

First Presbyterian Church - Lake Park, Iowa

www.fpclakepark.org

Worship Service 10:30 am

Dec. 11, 2022 - Third Sunday of Advent

Musical Prelude – Time to prepare your heart for Worship

Announcements

Lighting of Advent Candle and Advent Prayer:

L: Today we look to living in God, we celebrate the gift of Love! The Lord takes great delight in you O Zion, God will bring rest and quiet with His Love! (Zephaniah 3:17)

C: **This is how God shows His love: God sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him!** (1 John 4:9)

(Light 2 purple candles and the pink candle)

All: Heavenly Father, we rejoice that we can come into Your house today and worship You with those who love You, too.

Thank You for inspiring and leading Your people to establish Your house here in this place.

We pray that all who worship here might experience Your love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness.

We pray for Your people all the world over, and we pray that they might prosper along with us as we serve You and others.

May everyone who trusts in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior find and experience peace with God, others, and themselves. Amen.

Call to Worship: Psalm 100 Page #937 *(read responsively, stand if able)*

Hymn of Praise: "Joy to the World" #270 *(remain standing)*

Call to Confession: *(remain standing if able)*

We praise you, O God, for being not only the God of history but the God of our story. You have gathered us here today to remind us that although you are the one to whom all power belongs, yet you care for the weak and powerless. You care for us.

We praise you for joining your story to ours in such a special way through Jesus, our Lord. He proved his great love for you and

GOING TO BE ALONE ON CHRISTMAS? FAMILY UNABLE TO COME HOME?

WE WOULD LOVE TO COOK FOR YOU!

*JOIN US FOR **CHRISTMAS DINNER** AT THE LAKE PARK UMC*

FELLOWSHIP HALL ON DEC. 25TH SERVING 11:30 - 1:00

HOSTED BY GARY & JUDY TABER, MATT & LISA CARSTENSEN, AND EMMA

LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING SO WE KNOW HOW MUCH TO PREPARE.

JUDY 712-330-3831, GARY 712-260-1318

MATT 712-346-8312 OR LISA 712-330-0967

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



The Legend of the Christmas Candy Cane



A candymaker once wanted to make a candy that would be a witness, so he made the Christmas Candy Cane.

He incorporated several symbols from the birth, ministry, and death of Jesus Christ.

He began with a stick of pure white, hard candy. White to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus, and hard to symbolize the Solid Rock, the foundation of the Church, and firmness of the promises of God.

The candymaker made the candy in the form of a "J" to represent the precious name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Savior.

It could also represent the staff of the "Good Shepherd" with which He reaches down into the ditches of the world to lift out the fallen lambs who, like all sheep, have gone astray.

Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the candymaker stained it with red stripes.

He used three small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received by which we are healed.

The large red stripe was for the blood shed by Christ on the cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life.

Sermon: "God's Promise"

Affirmation of Faith: "Cries of Joy" # 136 (*read responsively*)

Offertory: Doxology # 815

Prayer for Tithes and Offering

Prayers: Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Thanksgiving: "Praise and Magnify the Lord" # 135 (*read responsively*)

Benediction

Closing Hymn: "Angels from the Realms of Glory" # 259 (*stand if able*)

MINISTRY LEADERS

Worship Music: Denise Lev **Worship Leader:** Al Grigg
+ All members are ministers of Jesus Christ +

12/4/22 - Attendance: 20

Regular Offering: \$2070 *Turkey Dinner (Total):* \$1175

***Reminder: Per Capita for 2022 - \$43.00; Per Capita 2022 Pd: 23**



From our Presbytery: Pray for the Presbytery Staff:
Rev Dr. Annika Lister Stroope, Administrative Executive,
and State Clerk; RE Amgad Beblawi, Mission Executive;
Rev Ian McMullen, Pastor to the Presbyteries; Jeannie Stolee,
Office Manager; Karen Kaiser, Treasurer

If you have Pastoral Needs, please call the
Church Office 712-832-3401

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 8:00 – 11:00 am
For urgent matters outside of office hours contact
Church Secretary Marcy Troendle (712) 320-3508



