

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

December 2, 2018

1st Sunday of Advent

Musical Prelude

Announcements

Lighting of the Wreath

L/ Today we trust in God, we celebrate the gift of Faith!
Voice/ The prophet called out, “surely the days are coming when I will fulfill the promise I made to the houses of Israel and Judah.”
(Jeremiah 33:14) Let us have faith and trust the promises!

C/ Let us know your ways O Lord and trust your hand to guide us on the path. Teach us truth and let us have faith in you all he day long. (Psalm 25: 4-5)

Light one purple candle
Faith ornaments brought forth

Passing of the peace

Hymn of Praise: # 581 ‘Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Opening Prayer

L/ Come to us, Lord Jesus. As Advent has now begun, full of expectations and hope, help us to trust the ways your promise is being fulfilled. Fill us with faith and guide our lives in your ways. Use our time of waiting and slowing down to help us know you better, O Christ, and to re-connect us to your saving love.

C/ Come Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

Children’s Chat

Special Music – CHOIR – “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

PC(USA) calls on churches to help worshipers enter a time of yearning

By Paul Seebeck | Presbyterian News Service

LOUISVILLE — The season of Advent, which begins on Sunday, Dec. 2, is often misunderstood. Before Thanksgiving is even finished, people are inundated with the sights and sounds of Christmas. Within this consumer culture, it’s easy to confuse the season of Advent with the number of shopping days until December 25.

“In Christian tradition, Advent challenges us to think about time in a much deeper way,” said the Rev. Dr. David Gambrell, in the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) “Advent asks us: What are we really waiting and hoping for? How long will evil, injustice and violence continue? What is God doing in the world? How can we in the church prepare for the coming of God’s righteousness, justice and peace?”

Gambrell says Advent has a double focus which “reorients us to the radical hope of the gospel.” The season begins with the church crying out with prophets and apostles, praying for God’s holy realm to come quickly. As the days of Advent draw to a close, the church rejoices with the gospel writers, celebrating the one who has already come into the world to save us. “Jesus Christ has come to transform the world — and is coming again to complete the work of God’s new creation,” he says. “So, we begin the Christian year by looking ahead to the end of the story, the time when God will wipe away every tear.”

For the Rev. Dr. Kimberly Bracken Long, editor of Presbyterian Mission Agency’s Call to Worship, this is the hope on which Christians stake their lives. “While many in the church are familiar with the idea of Advent as a season of waiting, counting the days until we celebrate the birth of Jesus,” she explains, “there is a much deeper waiting and deeper yearning — of watching in expectation for Christ to come again.” “God’s justice is coming,” says Long, “and with it, God’s peace.”

-Our next Mobile Food Pantry will be this Thursday, December 6th from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. We need volunteers at 12:00 pm to unload truck, and at 4:30 pm to help with packing and carrying.

-We are still waiting for a few End-of-Year Team Reports and would appreciate it very much if they could be turned in very soon.

-Everyone is welcome to attend “Christmas in Lake Park” next Sunday, December 9th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Lake Park Community Center. There will be a Lunch (free will donation), Bake Sale, Silent Auction, and a Wreath/Centerpiece Contest. Tour of Homes will be from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. There is a flier in the entryway with complete information.-“Shine The Lights for Christmas” is the Christmas Lighting Contest for Residence and Business, and deadline for registration with the Lake Park Utility Office is December 10th. The judging will be on December 15th. The flier in the entryway has detailed information.

-The Presbyterian Women of Spirit Lake invite the women of our church to attend their Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 13th at 12:30 p.m. The program will feature Iowa Lakes Community College Handbell Choir.

-Please call or write to Lynette in the Church Office with your directory updates **BY December 31st**.

-Our current Schwan’s Cares fundraiser goes through January 27th.

-Commercial Loan Balance \$11,855.67

-Everyone can experience job stress, family conflicts, or mental health issues. When life gets too challenging, trained counselors through NW IA Care Connections are here for YOU. Their 24/7 phone number is: 844-345-4569.

-Friday morning **Bible Study** continues every Friday at 10:00 a.m. We are studying the book of Acts. Everyone is welcome.

Worry ends when
FAITH IN GOD
— Begins —

Reading of Scripture

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 33: 10-16 **page 1232*

Canticle: # 251 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

New Testament Lesson: Luke 21: 25-36 **page 1636*

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles’ Creed (180 AD—Book of Confessions 2.1 – 2.3)

All/ 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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there Jesus will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory;	Doxology	#815
Prayer of Dedication	Deacons	

Joys and Concerns

Sacrament of the Lord’s Table (nBCW 172)

Words of institution: 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

Invitation

L/ The Lord be with You	C/ And also with you
L/ Lift your Hearts	C/ We lift them to God
L/ Let us give thanks to God	C/ Praise Father, Son, and Spirit

L/ How can we thank you O God? For sun and moon and stars...with saints, with angels, and with the whole creation, we join the ancient and eternal hymn:

C/ Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

L/ We give you thanks, Holy God, for Jesus, who came to be your Living Word... with thanks and praise we offer ourselves to you, sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ's dying and rising, and praying Come, Lord Jesus!

C/ We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory. Come Lord Jesus!

L/ Pour out your Spirit upon us your people and on this bread and cup...Even now, with all your hosts of angels and all your saints of every time and place, makes us a voice crying out in the wilderness—"Prepare the way of the Lord!"

C/ Through Him, with Him, in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is Yours, Almighty Father, forever and ever. Amen!

Lord's Prayer (using Debts)

Communion of the People

Please sing Come to the Table of Grace found in the inside cover of the blue Presbyterian Hymnals. (Grace, peace, love, hope, joy)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (from our Reformed Heritage)

L/ We thank you Faithful and True God. Your promises stand unshaken through all generations. Renew us in faith that we may be awake and alert as we await the coming of Christ again.

C/ Keep us faithful to your ways and guide us in the world that we might show your love and grace to those we meet. Fill us with trust in your Word that we might nurture that faith in others. And Bind us together in your Spirit. (PCUSA, 2018, Book of Common Worship)

Benediction

Sending Hymn: # 410 Standing on the Promises (verses 1 and 2 only)

Ministry Leaders

Deacons: Terry Wiese and Jim Kessler

Greeters: Jean Delaney & Lesleigh Wiese

Worship Music: Marian Tuinstra

Pastor: Rev. Tim Harmon

All members are ministers of Jesus Christ +

Attendance 11/25/18: 43

Offering 11/25/18: \$1,006.19

There are 59 paid per capitas: \$37 for 2018

-HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Kedric Wunder on December 5th, and to Ann McClain on December 7th.

-**Sunday School** meets at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday. Children of all ages are welcome!

-To our Church Family - THANK YOU for the expressions of sympathy, and SPECIAL THANKS to the Presbyterian Women, at the time of Marv's passing and the funeral service.

- The Family of Marv Jungjohan

-The Messiah performance will be TONIGHT at 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Spencer.

-We are looking for families or groups to light the ADVENT CANDLES for us the last two Sundays of December. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway.

-Remember your Advent Decorations, the little rectangles to put on the Chrismon symbols on our Christmas tree. Let us be even more mindful this season of our Faith, Hope, Love, Peace, and Joy.

There are extra sheets at the Deacons table if you do not have one.

-Bits & Pieces will meet this Wednesday, December 5th at 9:30 a.m.

-Please bring in postage stamps (that you receive on your mail) for the Bits & Pieces Mission Project. This helps them continue this helpful and wonderful work!

-**Our First Presbyterian Church Choir** practices every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Come sing with us!

