

# **Memorial Presbyterian Church**

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

3rd Sunday in Advent

December 16, 2012

Let all who enter enjoy the fellowship of friends until the bells call us to worship. Let us then, in oneness of spirit, turn our reverent attention to the worship of God.

# **GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

You put a glad song on our lips, O God of salvation, for in you we can trust and not be afraid. In Christ is announced our source of deliverance; through him the lame walk and the outcast are praised. Soon you will gather your people for a festival of salvation; we assemble now in Christ's name to rejoice and boast of your goodness.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** 

Carol of the Bells Chancel Ringers

arr. Wagner

BRINGING THE LIGHT

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus is coming, as God's joy for us.

The promise of God is sure: 'Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart... The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst.'

In this season of Advent, we celebrate the coming of Jesus as God's joy among us. A day is coming when God will gather all; even the oppressed and the outcast will come home, and we shall rejoice.

Until that day, we serve an aching world in the power of the Spirit, exchanging fear for gladness, and worry for prayer.

As the candle of Joy is lit, set anxiety aside, rejoice in the Lord, pray with thanks, and make every need known to God.

We pray for the day when God's salvation is fully come and the whole world rejoices.

# **ADVENT SONG**

## He Came Down

He came down that we may have joy (3x) Hallelujah, forevermore.

## **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus Christ, your joy we already know and celebrate. But we long for our weary world to know the joy of a new beginning. Help us to share your joy with all who are hungry or weighed down by sorrow, both those we meet every day, and those around the globe we will never meet. Amen.

\*SONG OF PRAISE

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

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\*CALL TO CONFESSION

## \*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

Source of salvation, what shall we do? Our lives are unworthy of the goodness you offer. We complain of our condition when our wants go unnoticed. Contentment eludes us, since when we have plenty we still yearn for more. Millions face hunger, while we fret over abundance. Through Christ forgive us, yet grant us no peace until we share our bread with the hungry and our homes with those who lack shelter.

\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

\*SONG OF RESPONSE

Gloria in excelsis Deo

23 (refrain)

\*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.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Ann Forsyth

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

#### PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

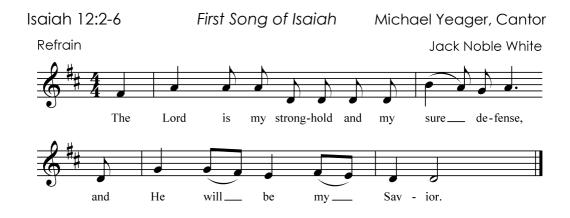
# **SCRIPTURE READING**

Philippians 4:4-7

Page No. 1024

The Word of the Lord.

## Thanks be to God.



Luke 3:7-18

Page No. 891

The Word of the Lord.

# Thanks be to God.

**ANTHEM** 

Fairest Lord Jesus Children's Choir

MESSAGE

Advent Joy

Tracy L. Evans

SONG OF FAITH

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

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SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 16

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

John Jordan

# Hymn 4, v. 4

# FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*SENDING SONG Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

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\*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING CHORAL BENEDICTION

Joy Is a Song that Welcomes the Dawn

\*POSTLUDE

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

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 December 23: Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45.

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

**Dwight Mission** continues to be grateful for all gifts to the Legacy Campaign, the capital campaign which will renovate the historic old schoolhouse building and construct a new lodge with hotel-quality rooms. We are pleased that the Walton Family Foundation will match dollar for dollar any funds raised through June 30, 2013. In this season of giving, please consider donating to Dwight Mission's Legacy Campaign in someone's honor. Checks may be made out to Dwight Mission Capital Campaign and mailed to 1720 S. Detroit, Tulsa, OK 74120. Or you can easily donate online at www.dwightmission.org.

# **Upcoming Events**

Please plan to attend our annual **Christmas Pageant** this Wednesday, December 19. Bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner at 6:00 P.M. The pageant will begin when dinner has concluded. You won't want to miss this special event as we see our wonderful kids present their take on the Christmas Story.

Please join us for the candlelight **Christmas Eve** service at 7:00 P.M. on December 24. Through a service of Lessons and Carols, we will celebrate the entry into this world of Jesus, our Emmanuel, as a humble baby. Please share this invitation to worship with your family, friends and neighbors.

## SUNDAY December 16

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service 7:00 P.M. – Stewardship Committee

#### WEDNESDAY December 19

3:30 P.M. – Kid's Club 5:30 P.M. – Children's Choir 6:00 P.M. – Potluck Dinner **Christmas Pageant** following dinner

# FRIDAY December 21

Articles due for January Messenger

# SUNDAY December 23

9:30 A.M. – NO SUNDAY SCHOOL for Children 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service