

In Our Prayers

We pray for healing and comfort for Don Racheter and Peg Wier. We also pray for our Special Care friends Roslynn Bol and Mary Lou Allen.

The congregational letter found at the back of the sanctuary goes to the staff at the Presbytery of Wabash Valley.

Central Happenings

SUNDAY – December 10

10:00am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)

WEDNESDAY – December 13

11:30am Circle 20/20 (Walts Pub)

12:00pm Charity Knitters (Discipleship)

THURSDAY – December 14

7:00pm Central Choir Practice (Rehearsal Hall)

Thank you to all who participated and contributed to Jubilee Christmas. It was a

The Christmas Joy offering (one of four annual special offerings by PCUSA) aids current and retired pastors in need and develops future leaders at Presbyterian related schools and colleges. Please mark your checks “Christmas Joy” on the memo line. Donations are being accepted through 12/31.

O Holy Night – 10 Reflections on Carols of Christmas is available on the table in the back of the sanctuary and at the reception desk. Please help yourself ...grab a copy or three and share it with your friends and family.

See insert for more Christmas Happenings.

Pastor: Wil Reinowski
Traditional Music & Organist: Jeffrey Stearns
Adult Handbells: Janice Spitalniak
Contemporary Music: Paul Foster
Custodian: Bob Hill

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Central Presbyterian Church

Third Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Praise the Lord with trumpet sound;

People: praise God with lute and harp!

Leader: Praise the Lord with tambourine and dance;

People: praise God with strings and pipe!

Leader: Praise the Lord with clanging cymbals;

People: praise God with loud clashing cymbals!

Leader: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

People: Praise the Lord!

*Hymn

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

106

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

We know what Advent means, but not so sure what it means to us. In the midst of daily stresses help us to tune in... Prepare. Prepare to welcome the new life we were meant to live. Prepare to listen to the needs of others. Prepare to let go of anger and resentment. Prepare to forgive and accept forgiveness. Prepare to believe that something new is possible. Prepare to accept the gift we are about to receive. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Leader: In Jesus Christ, the Lord has done great things for us!
Even if we have gone out in tears, God brings us home shouting for joy.

People: We are forgiven!

***Peoples' Response**

“Glory to God in the Highest” (back cover Hymnal)

***Passing of the Peace**

Candle Lighting

Congregational Response

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” V. 3 88

Bidding Prayer

Lesson 1

Genesis 1: 1-5

John 1: 1-5, 14

“Heavenly Light” (Alexander Kopylov)

Lesson 2

Isaiah 7: 10-15

Luke 1:26-38

“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout” (Rory Cooney/Irish)

Lesson 3

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Matthew 3: 1-7, 11

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People” (arr. Foster)

Lesson 4

Isaiah 11: 1-9

Matthew 1: 18-23

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” (arr. James Kimball)

Lesson 5

Micah 5: 2-4

Luke 2: 1-12

“Angels and Shepherds” (Linda Lamb)

Lesson 6

Isaiah 42: 5-9

Luke 2: 25-32

***Hymn** “Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple” 148

Lesson 7

Isaiah 9: 1-2, 6

Matthew 4: 12-17

“What Child is This?” (arr. James Christensen)

Lesson 8

Isaiah 35: 1-10

Revelation 22: 12, 16-17, 20

“Creator of the Stars of Night” Michael Burkhardt

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Offering

The offering basket is located at the back of the west aisle of the sanctuary. Feel free to leave your offering at any time.

Offertory “Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring” (Bach/Holcombe)

***Doxology** 606

***Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

Holy God, you call us to be your light in the darkness, your voice in the wilderness, your hope for the hopeless. May these gifts be used to proclaim more of you, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn** “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” 377

***Benediction**

Postlude “Hallelujah from Messiah” (G.F. Handel)

** Please stand as you are able.*



Central Happenings

Our Christmas Eve Schedule:

Christmas Eve Morning at 10:00am we will have a more casual service and will be doing a service project called the Shepherds' Run. We will assemble baskets of goodies to take to fire, police and emergency rooms to thank them for watching over us on Christmas Eve. Donations of individually wrapped treats (jerky, crackers, cookies) or money to purchase snacks can be placed at the back of the sanctuary by December 17. We will need a few volunteers to deliver the baskets after worship. Questions: contact Becky Stoupe at 620-899-0750. Let's let our local first responders know we are grateful for their vigilance.

Christmas Eve Evening at 7:00pm a full candlelight Christmas Eve service will take place with lessons and carols.

New Year's Eve: Regular 10:00am service.

Save the Date: Sunday February 11, 2024 is the first ever deacons Chili/Soup Super Bowl Party after worship.

The Players

Central Church Choir

Barb Doering	Otto Doering
Pris Gerde	Roy Johnson
Sarah Johnson	John Martin
Kathy Meeks	Alex Moon
Harriet Smith	Janet Stearns
Judi Wilcox	

Central Bell Choir

Jill Clauson	Sue Graham
Sami Markham	Virginia Myers
Suzy Schurman	Becky Stoupe
Bruce Ward	Laura Ward

Lafayette Flute Choir

Kayla Anderson	Kristen Bellisario
Susan Budd	Dinah Dalder
Mary Kay Davis	Jessica Day
Miranda Furrer	Karen Hudson
Kim Moore	Dolly Poston-Zollars
Suzanne Rudman	Vicky Saker Woeste
Sam Stuckey	Sarah Swanson
Stephanie Tan	Megan Trevelyan
Erica Wallskog	Lisa Wilcroust
Ellie Boyer, Conductor	

Liturgists

Chip & Carolyn Goldsberry