

MINISTRY OF GIVING

OFFERTORY

Zachary Smith

*DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**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.**

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 #189 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

*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: Stephanie Phillips & Megan Bennett

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

**December 28, 2014
11:00 a.m.**



*Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and
when the parents brought in the child Jesus ... Simeon took
him in his arms and praised God.
Luke 2:27a-28*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices during this hour of worship.
Otherwise, Susan will turn into her evil twin and give you The Look.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Acolyte: Elora Newsome

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Tony Williams

Please use this time for silent meditation and preparation for worship. Prayer cards are in the pew rack in front of you for submission to church 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 148)

Liturgist: Adam Dunn

Leader: Praise the Lord!

All: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

Leader: Let us praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above heaven and earth.

All: He has raised up a Savior for his people!

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #161 "People, Look East"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, the light may be shining brightly, but we still often see only the darkness. Forgive us for our lack of trust in you, for our times of disbelief or resentment, for the moments when we forget that you are truly our Father and our God. Help us, Lord, to open our eyes and our hearts so that we are filled with your light, and the darkness has no choice but to flee. Please hear us now as we continue our confession in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Romans 5:1-2)

Leader: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand. Friends, give thanks again for the great good news of the kingdom of God:

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 #203 "Away in a Manger"

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Stephanie Dunn

(Children will be dismissed to Children's Worship following the anthem.)

ANTHEM "Adam Lay Y' Bounden" (Old English) Peter Warlock

Adam Dunn

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Page 650, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Luke 2:22-40

Page 55 Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "God's Truth as a Gift"

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.