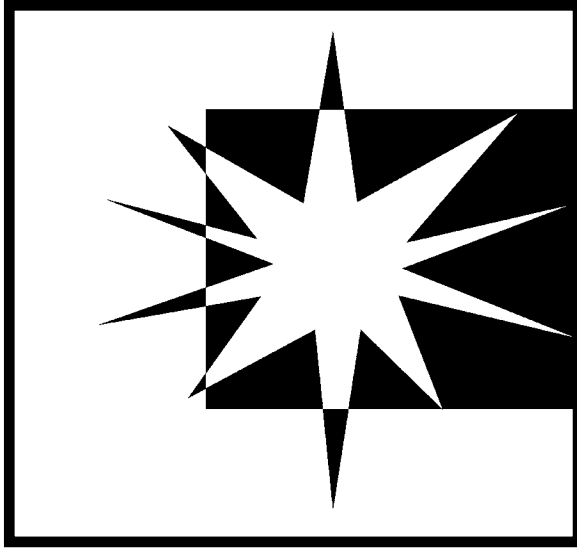


*The First Presbyterian Church  
Ann Arbor, Michigan  
January 3, 2009  
Second Sunday After Christmas  
Family Worship and Communion*



**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](http://www.firstpresbyterian.org).

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

**GATHERING**

(9:30/11:00) VOLUNTARY    Sing Lullaby / What Child Is This  
*arr. Noel Rawsthorne*

**LIFE IN THE CHURCH**

*Please sign the Friendship Book in each pew near the center aisle and pass it along your pew or to others sitting nearby. As it returns, note with whom you worship so that you may greet each other after the service.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation,

**All: The old has passed away; everything has become new.**

One: New possibilities for life in Christ open before us;

**All: Growth in faith and hope, love and service await our embrace.**

One: The God who has met us in the Child of Bethlehem,

**All: will meet us again and again in this new year!**

One: Let us worship God.

**\*HYMN 31 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

*Mendelssohn*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

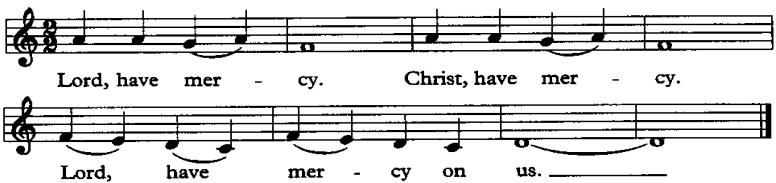
O God of all our days and years, we linger in the glow of the manger and in the angels' song, rejoicing in the newness you have brought us in Christ Jesus. As the calendar turns to a new year, we confess our grip is too tight on old hurts we have suffered, on old grudges, on old patterns of behavior that again and again defeat us, on hardened ways of thinking that do not help us mature in faith. Forgive us, and open our hearts to release that which is not born of your love. Open us to all the new possibilities and wonder that were born at Bethlehem. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

## SILENT CONFESSION

## KYRIE

(8:00) #572 in the Hymnal Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us  
*Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

(9:30/11:00) Lord, Have Mercy



## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

One: Hear the good news! God sent Jesus to dispel our darkness. In the gift of Christ, God gives light and life to all who turn to God. In mercy, God restores us to the Light that we may love God and one another. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

## \*PASSING THE PEACE

*You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as forgiven people. As we are in flu season, we encourage you to participate in "touch free" passing of the peace. As you greet one another, rather than shaking hands, place your hands together in an attitude of prayer.*

One to another: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

\*GLORIA Refrain from Hymn 23 Angels We Have Heard on High  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

## PROCLAIMING

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Jeremiah 31:7-9 (O.T., p. 734)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON John 1:1-5, 9-14 (N.T., p. 91-92)

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

### A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*The children through grade five may be seated at the foot of the chancel steps to meet with one of the pastors.*

SERMON A New Beginning

RESPONDING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

ANTHEM The Glory of the Father Egil Hovland  
*The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. we beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth. In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God. In Him was life; and the life was the light of all. He came to his own, and his own received him not. The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

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

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

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

Leader: Let us pray . . .

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

People Singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of power and maj - es - ty,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry, O God most high!

