



# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 28, 2014

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Loving God, in your child Jesus Christ  
our eyes have truly seen your glory  
and the wonder of your saving power.  
By your Spirit, send us out in peace—  
proclaiming good news to all people,  
sharing the light of your revelation,  
growing in strength and in wisdom,  
and worshiping you night and day;  
through Christ, your promised Word. Amen.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Pastorale "Gesù Bambino"*

Pietro Yon

### BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

In Christ, the fullness of time has come.

**The Spirit and the Son are with us.**

As beloved children of God we pray:

**Shine in our lives, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Let us worship God.

\*SONG OF PRAISE

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

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#### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

**God our Savior, we confess  
that we fail to live in your light.  
You reveal your saving love,  
but we hide your love from others.  
You claim us as your children,  
but we do not claim you as our God.  
Forgive us, God of grace.  
Let your will be done in our lives  
so that we may live in peace  
according to your word;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

...In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God.**

\*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

\*RESPONSE 113 (refrain)

*Gloria in excelsis deo!*

GLORIA

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Page No. 641

Luke 2:22-40

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

What does it mean to believe that Jesus is truly a human being?

**Being truly human,  
Jesus entered fully into our fallen situation  
and overcame it from within.  
By his pure obedience,  
he lived a life of unbroken unity with God,  
even to the point of accepting a violent death.  
As sinners at war with grace,  
this is precisely the kind of life we fail to live.  
When we accept him by faith,  
he removes our disobedience  
and clothes us with his perfect righteousness.**

*Adapted from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Study Catechism,  
Question 34*

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

What Child Is This

Wilbur Held

\*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

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DEDICATION PRAYER

**FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*SENDING SONG

Joy to the World

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\*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE

The loving kindness of the Lord our God,  
the grace of Jesus Christ our Savior,  
and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**Alleluia!**

Go and tell this good news of great joy:  
to us a Savior is born.

**Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE

*Joy to the World*

Michael Burkhardt

\*Those who are able may stand.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

**Lectionary Readings** for January 4: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9) 10-18.

The **Urban Mission** item of the month for December is **cereal**. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

**Hearing-assistance devices** and **large print hymnals** are available from the ushers.

**Ushers** for today's service are Tim and Jona Thiessen.

**End-of-year giving:** As the end of the year approaches, we would like to remind you that contributions are deductible in the year they are made. Checks must be received by the church or postmarked before January 1, 2015 to be included in this year's contribution statement.

**Kids' Club** will resume activities on Wednesday, January 14.

The **Deacons** will be hosting a luncheon after the worship service on Sunday, January 18, to honor members and friends **over the age of 80**. Mark your calendars for this festive occasion.

As part of the **ecumenical prayer cycle**, we ask you to pray for a particular region of the world each week. This week we pray for Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian Territories. We give thanks for the ancient churches in these countries which have faithfully transmitted the Gospel from generation to generation, even when severely threatened or persecuted; for the

endless source of inspiration that pilgrims of Islam, Christianity and Judaism find in the sacred places in the land called holy; for peace-makers; for olive trees that have survived many generations and still produce fruit; for the Nile and its life-giving water; for the pyramids, hieroglyphic writing and other wonders of ancient Egyptian civilization; and for monks and nuns who give themselves to a life of prayer and service. We pray for peace in the region, especially in Syria and between Palestinians and Israelis; for respect for human rights; for the hungry and homeless; for those who insist on violent solutions and who see force as the primary means of solving conflicts, that they might find more humanitarian methods; and for refugees, who still yearn to return home.

**SUNDAY**

**December 28**

10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments

10:55 A.M. – Worship Service

**THURSDAY**

**January 1**

Church Office Closed – Happy New Year

**SUNDAY**

**January 4**

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School

10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments

10:55 A.M. – Worship Service – Communion

12:00 P.M. – Deacons Meeting

12:00 P.M. – Worship & Music Meeting