

**To Our Guests:** 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 in the offering plate, talk to the ushers or call the church office at 850-526-2430. www.firstpresmarianna.org

**Nursery Care** is available for children Kindergarten and below during our Worship Service each Sunday morning.

**THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH**

**Today, December 18<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

- 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – Coffee, Juice and Fellowship
- 9:45 a.m. – Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service
- 12:00 p.m. – Montreat Luncheon
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party  
@Cole Payne's home

**Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:00 a.m. - Ladies Exercise Class
- 11:30 a.m.- Lunch Bunch @ Kitty Myers

**Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**

- 3:30 p.m.- Food Pantry Bagging

**Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**

- 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. –Food Pantry
- 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Girl Scouts
- 6:00 p.m. – First United Methodist Church  
“The Longest Night” Worship Service

**Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting

**Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**

- 9:00 a.m.-Ladies Exercise Class

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve**

- 6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion

**Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas**

- 9:45 a.m. –Adult Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 a.m. – Worship

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**“How Great Our Joy!”  
Christmas Cantata**

**Presented by  
First Presbyterian Church & First United Methodist Church  
Wesley Center**

**December 18, 2016 6:00 p.m.  
Reception Following In Wesley Center**

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**First Presbyterian Prays for: (new requests in bold!)**

- Gina Stuart**  
 Debbie Reed, Surgery on 12/16(requested by Mary Weirman)  
 Dustin Reidesel (requested by Betty Joyce Hand)  
 Joyce Ward (requested by Beth Westmoreland)  
 Barry Stafford  
 Mary Bevis Schmidt,  
 Julie Stadskev  
 Louise Pumphrey  
 Linda Bevis, (requested by Mary Bevis Schmidt),  
 Kathy Roberts,  
 Louise Daffin,  
 Gil Lowe,  
 Emmy Lou Brown Granger, (requested by Beverly Hinson)  
 Matt Goold, (requested by family)  
 Jackie Spivey,  
 Don Morris,  
 Savannah McCroan Merrifield  
 Shelley Fite (requested by Donna Moore, aunt)  
 Suzanne Payne in nursing home  
 Bobbie Harris (requested by Kathy Roberts)  
 Sybil Schmidt King (requested by Mary B. Schmidt)  
 Melanie Turner McCroan  
 Shelby Kandle (requested by family)  
 Gail Stearn (Guy Green's Sister)  
 Jeff Allen (requested by Hazel Nelson)  
 Destry Burch (requested by Mary B. Schmidt)  
 Bob Ward (requested by Mary Wierman)  
 Kena Nelson (requested by Hazel Nelson)  
 Marie Lanier (requested by Joy Lewis)

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Youth Christmas Party  
December 18th, 2016, 6:00 P.M.  
Cole Payne's Home  
3112 Watson Dr.  
Gift Exchange (\$10.00 Max)  
RSVP (for pizza count)

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**OPEN HOUSE AT  
THE WAMSLEYS  
4380 River Forest Rd  
Marianna, FL  
3 – 5 P.M.**

*You are invited to stop by the manse and enjoy a wonderful time of fellowship as we celebrate this Christmas season!*

First  
 Presbyterian  
 Church  
*of*  
 Marianna  
*Serving*  
**GOD**  
 with  
 Faith  
 Hope  
 Love  
 Since 1835

# Celebration of Worship

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

11:00 a.m.

## Gather - Assemble in God's Name

### Prelude

### The Chiming of the Hour

### Welcome and Sharing of Community Life

The Fourth Sunday of Advent **Cliff Lamb Family**

**Jack:** Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Love.

**Dante:** Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's perfect love in human form. Those who believe in him and live in him, live in love. Love transforms and perfects all things. It never ends.

**Margo:** We light this candle today to remind us that God is love. We thank God for hope he gives us, for the peace he bestows, for the joy he pours into our hearts, and for the love that redeems us and shows us the way.

### *Light the First, Second, Third and Fourth Candle*

**Cliff: ALL** Let us pray:

O God of Love, Emmanuel, send your light into our hearts at this time. Help us to be ready for the time of Christ's appearing. Grant that we may so dwell in him that his perfect love fills our entire being. Make our worship a time in which we celebrate your love and are made ready to show that love to the whole world – both today – and forevermore. Amen.

**\*Hymn of Praise** "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"  
Page #22, Hymnal

### **\*Prayer of Confession (In Unison)**

We confess, holy God, that sometimes we have not been entirely truthful.

Sometimes we have not been entirely honest.

Sometimes we have not been entirely loving.

Sometimes we have not been entirely humble.

Sometimes we have not been entirely patient.

(Continued)

And because of this, we are entirely dependent on your mercy and grace, which we seek through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **\*A time for Silent Confession**

### **\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

Friends believe the Good News of the Gospel!

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

### **\*The Response of Praise and Gratitude**

"Gloria"

(Chorus)

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

## Grow - Proclaim God's Word

### Children's Message

### Old Testament Lesson

Micah 5:2-5

*Pew Bible, Page #756*

### Choral Anthem

### *"To Touch His Tiny Hand"*

Gentle shepherds, tread now softly to the inn at Bethlehem, where a stable is a castle, and a star, a diadem.

Come with wonder and amazement, and with sheep and oxen

Stand, drawing near the holy cradle, to touch his tiny hand.

Al-le, al-le, al-le-lu-ia; Al-le, al-le, to touch his tiny hand.

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing;

Christ the babe is Lord of all, Christ the babe is

Lord of all. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping

vigil 'til the morning new saw the glory, heard the story,

tidings of a gospel true. Al-le, al-le, al-le-lu-ia; Al-le, al-le

to touch his tiny hand, to touch his tiny hand.

### New Testament Lesson

Matthew 1:18-24

*Pew Bible, Page #783*

**Message** "O, Little Town" John T. Wamsley

### **\*Statement of Christian Beliefs (In Unison)**

We affirm that Jesus was born of woman

as is every child, yet born of God's power

as was no other child.

In the person and work of Jesus, God himself and

a human life are united but not confused,

distinguished but not separated.

The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of

God's promised rule.

Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection,

he brings about the relationship between

God and humanity that God always intended.

**\*Hymn** "What Child Is This" Page #53,  
Hymnal

### **Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

("debts and debtors")

### Offertory

### **Doxology & Prayer of Dedication**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Page #9, Hymnal

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!

## Go - In God's Name

**\*Hymn** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" Page #37,  
Hymnal

### **\*Benediction and Congregational Response**

"Seek Ye First"

Page #333, Hymnal

\*Postlude

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**\*Those who are able, please stand.**

**\*\*Please silence cell phones.**