

OFFERTORY

\*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;**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

### BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN OF SENDING #188 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #178 "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel. God with us,  
revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.**

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Zachary Smith

**WELCOME VISITOR!** We are delighted that you are here to share worship of our Lord Jesus this morning together with the rest of us. We want you to be well informed about the Christian faith and about the church so don't be afraid to ask. You may communicate with us in several ways. Ask a neighbor in your pew, fill out a blue first-time visitor card, add your name to the Ritual of Friendship pad and by all means do not hesitate to contact our pastor. May God bless you this morning and throughout the week.

Rev. Susan Bennett, Pastor  
Stephanie Dunn, Youth Director  
Ward Gailey, Music Director  
Zachary Smith, Musician

Linda Hodges, Office Manager  
Tom Francis, Custodian  
Nursery Attendants: Stephanie Phillips, Megan Bennett

# Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 21, 2014  
11:00 a.m.**



*The angel said, "And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."*

*Luke 1:31-33*

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices.)

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

### OPENING VOLUNTARY

Acolyte: Lorren Huggins

### PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Darin Clipper

**Please use this time for silent meditation and preparation for worship. Prayer cards are in the pew rack in front of you. Please place in the offering plate for inclusion in the morning prayers and addition to our church's prayer list.**

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

\*Those who are able, please stand.

#### \*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT "O Come, Let Us Adore Him"

**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 89)

Liturgist: Linda Roberts

Leader: We will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;

**All: We will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**

Leader: We declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

**All: Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

**All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!**

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE #185 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Bob & Cindy Strong & Family

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Gracious God, forgive us when we choose darkness over light. Forgive us when we allow ourselves to live in the shadows, away from your warmth and life. Remind us that there is joy all around us and within us, through your Spirit. Help us to receive all the joy you have to give. Please hear us as we continue our confession in silence ...**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Ephesians 1:7-8a)

Leader: In Jesus Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. Friends, rejoice again at God's amazing grace:

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.**

### \*GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

## PROCLAIMING AND ENACTING THE WORD

#### \*HYMN OF CONSECRATION #180 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

INTERLUDE Minuet 1 from J.S Bach

Monica Andrea Coutin-Baxter

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Aaron Roberts

ANTHEM "Sing We Now of Christmas"

SSAS

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Page 268, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING Luke 1:26-38

Page 53, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "God's Truth Through the Generations"

Rev. Susan Bennett

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

#### \*AFFIRMATION 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.**

### MINISTRY OF GIVING