

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

1st Sunday after Christmas Day

December 31, 2017

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Almighty God,
you wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored,
the dignity of human nature.
In your mercy, let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ
who came to share our humanity,
and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

Michael R. Barker

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

There is good news of great joy for all!

Our Savior is born: the Messiah, the Lord.

Now we have seen the saving love of the Lord,

the glory of God's people and a light to all.

Let us worship God.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

119

*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.**
(Time of silent reflection)

*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.

*SONG OF RESPONSE Gloria Patri 581

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Trudy Beard

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING Melissa Gill

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Page No. 604

ANTHEM In the Bleak Midwinter

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:22-40

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Page No. 833

MESSAGE Standing at the Door John Beck

*SONG OF FAITH Away in a Manger 115

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**God expressed love for all humankind
through Israel, whom God chose
to be a covenant people
to serve him in love and faithfulness.
When Israel was unfaithful,
God disciplined the nation with judgment
and maintained the covenant
through prophets, priests, teachers,
and true believers.
These witnesses called all Israelites
to a destiny
in which they would serve God faithfully
and become a light to the nations.
The same witnesses proclaimed
the coming of a new age,
and a true servant of God
in whom God's purpose would be realized.
*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.18***

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response:... Emmanuel, God-with-us, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

In the Bleak Midwinter

Mark Lochstampfor

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

606

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG

Joy to the World

134

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Sing We Now of Christmas

James Pethel

*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 7: Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11.

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

Ushers for today's service are Carl and Julie Forthman.

Please welcome **Dr. Rod Murrow, guest organist today.**

Please remember to turn in your **pledge cards for 2018.** More cards can be found in the Narthex.

Session has set the date for the annual **congregational meeting for Sunday, February 4, 2018** immediately following worship.

SUNDAY

December 31

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service

WEDNESDAY

January 3

- 3:15 P.M. – Kids' Club

SUNDAY

January 7

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service
- 12:05 P.M. – Worship Committee Meeting