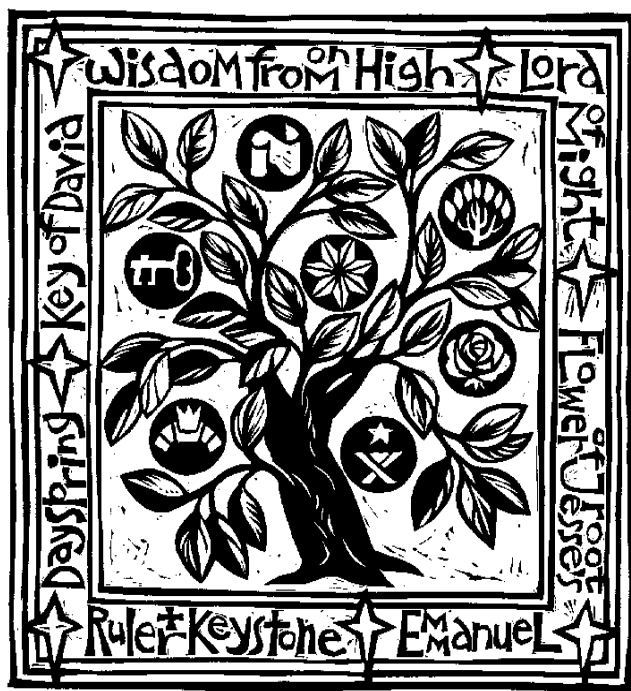


The First Presbyterian Church
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Christmas Eve Service of Holy Communion
December 24, 2009



WELCOME TO ALL, especially visitors and newcomers to Ann Arbor. Let us know of your presence by completing the pew card. Please know you are invited to share in all activities of the church. A full description of church events may be found online at www.firstpresbyterian.org.

Those parts of the Service of Worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in bold type.

** The people stand.*

Large print bulletins, hymnals and Bibles are available from the ushers.

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

11:00 p.m.

VOLUNTARY Music for Brasses

The Presbyterian Brass Quintet

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

Hymn 4 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Picardy

(The congregation is asked to stand and join in singing as the choir processes into the sanctuary)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Glory to you, almighty God, for you sent your only-begotten Son, that we might have new life.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for you became flesh and dwelt among us that we might become your people.**

One: Glory to you, Holy Spirit, for you direct and rule our lives.

All: **Glory to you, almighty God, and to your Son, Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

*CAROL 41 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fidelis

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS EVE (offered in unison)

Loving God, open our hearts and minds to the truth made manifest in Christ, that you are with us and all people, to love and save the world. You are with us now, in this moment, flowing like a spring of goodness in our innermost being and among us. May the simple beauty of the birth of Jesus summon us always to love You and one another, and to see your love reflected in those whose lives we touch. May the testimony of all creation — from the stable animals and the very heavens—summon us to cherish all life, and to see your goodness in the beauty of this earth. We pray in the name of the Christ Child, even Jesus, born this night. Amen.

ANTHEM Stay with Us

Egil Hovland

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us. Stay with us, it soon is evening, and night is falling. Jesus Christ, the world's true light! Shine so the darkness cannot overcome it! Stay with us, Lord Jesus, it soon is evening. Stay with us, Lord Jesus, for night is falling. Let your light pierce the darkness and fill your church with its glory. Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us. Stay with us, and night is falling. Luke 24:29

This anthem was given in loving memory of
Philip K. Pierson, 1949-2009, by his wife, Lisa Danielson.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11: 1-9 (O.T., pp. 640-41)

The prophet Isaiah promises the birth and reign of the Messiah.

ANTHEM Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

Michael Praetorius/Melchior Vulpius

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung! It came a Flow'ret bright amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind, with Mary we behold it, the Virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half-spent was the night.

*SECOND LESSON

Luke 2: 1-20 (N.T. p. 58)

Luke's Gospel tells the story of the nativity of Jesus, the announcement to the shepherds, and their journey to see the Christ Child.

CAROL 57 The Snow Lay on the Ground

Venite Adoremus

MEDITATION Woodrow Kennington Works Practically a Miracle

A reading of a story, set a few years ago, by Katherine Paterson

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

ANTHEM Birthday Carol

Sir David Willcocks

Rejoice today with one accord, Alleluia, this is the birthday of our Lord, Alleluia. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Shepherds abiding in the field, Alleluia, to them God's glory was revealed, Alleluia! Gloria in excelsis Deo! And to the shepherds sore afraid, Alleluia, an angel said, 'Be not afraid,' Alleluia! Gloria in excelsis Deo! 'Tidings of joy to you I bring,' Alleluia, 'Today is born a heavenly King,' Alleluia. Gloria in excelsis Deo! 'And ye shall find in manger laid,' Alleluia, 'The Babe in swaddling clothes arrayed,' Alleluia. Gloria in excelsis Deo. A host of angels filled the sky, Alleluia, Thus singing praise to God on high, Alleluia. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Now join we all the angel throng, Alleluia, and let our voices swell the song: Alleluia. Gloria in excelsis Deo!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

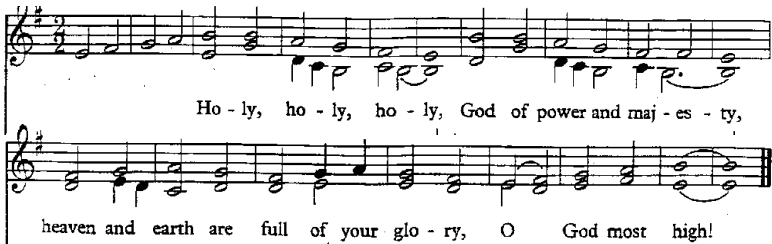
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is truly right and our great joy . . .

. . . we lift our hearts in joyful praise, singing:

People Singing:



Leader: We praise you, most holy God . . .
 . . . now and forever. Amen.

Leader and People:

Our Father who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

THE COMMUNION

Worshippers may remain in the pews to be served by Elders and Deacons. The communion wafers used at this service are made from wheat flour. For those with wheat allergies, we now have gluten-free communion wafers available in the silver cup in the center of each tray.

The bread and cup may be taken when received. All who call Jesus Christ Lord and Savior are welcome at the Lord's table.

COMMUNION ANTHEM What Sweeter Music

John Rutter

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string! Dark and dull night, fly hence away, and give the honor to this day that sees December turned to

*May. Why does the chilling winter's morn smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly shorn thus on the sudden? Come and see the
cause, why things thus fragrant be: 'tis he is born, whose quickening birth
gives life and luster, public mirth, to heaven and the underearth. We see him
come, and know him ours, who with his sunshine and his showers, turns the
patient ground to flowers. The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we
find a room to welcome him. The nobler part of all the house here is the heart,
which we will give him; and bequeath this holly, and this ivy wreath, to do
him honor, who's our King, and Lord of all this revelling. What sweeter music
can we bring than a carol for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King.*

Robert Herrick , 1591-1674

COMMUNION PRAYER (offered in unison)

Good and gracious God, on this holy night you gave us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, the Savior of all, lying in a manger. On this holy night draw us into the mystery of your love. Join our voices with the heavenly host that we may sing your glory on high. Give us a place among the shepherds that we may find the one for whom we have waited, Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

***THIRD LESSON**

John 1: 1-5, 9-14 (N.T., pp. 91-92)

John's Gospel unfolds the mystery of the incarnation
of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

THE SERVICE OF LIGHTS (The congregation may be seated.)

At the candle lighting the ministers will move down the center aisle to light the first candle in each pew. Each person in turn will light the candle of the next worshiper. Everyone is requested to remain seated after the candles are lighted until each row is released by an usher. Then we will carry the light of the Christ child from the sanctuary to our homes as Christmas morning breaks, saying to one another, "The peace of Christ be with you."

