

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 # 218 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

*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 Music Director
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

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2012

11:00 am



Collin Roberts
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"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb ... And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Luke 1:42b, 45

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: Collin Roberts

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Jason Howard

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, Desire of nations, bind all people in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven’s peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Kaitlyn, Sydney & Noah Clipper

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 145)

Liturgist: Aaron Roberts

Leader: We will extol you, our God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

All: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; your greatness is unsearchable.

Leader: We will speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power.

**All: We will make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious
splendor of your kingdom.**

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #184 “What Child Is This”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive us our relentless pride. Forgive us when we criticize others, judge others, or exalt ourselves above even you. Help us to be your humble and grateful children, receiving your love and care, and loving others as you love us. Please hear us now as we continue our confession in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (1John 1:9)

Leader: When we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Friends, rejoice again in our Lord and Savior:

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 #203 “Away in a Manger”

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Carolyn Francis

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

ANTHEM “While By My Sheep” by Hugo Jungst

Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Micah 5:2-5a

Page 815, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Luke 1:39-55

Page 53, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “The Promise of a Child”

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.