

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our mission is to be an open-hearted, open-minded Christian

community sharing a ministry of faith, hope, and love.

THE 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 11, 2011 9:30 A.M.

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

Greeting & Announcements (L = Leader / P = People / A = All)

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

Prelude

(As the waters of the Spirit pour forth, we prepare our hearts for Christ)

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Shannon, Mary & Teagan Bennett

Reader: Lift up your hearts in Joy and Praise!

People: We love this season of good news and celebration as God calls us into a new birth.

Reader: O people who have listened, rejoice! Proclaim with the Angels the coming of The Wonderful Counselor.

P: **What stirs in our hearts is Jesus' love, which cannot be hidden or diminished.**

A: **We light this third candle as our proclamation that in the darkness, this one candle of Joy will shine forth and bring gladness and renewal to those who suffer or faint**

* **Reading, Lighting the Advent Candle and Prayer**

* **Opening Carol** "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

p. 38

* **Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness**

L: Let us prepare for God's coming in a form we can only begin to understand.

P: **Eternal God, we confess that we easily slide into a humbug existence. There are the hungry to feed, there is not enough work, money or shelter, and no heat to be found. Why does Christmas have to come even when we can't seem to get the simplest things right? We are out of sorts and call on you to guide us again into your joyful fulfillment. Challenge us to look again at our pain, and with pure joy use the gifts you so abundantly have given.**



(A time for silent confession)

* **Words of Assurance**

L: God clothes us with salvation and heals our hearts. The Spirit shelters us with righteousness. All of our offenses are removed by the steady hand of the one who breathed truth and mercy into a manger.

P: We will live out our thanks to God with happy hearts!

* **We Give Glory to God** (Insert) "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" (Unison)

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

Reading from the Prophet Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11 p. 691

Choir Anthem "Come, Emmanuel" by Nancy Price & Doug Besig
Evan Powell on drums

The Children Tell the Story *Denise Swinbank*

Reading from the Gospel Luke 1: 39-45 p. 57

L: The Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Advent: From Humbug to Hallelujah" *Pastor Teresa*

Hymn #40 "Joy To The World"

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

We Share Our Joys and Concerns

L: God in your mercy

P: Hear Our Prayer

Congregational Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (Unison)

A: 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings

* **Doxology** "Give Thanks" (Unison)

Give thanks with a grateful heart,

Give thanks to the Holy One,

Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich

Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks.

* **Prayer of Dedication** (Unison)

A: For all your good gifts we give our humble thanks, O Lord. Please use our gifts to multiply your love, fill the hungry with good food, and make hearts rejoice again in your sustaining love. Amen.

WE FOLLOW THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons

Scripture I Corinthians 12: 4-7, 27

Invitation and Statement of Ordination and Installation

Constitutional Questions

To the Elders and Deacons

To the Congregation

Prayer and Laying on of Hands

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

Welcoming

* **Hymn** (Insert) "Shine Jesus Shine" (vs. 1-2)

* **Benediction**

* **Congregational Response Hymn** "Shine Jesus Shine" (vs. 3)

Postlude

Worship Notes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All those who are able, please stand where you see an asterisk* Bolded words are spoken or sung together by the people. 	
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Teresa Roberts Liturgists: Nancy Massaro	Pianist: Judy Kereakos Choir Director: Denise Swinbank

9:30 a.m. Worship Service/3rd Sunday of Advent/Ordination & Installation of Elders & Deacons

Worship Assistants	Greeter	Nursery Attendant(s)	Library Attendant
Jean Abels Rick Orvold Marita Heller	Mary Alice Richardson	Elizabeth Deeds Tabitha Harland	Judi Berg

10:30 a.m. Refreshments and fellowship time provided by Jennifer Hall & Mary Alice Richardson.
10:45 a.m. Sunday School. All children ages 2-11 will meet in their assigned rooms when they hear the Sunday School bell. Sunday School dismisses at 11:45 am. All are welcome to attend.

Class	Room	Lesson
Ages 2 - Grade 5	Purple Room	
Youth Grades 6-12	Black Room	
Adult Education	Library	Lesson: Holy Land Revealed

(Questions about Sunday School? Contact Denise Swinbank 753-2420)

THIS WEEK AT CPC:

Monday 7:30 p.m. Aikido
 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Women of the Church at Madonna Towers
 6:30 p.m. Deacons
 Wednesday 6:30 a.m. Prayer Group at Madonna Towers
 5:30 p.m. Food backpacks
 7:00 p.m. Choir practice
 Thursday 7:30 p.m. Aikido
 Saturday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. HyVee Crossroads—Salvation Army bell ringing
 9:00 a.m. Aikido
 Sunday 9:30a.m. Worship/4th Sunday of Advent/Youth Christmas
 Special Worship/Noisy Can Collection

COMING UP AT CPC

Advent and Christmas Services:

Children's Christmas Special Worship, Sunday,
 Dec. 18 at 9:30 a.m.
 The Longest Night Service, Thursday
 Dec 22nd at 7:00 pm
 Christmas Eve Service, Saturday,
 Dec 24th at 6:00 pm
 Christmas Morning Service, Sunday,
 Dec 25th, at 9:00 am

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Welcome to worship on this Lord's Day.

