

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

January 1, 2012
11:00 am

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION



*"For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."
Luke 2:30b-32*

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 our thanks and praise.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

When passing the bread to your neighbor say, "The body of Christ, broken for you."

When passing the cup to your neighbor say, "The blood of Christ, shed for you."

We will hold each element until all are served and then partake together.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

**HYMN OF SENDING # 189 "Angels, From The Realms of Glory"*

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Go Forth for God"*

Go forth for God, go to the world in peace; be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,

In God's good Spirit daily to increase, till in the kingdom we see face to face.

Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY*

David E. Dillard



Happy New Year!

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 our Christian faith and about our 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
David E. Dillard, Music Director
Stephanie Dunn, Youth Director
Mary Thompson, Christian Ed Coordinator

Levena Hemmle, Office Manager
Tom Francis, Custodian
Nursery Attendants: Stephanie Phillips, Megan Bennett,
Charlotte Culpepper

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Acolyte: Elle Roberts

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Doug Richardson

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.*

*OPENING INTROIT “This Is A Day of New Beginnings”

***This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on,
Time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that’s gone.***

***In faith we’ll gather round the table to taste and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.***

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 148)

Liturgist: Allison Johnson

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

All: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!

Leader: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

All: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted!

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 233 “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive our blind eyes, and our ears that refuse to hear. Forgive us when we ignore your presence even though you are all around us. Open our hearts to your truth and your grace. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Romans 5)

Leader: Scripture tells us we are justified by faith, and we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand. Friends, rejoice again in God's great good news:

People: 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 # 190 “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

CHILDREN’S SERMON

David E. Dillard

(Children are invited downstairs for Children’s Worship at the conclusion of the anthem.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Isaiah 61:10—62:3

Page 650, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Luke 2:22-40

Page 55, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Looking For The Lord”

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

*DOXOLOGY

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost;
O praise Him, O praise Him; Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE