

First Presbyterian Church
Lake Park, Iowa
www.fpclakepark.org
10:30am

December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Musical Prelude

Announcements --- Christmas Joy Offering

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader/ On Each Sunday of Advent we will light one more candle, a sign of anticipation and hope in a world often full of sorrow and shadows. When all four candles are lit at the end of Advent we will then be ready to begin the Feast of Light—Christmas. May we learn to wait and understand, filled with hope instead of greed, filled with the Light of the World Jesus instead of the darkness of sin. Come Lord Jesus!

L/ Come Let us worship Christ, the one true Light!

Reader/ We light the fourth candle to show that it is God's glory that gives meaning and Light to our lives. We know as Paul taught, "Once we lived in shadow, but now in the Lord we are light! Live then as children of the Light, enjoying what is good and right and true. Please the Lord and seek God's will. Awaken now o Sleeper, Rise from the darkness of death and sin and the Risen Christ will shine on you!" (Ephesians 5: 8-14, abridged)

All four candles are lit

Hymn of Lighting-see insert-Light One Candle for Messiah-verse 4

Exchange of Peace

L/ Let us see the Light of Christ in each other. Share with each other the sign of peace.

Prayer of Confession

All/ Jesus you are coming and we are not ready. We have been so busy getting our things ready and celebrating in our way that we have forgotten to trim our lamps and keep enough oil, to slow

down and prepare our hearts for you. Forgive us in our being caught up in the busyness and impatience of the world. Forgive us for having false cheer in ourselves and our possessions instead of looking to you for all our joy. Forgive us for claiming our own peace and agendas instead of resting with hope and trust in you. Come now, O Jesus, and fill our hearts with true joy. Turn our attention to YOU alone! Come, Lord Jesus!

Hymn -- # 259 Angels From the Realms of Glory (verses 1 and 4 only)

Children's Chat

Special Music

Reading of Scripture

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 11: 1-11a *page 1077

Canticle: # 196 O Come Let Us Adore Him (all verses)

New Testament Lessons: Luke 1: 68-79 *page 1590

Sermon

Offertory;

Doxology

#815

Joys and Concerns

Lord's Prayer (using Debts)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (from our Reformed Tradition)

L/ Gracious God, we thank you for the coming of Jesus so long ago in Bethlehem. We thank you that his life and death showed us the depth of your love. We thank you that his rising showed the power of your Spirit to reconcile us to you.

C/ As we move to celebrate Christmas, make our homes bright with the joy of your presence and our churches alive with songs of praise for your coming! Give us faces that shine with your light that all may see your glory in love long after the world has turned its sights elsewhere! (Blair Gilmer Meeks, devotional writer, 2005)

Sending Hymn: #278 Angels We Have Heard on High

Ministry Leaders

Deacons: Jim Kessler & Terry Wiese

Greeters: Harmon Family

Candle Lighter: Jeanie Hawn

Worship Music: Denise Lev

Pastor: Rev. Tim Harmon

All members are ministers of Jesus Christ

Attendance 12/17/17: 47

Offering 12/17/17: \$1,299.10

Reminder— there are 68 unpaid per capitas- \$33 for 2017

Commercial (Manse) Loan Balance: \$11,179.64

Furnace Loan: \$10,368.51

-HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Chandler Brons TOMORROW, and to Jan Sangl and Randy Wiese on December 27th, and to Kurtis Louscher on December 28th, and to Kristi Delaney on December 29th.

-Today we will be collecting the Christmas Joy Offering. These gifts we give help church workers and their families to receive critical financial assistance in their time of need. They also help students at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges to have the opportunities to learn, to nurture, and to grow in their faith.

-Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is this evening at 6:30 p.m.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE
From First Presbyterian Church of Lake Park
Session and Staff

-DEADLINE for January 2018 Newsletter items is Tuesday, December 26th.

-Nominating Team still searches for a Worship Team Member.
-Remember - If you would like to receive a text message alert when there is a weather-related cancellation of Sunday morning worship service, please call Lynette in the church office.

-Dave Ramsey Financial Peace Classes are coming starting in January on Tuesday nights at the Sibley United Methodist Church. The first class will start on Tuesday January 9th at 7p with classed being about an hour long. It is a nine (9) week course with babysitting available. The cost is \$110 per couple. You can contact Amy Strouth with questions 712-348-4091 by calling or texting. Flyers on the classed will be posted soon so keep watch in your bulletins.

-Friday morning Bible Study continues every Friday at 10 a.m. We are studying the book of Luke. Everyone is welcome.