The people seated and singing:

Silent Night , Holy Night

Stille Nacht

**Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child.
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born.**

**Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

BENEDICTION

Joy to the World

Antioch

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

VOLUNTARY Music for Brasses
 The Presbyterian Brass Quintet



THE PREACHER is the Reverend Lawrence W. Farris.

PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE are the Reverends Brewster H. Gere, Jenny McDevitt, Jim Monnett, Matthew Nickel, Melissa Anne Rogers, and Sarah Wiles.

THE ORGANISTS are Susan Boggs and Carol Muehlig.

THE CONDUCTOR is Susan Boggs.

THE PRESBYTERIAN BRASS QUINTET includes Chris Albrecht and Jonathan Ney, trumpet; Martha Farmer, tenor trombone; Gary Hellick, bass trombone; and Melanie Hellick, horn.



Announcements

THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE WORSHIP SERVICE on Sunday, December 27, at 10:00 a.m. Children are encouraged to worship with their parents; child care will be available for the youngest children only. (Parents may be asked to present a picture I.D. when they pick up their children.)

THE CHURCH BUILDING WILL BE CLOSED on December 25, 28, and January 1. The building will close at 1:00 p.m. on December 31.



**CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING TO CONTRIBUTE TO
THE FRIENDS IN DEED CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

for the construction of a new building on Ecorse Road in Ypsilanti. Friends In Deed is an interfaith volunteer organization that responds to the needs of Washtenaw County residents that other service agencies do not meet. It also provides services such as information, referrals, and screening, to congregations and agencies, as well as resources to people in need.

The Poinsettias

that decorate the chancel are given in memory or in honor of a loved one or family member. Following worship, the poinsettias will be delivered by the deacons to our shut-ins, those who are ill, and those who are grieving.



In Memory of:

Barbara Alexander
George Alexander
Lois Alexander
Paul Alexander
Elmer Apley
Pauline Apley
David A. Austin
Marty Austin
William E. Austin, Sr.
Dorothy Ball
Leroy Ball
Joan Banfield
Ralph Banfield
Claude Barnard
Lyle Barnard
Marion Barnard
Fred L. Bartman
Carl Bartscht
Jo Bartscht
Jeane Bartels
Audrey T. Baseman
Signe Bates
Kelly Binkley
Catherine Brenkert
Cornelius Brenkert
Rev. Charles F. Brewer
George R. Brewer
John J. Bryant
Edna Carlisle
Richard Carlisle
Arnold Clausen
Clara Clausen
Guernsey Collins
Reina Collins
Blanche Cordes
James Wesley Cordes
Ken Croft
Mary Croft
Ilene DeHaan
James Dewar
Alma Dickinson
Anson Dickinson
David Dickinson
Eleanor Dickinson
Angela S. Dobson
Peter M. Dobson
Russell T. Dobson, Jr.
William T. Dobson

Anne Kaminsky Donofrio
Hugh Donofrio
Patrick Dorn
Thomas Dorn
Helen (Kay) Dornbush
Nancy LaMoreaux Doyle
David G. Endicott
Leonel M. Esch
David Emmons
Richard (Dick) Emmons
Cheri DeHaan Erben
Margaret Ference
Michael Ference
Mary Jane Fisher
Olga Fortino
Mary Friskey
Edmund Galant
Marjorie Galant
Lisa Ann Gallagher
Robert Gardner
Lloyd Gauntlett
Brewster Gere
Margaret Chamberlain Gere
Elizabeth N. Glinka
Lourdes Guerra
Nell Funderburk Hambrick
Marion Hanley
Jeff Hardenbrook
Weldon Hare
Bonnie Urquhart Heald
Edwin Henry
Myra Henry
Griffith Herold
Mary Herold
Katherine Stovall Hibbs
Alan Hobart
Mady Hobart
Vernon Hobart
John H. Holmes, Sr.
Ernest Horngren
Katherine Horngren
Phyllis Howard
Don Howe
Sybil Howe
Frances Humphreys
Delia S. Hunter
John C. Hunter
Milton V. Hunter
John C. Hunter, Jr.
Kathryn Inglis
Pek S. Jo
Fran Johnson

