

MINISTRY OF GIVING

*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.*

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 # 552 "We All Are One in Mission"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Meekness and Majesty"

*Meekness and majesty, human and deity, in perfect harmony, the One who is God.
Lord of eternity, dwells in humanity; kneels in humility and washes our feet.
O what a mystery, meekness and majesty; bow down and worship, for this is your God.*

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Cary Castellaw



This year, Stockbridge Presbyterian Church commissioned original Advent drawings from local artist, Collin Roberts. Please enjoy this special artwork as a gift.

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
Cary Castellaw, Interim Director of Music Ministries
Stephanie Dunn, Youth Director
Mary Thompson, Christian Ed Coordinator

Levena Hemmle, Office Manager
Tom Francis, Custodian
Nursery Attendants: Stephanie Phillips and Abigail Jenkins

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2012
11:00 am



Collin Roberts
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*The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight!"
Luke 3:4b*

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: Peyton Lewis

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Cooper Keller

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 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

***O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Charles & Edna Fisher

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Luke 1:68-79)

Liturgist: Jeffrey Cochran

Leader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

All: He has raised up a mighty Savior for us in the house of his servant David.

Leader: Thus God has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant.

All: John will be called the prophet of the Most High, and will go before the Lord to prepare his ways.

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #56 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive us when we don't listen. Forgive us when your voice is lost among all the other voices of the world, and we don't hear your love and guidance. Forgive us also when we don't speak, when we feel your Spirit lead us but we ignore your command and turn away from someone who needs you. Help us to keep our hearts and minds open to you, hearing and speaking as you lead. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Romans 5:1b-2a)

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, rejoice again in God's amazing grace:

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 #561 “Christ for the World! We Sing”

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Aaron Roberts

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

ANTHEM “Blessed Be the God of Israel” by Hal Hopson

Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Malachi 3:1-4

Page 838, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Luke 3:1-6

Page 56, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “The Promise of a Messenger”

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.