

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* # 355 "This Is a Day of New Beginnings"

**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

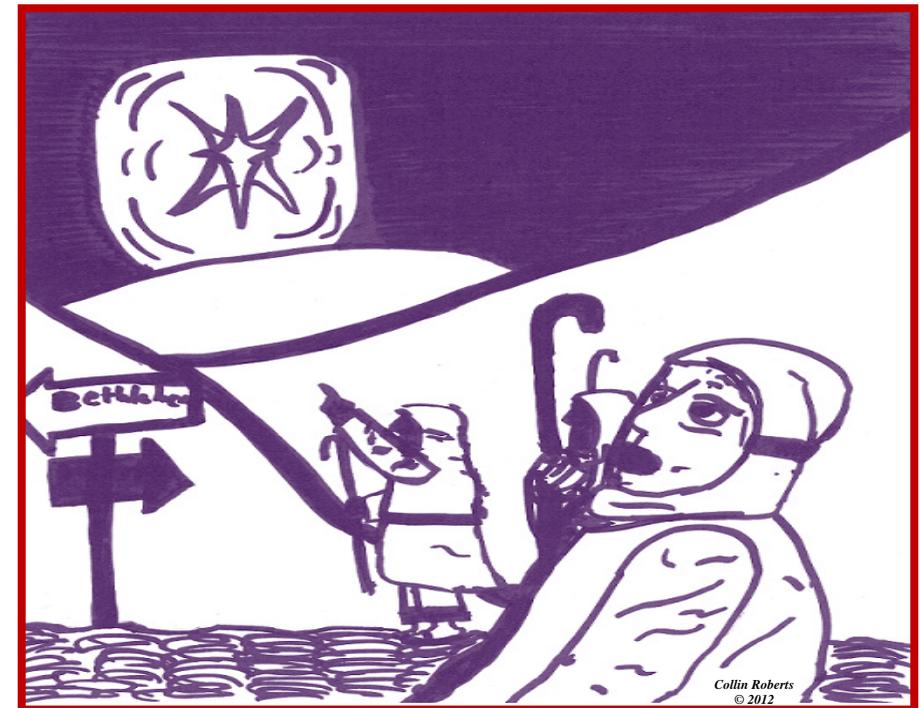
Levena Hemmle, Office Manager
Tom Francis, Custodian
Nursery Attendants: Stephanie Phillips and Abigail Jenkins

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

1st Sunday After Christmas

December 30, 2012

11:00 am



*Sing to the Lord a new song; play skillfully on the strings,
with loud shouts!*

Psalm 33:3

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: Cydnee Keller

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Sherry McGee

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 Wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh;

To us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 33)

Liturgist: Allison Johnson

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

All: Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

Leader: For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

All: He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #287 “Lift High the Cross”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, we praise you for your amazing grace. Forgive us when we grow complacent, when we take you for granted, when we forget to say "thank you". Forgive us when we doubt you or distrust you. Remind us that when we sin, you welcome us back the moment we repent, and offer us a clean slate and a fresh start. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from 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, let us give thanks for the mercy of God:

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 #496 “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Sue Scheer

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

ANTHEM

Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Psalm 33

Page 480, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING John 1:1-14

Page 86, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “The Promise of a New Beginning”

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

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.