



## COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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

THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 18, 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

"Silent Night"

*Claudia & Eloise Rank*

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

#### Call to Worship and Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

*The Hall Family*

Reader: Lift up your voices with praise, O people, for great is our God!

**People: We come to see the One whose birth was proclaimed by the angels.**

Reader: For in the dark streets of a little town, shines the everlasting light.

P: **The hopes and fears of all the years are met in the child born in a manger.**

A: **We light this fourth candle as a symbol of our trust in the promise of God. For in Jesus Christ, the least and the lowly remain the greatest gift.**

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

\* **Choral Carol** "The Birthday of a King" by Lloyd Larson

\* Opening Carol # 44 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

#### \* **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 are not always good or nice. We hurt others in little ways: with a look, a stare, our angry words, and our clenched fists. In this Holy Season, we need your peace, in our minds, in our hearts, in our conversations and in our hands. Help us, to ask forgiveness from those we have harmed, and to open our hearts to your forgiving son, Jesus Christ.**

(A time for silent confession)

**\* Words of Assurance**

L: You have asked for forgiveness, and Jesus has given it to you. Live a new life now in Christ!

**P: Thanks be to God!**

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

**WE PROCLAIM THE WORD**

**Reading from the Prophet** Isaiah 11: 1-3, 5-6 p. 640

**Hymn # 30** "Born in the Night, Mary's Child"  
*Evan Powell on drums*

**Reading from the Gospel** Luke 2: 1-7 and 8-20 p. 36  
L: The Word of the Lord  
**P: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** "The Voices of Christmas" *Our Children & Youth*

**Choral Finale & Nativity, Hymn #24** "Away in a Manger"

**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 Joy Offering and Gifts**

**\* 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: O Lord, please use all of our gifts to increase your live, fill the hungry in body or soul, and make everyone, big or little, rich or poor, rejoice in your amazing love. Amen.**

**WE FOLLOW THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\* Hymn #49** "Once in David's Royal City" (vs. 1-3)

**\* Benediction**

**\* Congregational Response Hymn** "Once in David's Royal City" (vs. 4)

**Postlude**

<i>Worship Notes:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All those who are able, please stand where you see an asterisk*</li> <li>• Bolded words are spoken or sung together by the people.</li> </ul>	
<b>Pastor:</b> Rev. Dr. Teresa Roberts	<b>Pianist:</b> Laurie Priniski
<b>Liturgists:</b> CPC Children & Youth	<b>Choir Director:</b> Denise Swinbank

**9:30 a.m.** Worship Service/4th Sunday of Advent/Youth Christmas Special Worship Service/  
Noisy Can Collection

Worship Assistants	Greeter	Nursery Attendant(s)	Library Attendant
Margaret Petersen Bill Petersen Peggy Pillers	Amy Ward	Elizabeth Deeds Tabitha Harland	Margaret Nelson

**10:30 a.m.** Refreshments and fellowship time provided by the Powell family.

**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 ..... 7:00 p.m. .... Finance & Stewardship
- ..... 7:30 p.m. .... Aikido
- Tuesday ..... 9:30 a.m. .... Library Committee
- ..... 6:30 p.m. .... Gibbs Cub Scout Troup
- ..... 7:00 p.m. .... Session
- Wednesday ..... 6:30 a.m. .... Prayer Group at Madonna Towers
- ..... 5:30 p.m. .... Food backpacks
- ..... 7:00 p.m. .... Choir practice
- Thursday ..... 7:00 p.m. .... "The Longest Night" Service
- Saturday ..... 6:00 p.m. .... Christmas Eve Worship Service
- Sunday ..... 9:00 a.m. .... Christmas Day Worship Service
- ..... No Sunday School

**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 p.m.
- Christmas Eve Service, Saturday,  
Dec 24th at 6:00 p.m.
- 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.

**Special Worship Service...**This morning the worship service will be led by our youth and children. They will present "The Voices of Christmas".

**The 2011 Joy Offering...**Today 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). Please use the special envelopes in your bulletin for your gift today.

**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."

**Your Per Capita and Year End Giving...**

With great joy we draw near to completing this year of ministry and fellowship for 2011. Our per capita, which supports the mission and administration of programs of our Presbytery and denomination is due Dec 31<sup>st</sup> in the amount of \$30.46 per member. Thank you for placing your check in the plate or mail to CPC. We also hope to end our 2011 Budget in the black and appreciate your pledges and any special year end gifts you can give. Thank you for your faithfulness and may God bless you abundantly this Christmas Season and in the coming year.

**Women of the Church...**Our yearly luncheon will be held SATURDAY, January 7th at 11:00 a.m. at the new Red Lobster restaurant at the Apache Mall. At the luncheon, we collect items for Crisis Nursery here in Rochester which serves children in need. Sign up in the Narthex if you plan to come or call Nancy Massaro at 287-6514 to register. The deadline to register is Jan. 5th.

A Glimpse of Advent in Our World: Week Four "Magnify"

"The Voices of Christmas" Our Children and Youth Live today!

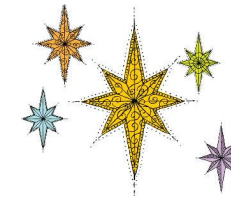
Today our own children and youth of Community Presbyterian Church lead us in worship right into the Manger. Our theme today is Magnify: Like Mary's "Magnificat" we see how God is made big in our world through many, many small ways!

- (1) What new insights into your preparation for Christmas did you gain from today's worship?
- (2) What 2 small things have been benefits to you recently? How do you think God was within them?
- (3) Are you anxious about something coming up this week that feels "great" or necessary? Consider how you might break it into smaller portions and invite God to be a part of it?
- (4) Find a moment each day this Advent week #4 to repeat Mother Teresa's short prayer of intention to "do small things with great love".



Invocation

God,  
*"We can do no great things-  
 Only small things ...with great love."* Amen.  
 ~Mother Teresa



Benediction

*How silently, how silently,  
 the wondrous Gift is given!  
 So God imparts to human hearts  
 the blessings of his heaven.  
 No ear may hear his coming,  
 but in this world of sin,  
 where meek souls will receive him still,  
 the dear Christ enters in.*  
 ~Phillips Brooks "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

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



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