



Sunday December 24, 2024
Christmas Eve Service
First Presbyterian Church
101 - 6th Ave. NW
Kasson, MN

First Presbyterian Church Kasson, MN

Brian Rohrs, Pianist

December 24, 2024

Pastor Loren Olson

10:00 AM

We Approach God

Announcements

Prelude

***Call to Worship:**

L: For you who are filled to the brim with happiness,

P: Jesus Christ, the hope of the world, is born.

L: For you who are mourning the loss of family and friends,

P: Jesus Christ, the hope of the world, is born.

L: For you who feel like you are tripping about in darkness,

P: Jesus Christ, the hope of the world, is born.

L: For you who rest in gratitude and contentment,

P: Jesus Christ, the hope of the world, is born.

L: For you who feel the ache of loneliness,

P: Jesus Christ, the hope of the world, is born.

L: For you who are surrounded by unlikely yet beautiful companionship,

P: Jesus Christ, the hope of the world, is born.

L: Come, let us worship the birth of our Savior!

P: Come, let us worship God who came to dwell among us!

***Hymn No 133** *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Reader One: Beloved, today we welcome the Christ Child, the fulfillment of our joy, as we proclaim with the prophet Isaiah, “For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6).

Congregation: Christ our joy has come near. Emmanuel, God with us, has come to dwell with us as a tiny baby. “His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this” (Isaiah 9:7).

Reader Two: We light this candle as a sign of Christ coming to dwell with us, to live in the neighborhood of vulnerable humanity as a vulnerable child. May the light of Christ warm our hearts and light our way as we share the joy of God’s salvation wherever we go.

Light the center candle of the Advent wreath

***Hymn No 113** *“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

Christmas Litany

L: We have waited for a long time for your hope, your joy, your love to shine in the darkness of this world, Almighty God. Even now, in our gathering here, we await you. In our hearts, we still hope that your light will blaze forth, banishing the shadows of this world and guiding all the people back to you.

P: Yet you did not come into this world in a show of power and glory. You did not shine forth for all of creation to behold.

A tiny spark – a newborn baby, visible to parents and curious animals. A host of angels – away from the populated areas, singing to migrant workers. A sparkling star –guiding foreigners to see what neighbors could not.

L: Open our hearts, merciful God, to the sparks of your presence still in this world, that we might behold your presence in the least likely of places, and among the least likely of people.

P: God with us, kindle your spark within us, that together we may shine forth your light, we might banish the shadows of this world, we might be the continuation of the Christmas miracle: Emmanuel is in this world, God is with us, now and evermore.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7 Pg 780-781 OT

***Hymn No 143 v. 1,2** *“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*

EPISTLE LESSON Titus 2:11-14 Pg262 NT

***Hymn NO 143 V. 3,4** *“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:1-20 Pg 71 NT

MESSAGE “Presents or Presence” Pastor Loren Olson

***Hymn No 119** *“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

***Doxology No 606**

***Prayer of Dedication:**

Holy God, as we gather this evening, all our attention is focused on a baby, lying in a makeshift bed. It's not lost on us that you sent your Son into the world among the poorest of the poor and told us: "This will be a sign to you." As we present gifts to you, we pray that they might reach those in the greatest need, that they might lift those in the deepest despair, and that they might bring peace and compassion to those who find themselves amidst conflict. We pray this in the name of that Holy Child, Jesus the Christ, our Savior and Redeemer! Amen

Passing of the Light

As the lights are dimmed, Pastor Loren will take light from the Christ candle and pass it to the ushers who will carry the light from pew to pew. Please share the light with those around you by tipping the unlit candle toward the lit candle. You may extinguish your candle after the benediction. Ushers will collect them on your way out.

***Hymn No 122** "Silent Night"

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Don't forget to take your Poinsettia home following the Christmas Eve Service. Thank you for sharing them with us



Have a Very Merry Christmas!



Memorial Poinsettia Garden - 2024

The Wilke's	Morgan & Scott Borgstrom
Dan & Ann Driver	Parents
Bob & Karen Tracy	Family
Steve Springsted	Joan
Diane Krejci	Loved Ones
Jim Stucky	Bev & Parents
Peggy Engle/Sharon Law	Gordon & Polly Engle
Howard & Elaine Gransee	Loved Ones
Arnie & Mary Wilke	Loved Ones
Paul Pogalz	Parents
Conner Pogalz	Grandparents
Noreen Schwen	Loved Ones
Holtz Family	Loved Ones
Sue Alberts	Ron, parents
Loren & Mary Olson	Loved Ones

You can take your Poinsettia home following the Christmas Eve Service. Thank you for sharing them with us.