Johnny Johnson
 Helen Kaser
 Robert Kaser
 Gertrude Keegan
 Robert Keegan
 Donald Kerr
 June Kerr
 Laura E. Kingery
 Richard M. Kingery
 Brian Konefke
 Ken Kooyers
 Alma Kruger
 Betty Kuizenga
 Henry Kuizenga
 Elizabeth Kunkel
 Pamela LaMoreaux
 Douglas Lane
 Thomas W. Leabo
 Kenneth Lindley
 Harris McClamroch, Jr.
 Ruth S. McCracken
 Patrick McDevitt
 Barbara McKinley
 Jan Mack
 Norma V. Meyers
 George Milroy
 Ellen C. Molin
 John C. Molin
 John H. Molin
 Peg Molin
 James Mortensen
 Marie Mortensen
 Stephen Patton Moss
 Robert E. Mueller
 Elizabeth Najpaver
 Joseph Najpaver
 Merle Nash
 Vina Nash
 Anne Niedzielski
 Delia Ouimet
 Edward Ouimet
 Lawrence Ouimet
 Magdaline Ouimet
 Clare M. Palmer
 Harry H. Palmer
 Robert Patton
 Sook Chung Park
 Dorothy Parker
 William M. Perrett III
 Maynard Phelps
 Mildred Phelps
 Fred Pickard
 Vernon J. Piers
 Philip K. Pierson
 Richard Platt, Sr.
 Frank Polkowski
 Beatrice Prescott

Gerald Prescott
 Herman Primas
 Margaret Primas
 Vivian Reese
 Walt Reese
 Robert C. Ressler
 Henry Rezmierski
 Olga Rezmierski
 Hillary Dobson Ripmaster
 Charlie Roberts
 Lena Roberts
 Margaret Ruggles
 Sumner Ruggles
 Marcia Schmidt
 Henry Schneider
 Hilda Schneider
 Sylvia Schwartz
 Pearl Servais
 Philip Servais
 Douglas Smith
 Donald Sorter
 Gene Stefanski
 Gideon Stegath
 Mellicent Stegath
 Virginia Stegath
 Jean Stem
 Russell Stem
 Christine Officer Stephens
 Duel Stephens
 James E. Stephenson
 Ruth Wood Stephenson
 Sean Patrick Stephenson
 Marian Strodman
 Ruth Sutton
 James Talbott
 David K. Tanner
 Glen K. Tanner
 Maxwell E. Tanner
 Barbara Ternes
 Richard (Dick) Trytten
 Charles D. Urquhart
 Dorothy Waggoner
 Ralph Waggoner
 Ruth Waggoner
 Perry Walker
 Viola Walker
 Maxine Walter
 Almira White
 Hubert White
 Lucille Winger
 William Winger
 Carol B. Wood
 Elsie M. Wood
 William M. Wood
 Wilder W. Woods, Sr.
 Agnes Yarmain
 Harry Yarmain



In Honor of:

David Arnsdorf
 Jill Crabtree
 Marti Dalley
 Phil Dalley
 Peggy L. Dry
 Anne Duclos
 Bernard Duclos
 David Glinka-Endicott
 Mark Glinka-Endicott
 Matthew Glinka
 Russell Glinka-Endicott
 Sarah Glinka-Endicott
 Blanche S. Erdman
 Debbie Evett
 Berether Hill
 Mary Hunter
 Mary Jones
 Anna Oliva
 Roy Oliva
 Howard Parker
 Jennifer Sansbury
 Lynn Sutton