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 WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE COMMUNION

*All communion chalices for pew communion contain only non-alcoholic grape juice. (9:30) Worshipers may remain in the pews to be served by Elders and Deacons. (11:00) Worshipers are invited to come forward by the center aisle. Communion stations are located in front of the chancel. Please take a wafer of bread and a cup, then partake. Return to your seat by the side aisle. If you are unable to come forward, an elder or deacon will serve you. At 8:00 a.m., gluten-free wafers may be found in the center cup of the plate. At 9:30 and 11:00 a.m., gluten-free wafers are located in the center cup on each wafer tray.*

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

**People: and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

**People: and forget not all God's blessings.**

SENDING

\*HYMN 46 On This Day Earth Shall Ring *Personent Hodie*

\*BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY Mary Had a Baby/Masters in This Hall

*arr. Noel Rawsthorne*

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*The Prayer Team is available, for those desiring prayer, in the Hillegonds Chapel, to the right of the piano, following the 9:30 worship service.*

**THE PREACHER** at the 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship service is the Reverend Lawrence W. Farris. The preacher at the 5:45 p.m. worship service is the Reverend Jenny McDevitt.

**PARTICIPATING** in the worship services are the Reverend Sarah Wiles at 8:00 a.m., the Reverends Jim Monnett and Melissa Anne Rogers at 9:30 a.m., the Reverends Jim Monnett and Sarah Wiles at 11:00 a.m., and the Reverend Matthew Nickel at 5:45 p.m.

**THE PIANIST** at the 8:00 a.m. service is Ilya Blinov.

**THE CHANCEL CHOIR CONDUCTOR** is Susan Boggs.

**THE READERS** are Karl Bartsch at 8:00 a.m.; Karl Hauser at 9:30 a.m.; and Robert Hockett at 11:00 a.m.

**THE GREETERS** at 9:30 a.m. are Dick and Barb Carlisle and Ruth Primus. The greeters at 11:00 a.m. are Richard and Rosie Bird and Don Deatrick.

**THE PRAYER TEAM MEMBERS** are David and Martha Krehbiel.

*Today's Events*

**FAMILY WORSHIP AND COMMUNION** is at 8:00 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. in Monteith Hall, and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

**CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE** for crib through four-year-olds at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. Parents may be asked to present a picture I.D. when they pick up their children.

**ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES do not meet today.**

**FIRST SINGLES** meets at 11:00 a.m. in the Curtis Room. Today, Dee Valvanis will reflect on New Year's resolutions.

**PICK UP YOUR 2010 OFFERING ENVELOPES TODAY.** They are labeled by name and available on the table outside the Church Office.

**RADIO WORSHIP** service is at 11:00 a.m. on WAAM (1600 AM), and on WAAM's website, waamannarbor.com.

**THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given in loving memory of Thomas George Gies by Thelma Gies Rivette.

*Announcements*

**THE SURVEY IS UP!** The Self Study Committee has completed and posted online the congregational survey for members and friends of the congregation to complete. An email with the link to the survey is included in the congregational email everyone should have received this week. The link

will also be on the church website. Those members who receive First Press by regular mail will receive a printed copy of the survey shortly. The committee hopes as many folks as possible will take the 30 minutes needed to complete the survey between now and January 15. Your input is crucial! Thanks.

**YOUTH NEWS: Keystones** meets tonight, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. to explore prayer and have great fun. Sunday School returns January 10 and will meet in Monteith Chapel for the semester. Also on January 10, Keystones will attend the revamped 5:45 worship on the second and fourth Sundays each month with youth group to follow until 8:00 p.m. If you would like to help plan the 5:45 worship see RJ to get connected. **Monster Jam** is Saturday, January 16, at Ford Field at 4:30 p.m. See RJ to sign up. The Presbyterian Youth Triennium trip is July 20-24. Cost is \$460. **The Student Leadership Team** meets today at 11:00 a.m. **The MIDS Splash Universe** trip is Friday, January 22 from 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. Come enjoy the waterslides, lazy river and more. Bring your own towel. Sign up with RJ. Please turn in a new signed Consent Release, a water park release, and \$16 by January 18.

**THE NEXT STEPHEN MINISTRY CONTINUING EDUCATION** offering will be held January 4. Lois Jelneck will discuss "Caring for the elderly who have to make difficult decisions." All sessions are Mondays, from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m. in the Youth Room. Refreshments will be served.

**THE ROTATING SHELTER, OUR NEW LOCAL MISSION:** In the last year, homelessness in Ann Arbor has increased by 30 percent. In response, the city has asked the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County to expanding their Rotating Shelter program to help the overflow of homeless that cannot fit in the current shelter system in the Delonis Center.