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **Mon Dec 12:** Harris Lake Park High School
High School Art Show – 6:30 to 8:30
Middle School Winter Concert – 6:30
High School Winter Concert – 7:30
- **Tue Dec. 13: Session Meeting** 6:30 pm
- **Wed Dec. 14: PW Meeting** 2:00 pm
- **Sun Dec. 18: 4th Sunday of Advent**
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am Worship Leaders-Donna & Robby Flint
- **Sun Dec. 18: Christmas Joy Offering** at 10:30 Service
- **Thu Dec. 22: Newsletter deadline** 11:00 am
- **Sat Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Scripture and Song Service**
Plans are still being made – watch for further details and time
- **Sun Dec. 25: Communion Sunday and Christmas Sunday**
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am Worship Leader – Rev Mark Volkers
Communion Setup: Marcia Schumacher, Assistant: Ken Byers
- **Sun Dec. 25: Christmas Dinner** Lake Park United Methodist
Church Fellowship Hall serving 11:30 – 1:00 *details on back page*

Birthdays to Remember this week

Terry Wiese – December 13th
Alex Crooks – December 17th
Donna Stoltenberg – December 18th

ATTENTION:

Christmas Joy Offering:

Every generous act of giving...is from above. – James 1:17
Sunday, December 18th is our final Special Offering for 2022. The Christmas Joy Offering supports our Church Leaders – past, present, and future! Your gifts here will reflect our generous God by supporting these leaders sharing God's Word about our precious gift from above. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot! The offering envelope is in today's bulletin. Return it next Sunday, and please give generously.

Advent Wreath Lighters:

December 11 – Jeanie Hawn
December 18 – AVAILABLE – Please see sign-up sheet in Narthex
December 25 – Jim & Marilyn Kessler

Thank You to those involved in decorating our Church for Christmas!

Poinsettias – The poinsettias adorning our sanctuary are from:

Kurt & Bonnie Anderson – in Memory of Loved Ones

Betty McClure – in Bud's Memory

Terry Wiese – in Memory of Wayne Wiese

Lesleigh Wiese – in Memory of Dennis Wiese, Glenn & Ardith Ehret

Dick & Loretta McClain – for God's Blessing to All

Ken & Marvel Byers – in Memory of our parents and Brian Byers

There is still a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for Red or White poinsettias in 6" pot with bow and foil wrap available for \$20.00 each for the 2022 season. Write in your name, color choice, and message.

December Food Bank: Our monthly community Food Bank in December served 61 families, with a total of 110 people. Serving others; being the hands and feet of Jesus: this is why we are here!

Annual Turkey Dinner – Donations for this year's fundraiser totaled \$1175.00 for our church. If you are still thinking of donating please contact our church office or send your donation to Ann McClain at PO Box 65 in Lake Park, or drop it off at United Community Bank.

Walkers Welcome – The church is available for walking weekly Tues thru Fri from 8:00 – 10:00 AM thru March. The Fireside room can be used for breaks, cool down, or fellowship. Any weather-related schedule changes will be relayed by way of a call chain.

Sunday Quote to Ponder:

In the hustle and the bustle of the holiday season upon us there are: Decorations, lights, carols, baking, buying, wrapping, school concerts, church programs, pictures with Santa, family travels, meals to prepare, holiday gatherings, leaving cookies and milk, and so much more, but.....In all of this, please don't forget:

Jesus is the Reason for the Season!



for each person in the way he lived—releasing what was captive, lifting up the burdened, empowering the powerless.

**God, source of lovingkindness and strength, we worship you.
Jesus, foundation of our faith, we worship you.
Holy Spirit, ground of our very being, we worship you. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession: *(remain standing if able)*

L: Let us pray for the Spirit of Wisdom to rest upon us a spirit of understanding and knowledge. Grant us to live in harmony

C: God's mercy prevail

L: Let us pray for God's steadfastness to gird our spirit may peace prevail like lamb and wolf. Grant us to live in harmony

C: God's mercy prevail

L: Let us pray, for voices crying out in the wilderness women living in fear, children hiding. Grant all a place of harmony

C: God's mercy prevail

L: Let us pray, repent of harm done to the innocent clear the chaff of abuse and hurt. Bear the Spirit of harmony

C: God's mercy prevail

L: Let us pray for the God of hope, joy and peace to fill all hearts, one voice glorify. God, prepare the way

C: God's mercy prevail. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 146:1-10 Page # 980-981 *(read responsively)*

Gloria Patri # 812

Special Music

Prayer of Illumination: "See His Glory" # 134 *(read responsively)*

Reading of Scriptures:

New Testament: James 5: 7-10 Page # 1885

Old Testament: Isaiah 35: 1-10 Page # 1111-1112

Hymn: "Rejoice The Lord Is King" # 370 *(stand if able)*

Gospel Lesson:

Matthew 11: 2-11 Page 1512-1513 *(remain standing if able)*