

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Worship Service
First Presbyterian Church of Monroe
December 24, 2017
10:00 p.m.

PRELUDE Music for Brasses

WELCOME Rev. Annemarie Kidder

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP Suzanne Bondie

Christ is born! Give him glory!
Christ has come down from heaven! Receive him!
Christ is now on earth! Exalt him!
**O earth, sing to the Lord! O you nations, praise him in joy,
for he has been glorified!**

*CAROL ★133 “O, Come, All Ye Faithful”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light
shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or
trusted good news to be good. We have distorted what is true,
undermined what is good, and sullied what is beautiful. By closing our
eyes and ears to the glorious incarnation in our midst, we have expected
little and hoped for even less. Forgive our doubt and renew our hope, so
that we may receive the fullness of your grace and live and lean into the
truth of Christ the Lord.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived
in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. For the Word became
flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. Through him we are
reconciled with God and our neighbor.
**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.
Alleluia! Amen.**

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CHOIR ANTHEM “Once as I Remember” Charles Wood

FIRST READING — Isaiah 9:2-7 OT p. 638
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CAROL ★121 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

SECOND READING — John 1:1-14 NT p. 91-92
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON “In the Beginning”

CAROL ★119 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
**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 at 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.**
-- Apostles’ Creed

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC “Nativity Carol” John Rutter

CAROL ★114 “Away in a Manger”

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE TABLE IS PREPARED
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
Therefore with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven,
we worship and adore your glorious name, praising you forevermore.
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.**
Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER
Let us pray for God’s rule on earth as he taught us:
**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin
against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
AMEN.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION ANTHEMS
“The Angel Gabriel” Lisa Stafford
“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” David Willcocks

COMMUNION PRAYER
Bless the Lord, oh my soul.
And all that is within me, bless His holy name.
Bless the Lord, oh my soul.
And forget not all of God's benefits to me.

*SHARING THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

*CAROL ★122 “Silent Night, Holy Night”
(See lyrics in back of bulletin)

POSTLUDE Music for Brasses

Brass Quartet: Jonathan Chaif and Joon Park – Trumpets
Zongxi Li and Michael Pashenee – Trombones
Ushers: George and Alice Kostoff; Marilyn Marshall; Randy Stiffler

Silent Night, Holy Night

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born!"

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born.

First Presbyterian Church
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Monroe, MI 48161
734-242-1545
www.monroefirst.org

Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of Monroe!

We are glad you chose to worship with us on this Holy Night. Worship is at the center of what we do and who we are in Christ. Our church is especially active in mission and outreach programs that serve the needy of our community. We provide child care during Sunday worship and offer Christian education opportunities for all ages. If you would like to know more about us and the programs we offer, please visit our website at www.monroefirst.org and find us on Facebook at First Presbyterian Church of Monroe.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Christmas Joy Offering

Tonight's Christmas Joy Offering is one of four offerings sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). It helps provide financial assistance to current and former church workers, missionaries and their families.
Thank you for your generosity!



Christmas Poinsettias

(Please feel free to take your plant home after this Worship Service tonight)

In Loving Memory Of

Presented by:

Dan and Pat Batista
Bob and Nancy Douglas
Mike and Wendy Gaynier
Jim and Sue Heisler
Lonnie Pepler-Moyer
Ron and Ruby Pope

Frank and Wilma Taylor
Dale and Arlene Douglas
Frank and Wilma Taylor
Our friend, Sheri Russo
Dr. Herbert S. Moyer
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Haynes
Mr. and Mrs. William Pope

Mark Baker
Barbara Pillarelli

Peggy Baker
Anthony Pillarelli
Seth and Dorothy Oliver
Elizabeth Maveal
Cyril DeSloover

Dale and Mary DeSloover

George and Jean Kostoff
Vernon and Harriett Dahl

George and Alice Kostoff

Howard Turnbull
Rev. William H. Findley

Arlene Turnbull
Winnie Findley

In Honor Of

Presented by:

Kate and Jonathan McCoppin
Elinor Upjohn
Alan and Helyn Schroeder

Fay McCoppin
Jim Upjohn
Alan Schroeder's family
Helyn Schroeder's family
Susan Barker
Charlotte Frary

Anonymous

Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder; **Director of Music Ministry:** Susan Barker;
Financial Secretary: Suzanne Bondie; **Administrative Assistant:** Sara Jones;
Sexton: Gary Bogedain; **Childcare:** Suzanne Bondie, Amy Morgan;
Custodian: Sean Farris

First Presbyterian Church of Monroe, Michigan

Christmas Eve Service



Sunday, December 24, 2017
10:00 P.M.