

MINISTRY OF GIVING

OFFERTORY

*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 #179 "Joy to the World!"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #182 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (verse 3)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given: Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY



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
Dorothy Clark, Organist
Tom Francis, Custodian Emeritus

Ward Gailey, Music Director
Linda Hodges, Office Manager
Nursery: Suzie Wharton

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

December 31, 2017

11:00 a.m.



*At that moment Anna came,
and began to praise God
and to speak about the child to all who were
looking for the redemption of Israel.*

Luke 2:38

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices during this hour of worship.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Aaron Roberts

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 #182 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (verse 1)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the King of angels;

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: Aaron Roberts

Leader: Let us praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;

All: His glory is above earth and heaven.

Leader: Praise the Lord from the heavens;

All: Praise him from the heights!

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship the Lord!

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive us for the times when our love for you grows cold. We forget you, neglect you, sometimes avoid you altogether. Help us to find again that first love of joy and adoration that filled Anna and Simeon on that blessed day, as they saw their Savior for the first time. Please hear us now as we continue our confession in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Galatians 1:3b-4)

Leader: The Lord Jesus Christ gave himself for our sins to set us free from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father. Friends, rejoice again in God's great love for us:

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 #189 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Stephanie Dunn

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

ANTHEM "Mary, Did You Know"

Monica Andrea and Marie Anne Coutin-Baxter

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 "Perhaps Today!"

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.