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

***THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE #592**

“The Doxology”

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

TO GO OUT AND SERVE...

*** HYMN OF PROCLAMATION #15**

“Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers”

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE RESPONSE FOR CHOIR AND CONGREGATION #8, vs. 1 & 3**

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

***POSTLUDE**

***All who can do so comfortably will stand**

To Our Guests – Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of Marianna. We are happy to have you worship with us today. We invite you to join us each Sunday, as we worship and study God’s word. If you would like more information concerning our church, you may fill out one of the *Welcome* cards in the pews and place it on the offering plate, talk to the ushers or call the church office.

Nursery care is available for children Kindergarten and below during our Worship Service each Sunday morning. Children may be taken to the nursery before the service begins, or after the Time with Our Children.

The **Poinsettias** gracing our sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God. Poinsettias are still available for purchase should you want to give as a memorial or in honor of a loved one. The names of those donating the flowers will be listed in the bulletin at the end of December.

Our Prayer Calendar: Dr. Steve Stafford (requested by Barry Stafford), Janice Smith (requested by Hazel Nelson), Jeff Allen (requested by Hazel Nelson), Destry Burch and Fletcher Dunaway (requested by Mary Bevis Schmidt), Abby Reed (requested by Mary Wierman), George McMullin (requested by Nancy McMullin, Bob Ward and Michael Ward (requested by Mary Wierman), Kena Nelson (requested by Hazel Nelson), Marie Lanier (requested by Joy Lewis), Harold and Tammy Pumphrey (requested by Louise Pumphrey), Louise Pumphrey, Gina Stuart, Joy Gilbert, Daun Crews, Stanley Littleton, JoAnn Rountree.

Please remember Betty Joyce Hand and Family in the loss of her son-in-law, Michael Wayne “Mike” Travis. Continue to pray for the families of Ray Brendemuehl, and Ilene Culpepper.

Every Sunday morning there are **Educational Classes** for all age groups between 9:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. There are three classes for Adults. Next Sunday, December 13th, the Adults in the parlor will be studying: Acceptable Offerings, Leviticus 22:17 – 25, 31 – 33

Upstairs the Adult Class in Room 4 will be studying the lectionary scriptures.

The **Children’s Christmas pageant** is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9th at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary. **Children must meet at 5:30 p.m. to dress.** All are invited to attend and bring a friend. The Christian Education Committee will be providing Pizza and everyone is invited to bring their favorite salad or dessert to share after the pageant in the Fellowship Hall.

This week in the life of the church . .

- Today Bridal Shower honoring Hayden Creel, bride-elect of Joshua
 Blighton 2:00 – 3:30 in the Fellowship Hall
- Monday Ladies Exercise Class at 9:00 a.m.
 Circle 1 at the home of Alma Milton at 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday Bagging for the Food Pantry at 1:30 p.m.
- Wednesday Food Pantry open from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
 Choir Practice at 4:00 p.m.
 Children’s Christmas Pageant at 6:00 p.m.
- Friday Ladies Exercise Class at 9 a.m.
- Saturday Wildflower’s Annual Christmas Brunch at 10:00 a.m.
- Sunday Coffee, Juice and Fellowship at 9:30 a.m.
 Education Hour at 9:45 a.m.
 Choir Practice at 10:00 a.m.
 Worship at 11:00 a.m.
 Montreat Luncheon

Ruling Elder of the Month: LuAnne Law
Church Administrator: Kathleen Evans
Organist: Stanley Littleton
Custodian: Becky Strickland
Pantry Coordinator: Melissa Krebeck
Nursery Assistants: Tina Bigale and Carlee Wilson

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