We are blessed by your presence and hope that you will experience the love of God reflected in the life of this community of faith. Nursery care is provided from 9:15-11:45 a.m. for ages three and under, though we love to have children of all ages remain with us in worship. Please complete the friendship pad in your row during the announcements and pass it back so that you are able to greet your neighbors by name.

Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

This morning we will *Ordain and Install the following church officers: Elders, Class of 2014: *Shannon Bennett, Linda Overton, (Ronda Marshall). Deacons, Class of 2014: Lois Nicholson, Gwen Riggan. Clerk of Session, Peggy McCarty

Women of the ChurchOnce again we invite you to join us as we shift our focus to looking at domestic abuse among women and children beginning this Tuesday, December 13th at the Madonna Towers, Rochester Room which affords a beautiful view of our city. We will look at a special video showing abuse to women of all faiths. It is called "I Believe You". The following sessions (February through March) will look at this issue in Rochester. Join us for a time of fellowship at 7:00 p.m. Some members of First Presbyterian will join us. We look forward to seeing you. If you plan to attend, please call Marg Nelson at 252-9398.

The 2011 Joy Offering...Next Sunday December 18th, we will receive The Joy Offering. This is a special offering collected in churches throughout our denomination which is designated equally towards supporting the assistance programs for

clergy and church workers in special needs through the Board of Pensions and the racial ethnic schools and colleges of the PC (USA). Envelopes are available in the Narthex or in your bulletin next Sunday.

Special Worship Service...Next Sunday, December 18th, the worship service will be led by our youth and children. They will present "The Voices of Christmas". Please join us for this very special service.

Christmas Eve Service...Yes, The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is December 24 at 6:00 p.m. and Christmas Day Nativity and Carols Service is December 25 at 9:00 a.m.

The Longest Night: ...A service of comfort and hope. Care enough to invite someone!!! This quiet evening worship service is for people who struggle with the holidays because of grief, illness, job loss – any calamity will do. It's a humane idea, to set aside a special time for mourners during the heart of bustling Christmas preparations. If you know someone who is struggling this Christmas, invite them to join you. Or perhaps you just need a quiet space to pray and be with God- then you will want to be there for "The Longest Night."

Salvation Army Bell Ringers...Next Saturday, December 17, CPC will be ringing bells at Hy-Vee Crossroads 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is on the board in the Narthex.

A Glimpse of Advent in Our World: Week Three "Rejoice"

Today you will see the 5th grade Children of Quinhagak, Alaska, a town of 550, express their joy with the Hallelujah Chorus.

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=LyviyF-N23A

Hallelujah Chorus -Kuinerrarmiut Elitnaurviat School 5th Grade - Quinhagak, Alaska

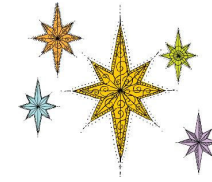
- (1) Do you think these children, who more than 1/3 live below poverty level, have any reason to rejoice and sing Hallelujah? What did this video show you concerning their circumstances and surroundings?
- (2) List the 5 top items that give you joy? How do you show joy for those 5 items?
- (3) The scripture instructs us to "Rejoice always", in the good and the bad(Phil 4:4, I Thess 5:16). Have you tried rejoicing in the bad times? What keeps you from rejoicing ?
- (4) Make a 1-sentence statement of your intention to find an honest expression of joy to God and others this week, and repeat it at the dawn of each day this week.



Reflection

The true source of joy is love
--love of God, love of beauty, love
of wisdom, love of another human
being, it does not matter which. It
is all one love: a joyful awareness
of dissolving boundaries of our
ordinary narrow self, of being one
with the reality beyond, of being
made whole.

~ Irma Zalenski *The Door to Joy*



Benediction

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.

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

~ Isaac Watts *Joy to the World*

GIVING REPORT			
Nov. '11 Weekly Average	\$2,526.00	Special Offerings	
Year to Date Avg. 2011	\$3,174.88	Thank Offering	\$ 635.00
Budgeted Weekly for '11	\$3,461.54	Peace Offering	\$ 837.00
Per Capita Received '2011	\$1,649.68	USA Disaster Relief	\$ 774.25
Total Per Capita to be Paid '11	\$4,142.56	One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1,166.00



Community Presbyterian Church
3705 55th Street NW
Rochester, MN 55901
(507) 280-9291
www.cpcroch.org

