

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

1st Sunday after Christmas Day

December 30, 2018

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*O God,
into a realm of clerics and kings
you sent your child
to teach the wise and show the world
what power there is in love.
Keep us vigilant
to hear the voices
of those who speak your truth.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We are brought together by the call of God,
the One who has loved us from the beginning.
We are bound together by the presence of the Spirit,
the One who has challenged us to love more deeply.
We worship together in the name of Christ,
the One who was Love made flesh.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Joy to the World

134

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

**Holy God, we have seen the Christ child in the manger,
and we know that you are a light to all people.
Forgive us when our lives are not shaped by the Christmas story,
when our hearts are not open to the leading of your spirit,
when our hands are not open to help a neighbor in need.
Speak your good news to us once more,
forgive us, and bring us peace.**

(Time of silent reflection)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

People of God, rejoice!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*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

Glory Be to the Father

581

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Karen Girdner

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 148

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Page No. 508

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 21:1-6

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Page No. 1007

MESSAGE

The New Story

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

366

*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:... O Christ, our light, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

606

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG

Let All Things Now Living

37

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

*Please rise in body or spirit.

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 6: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12.

The **Food and Shelter** item of the month for January 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 head usher.

Ushers for today's service are Lucy Lanning and Charlotte Lovett.

Please welcome our guest organist today **Paul Watkins**.

There will be a **congregational meeting** following worship. This will be our election of officers for the coming term. The slate of officers for Ruling Elder is : John Beck, Jessica Farris and Joan Cole, and for Deacon: Linda Eckel, Carl Forthman, and Gladys Jangha.

SUNDAY**December 30**

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
10:55 A.M. – Worship Service
12:00 P.M. – MY Group
12:00 P.M. – Congregational Meeting

MONDAY**December 31**

1:00 P.M. – Service of Witness to the Resurrection for
Doris Hinson

TUESDAY**January 1**

Office Closed

WEDNESDAY**January 2**

6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

SUNDAY**January 6**

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