

First Presbyterian Church - Lake Park, Iowa

www.fpclakepark.org

Worship Service 10:30 am

Dec. 25, 2022 - First Sunday of Christmas

Musical Prelude – Time to prepare your heart for Worship

Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle: Jim & Marilyn Kessler

L: We welcome the light and peace of Christ among us as we gather in His service. Let us receive the presence of the Holy Spirit and allow that power to guide our work this day. As we light the Christ Candle, let us remember:

C: Light is a gift from God, a gift to be shared

Call to Worship (read responsively)

(from Psalm 121)

L: From where does our help come?

C: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

L: Who keeps us in our going out and our coming in?

C: The Lord is our keeper.

L: Who is with us always?

C: The Lord Jesus Christ is with us and for us in all things.

Hymn of Praise: "That Beautiful Name" #266 (remain standing)

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

Prayer of Confession (Unison, remain standing if able)

Holy God, we so often place our trust in the things we can see, and touch, and easily believe. But you did not ask us to believe what is easy, you have asked us to believe what is true! Forgive us, Holy One, when we doubt the ways you work. Forgive us when we find it hard to believe an ancient story. Forgive us when we question how you chose to enter the world, Born as one of us. Forgive our lack of faith and belief in ways Which seem so impossible to believe. Help us to look in faith,

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 to All

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

Jeanie Hawn – in Memory of my parents and brother

The Legend of the Poinsettia

**Outside the lowly manger where
Slept the new-born King
Stood a sad and lonely child
Who had no gift to bring.**

**An angel hovered o'er her and
In that star-bright night
Made a lovely pathway of flowers
Green, red, and white.**

**With joyous heart she gathered them
And brought them to the child
And lo! A radiance touched her when
The Holy Baby smiled!**

Sunday thought to Ponder

A thousand times in history a baby has become a king,

But only *ONCE* in history

Did a *KING* become a *BABY*

L: Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, on your people gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. By your Spirit make us one body in Christ, one in mission and ministry to the world. Nourish us in faith, hope, and love, and strengthen us for service, until we feast with you in glory.

Prayer after Communion (unison)

ALL: All praise and honor and glory are yours, Father, Son, and Spirit, One God, now and forever. (take a breath) Amen.

End of Communion

Affirmation of Faith: (Unison) The Apostle's 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. (Take a breath) Amen.

Offertory: Doxology #815

Prayer for Tithes and Offering (Leader)

Accept these gifts we offer, Lord, and use them to further your work here on earth, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior

All: Amen

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

Prayers of Thanksgiving (read responsively)

Leader: For the faithfulness of Mary

C: For the courage of Joseph

All: We give thanks

Leader: For the blessing of faith-filled relationships

Prayers of Thanksgiving (continued)

C: For the loving care which surrounds us as a result

All: We give thanks

Leader: Above all, for the gift of your son Jesus Christ,

C: For the truth of his Word and the example of his life

Leader: For his dying, through which he overcame death;

C: For his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom

All: We give thanks, Amen

Benediction

Closing Hymn: "The Birthday of a King" #284 (stand if able)

MINISTRY LEADERS

Worship Music: Denise Lev **Worship Leader:** Rev Mark Volkers
+ All members are ministers of Jesus Christ +

12/18/22 - Attendance:

Regular Offering: \$ Turkey Dinner (Total): \$10,402

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

From our Presbytery: Pray for those Elders
And Pastors who have gone before us in 2022



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:

- **Sun Dec. 25: Christmas Dinner** Lake Park United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall serving 11:30 – 1:00 details on back page
- **Sun Jan. 1, 2023: Sunday Worship Service**
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am Worship Leader – Al Grigg
- **Sun Jan. 8, 2023: Sunday Worship Service**
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am Worship Leader – Al Grigg

Birthdays to Remember this week:

Chandler (Brons) Kleinhesselink – December 25th

Randy Wiese – December 27th

Kurtis Louscher – December 28th

ATTENTION:

Thank You – From Betty McClure

Thanks so much for the blanket and ornament. I surely appreciate it and will remember you fondly. Thank you for thinking of me! - Betty M

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!

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.

Annual Turkey Dinner Announcement - As you are all aware, the intention of our fundraiser this year was for the funds to be used to pay down the church roof loan. We are so pleased to announce that through many of you giving over the past months in combination with an extremely generous anonymous donation: Donations for this year's fundraiser totaled \$10,402.26 for our church. OUR ROOF LOAN HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL

***GOING TO BE ALONE ON CHRISTMAS? FAMILY NOT COMING 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, METTLES CARSTENSEN, & EMMA
PLEASE CALL TO RSVP SO WE KNOW HOW MUCH FOOD TO PREPARE.
JUDY 712-330-3831, GARY 712-260-1318
MATT 712-346-8312 OR LISA 712-330-0967***

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Prayer of Confession (continued)

open our belief, and set aside our doubts that you sent your Son – The one who has come to set us all free. We offer these prayers in the name of your Son, Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (read responsively)

L: Friends believe this good news- through Jesus Christ we are forgiven
C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Gloria Patri # 812

Special Music

Prayer for Illumination (Leader)

Draw us close, Holy Spirit, as the Scriptures are read and the Word is proclaimed. Let the word of faith be on our lips and in our hearts, and let all other words slip away. May there be one voice we hear today — the voice of truth and grace. **All: Amen.**

Hymn: "O Come, Let Us Adore Him" # 249 (remain seated)

Reading of Scriptures: (stand if able)

Gospel: Isaiah 9:2-7 (page)

Sermon: Unto Us

Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Blessing and Sharing of the Elements (Leader) (I Corinthians 11:23-26)

L: ²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.