From January 6 through 20, a set group of 25 homeless men, identified by the Shelter Association as good candidates for the program, will sleep on mats in our Social Hall. They will arrive at 8:00 p.m. each evening, after having dinner, showers, and a Breathalyzer test at the Delonis Center, and leave at 7:00 a.m. the next morning for the St. Andrews Church breakfast program.

Our church will provide two to three volunteers per night for conversation with the men before bedtime and for safety (volunteers take turns staying awake so that everyone gets some sleep); transportation from the Delonis Center to First Pres; evening snacks, hot water, cocoa, coffee and transportation to St. Andrews in the morning. Please help by signing up to stay at church for one night during this time period, providing an evening snack one evening, or volunteering as an evening or morning driver. Questions? Contact Sue Chandler (suechandler@comcast.net, 996-2673), Jame Hayes (hayesdf@comcast.net, 827-0146), or Brian Williams (bwms@umich.edu, 669-0045), Rotating Shelter co-chairs, or the Reverends Matthew Nickel or Jenny McDevitt.

**MATURE MINISTRIES' MOVIE MORNING IS MOVING** to the fourth Thursday of each month, at 11:00 a.m. Note change in date and time. We may also move out of the church on occasion to see a movie at a theater and discuss it over coffee or lunch. Next up? January 28 we will meet at the church to watch and discuss the spiritual and theological significance of the movie *The Aviator*. Hope you can join us! Sign up by January 25. Watch for our February movie morning, which will include going to a theater together. Interested? Contact the "Fellowship and Fun" subcommittee of Mature Ministries: Malcolm Powers (mmpowers@umich.edu, 761-9859) or Melissa Anne Rogers (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org, 662-4466, ext. 12).

**PRAYING THE PSALMS** prayer group meets Wednesday evenings at 5:00 p.m. Pew cards with prayer requests may be completed and put in the offering plate. Members and visitors are welcome to join at any time.

## Calendar for January 4-9

### MONDAY:

Body and Soul, 9:30 a.m., Curtis Room  
Liturgical Dance Rehearsal, noon, Monteith Hall  
Mature Ministries Steering Committee, noon, Vance Room  
Pilgrims of Ibillin, 5:30 p.m., Vance Room  
Mission Committee, 6:00 p.m., Founders Room  
YEMC, 6:30 p.m., French Room/Library  
Property Committee, 7:00 p.m., Vance Room  
WEBS, 7:00 p.m., Curtis Room  
Stephen Ministry Supervision, 7:00 p.m., Youth Room  
Boy Scouts, 7:30 p.m., Social Hall  
Sanctus Ringers, 7:30 p.m., Room 403

### TUESDAY:

Prayer Group, 7:30 a.m., Founders Room  
Bible Support Group, 10:00 a.m., Vance Room  
ESL, 1:00 p.m., Rooms 101, 102, 104, Youth Room  
Campus Ministry, 5:15 p.m., Vance Room  
Haiti Medical Mission Task Force, 6:00 p.m., Curtis Room  
Congregational Self-study Group, 7:00 p.m., French Room/Library

### WEDNESDAY:

Wednesday Night Meal, 3:00-7:15 p.m. (volunteers),  
5:30 (meal), Delonis Center  
Delonis Greeting Card Program, 5:00 p.m., Delonis Center  
Praying the Psalms, 5:00 p.m., Lewis Room  
Hosanna Choir, 5:00 p.m., Russel Room  
Alleluia Choir, 5:00 p.m., Room 404  
MIDS, 5:00 p.m., Youth Room  
Youth Choir, 7:00 p.m., Russel Room  
TnT, 7:00 p.m., Room 104  
Executive Deacons, 7:00 p.m., Founders Room  
Rotating Shelter, 8:00 p.m., Social Hall

### THURSDAY:

Adapted Exercise, 3:00 p.m., Curtis/Founders Room  
Vision and Strategy Committee, 6:00 p.m., Vance Room  
Abide, 7:00 p.m., Founders Room  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m., Russel Room  
Rotating Shelter, 8:00 p.m., Social Hall

### FRIDAY:

Prayer/Study Group, 9:00 a.m., away  
Mom's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.,  
Knit Night, 7:30 p.m., Curtis Room  
Rotating Shelter, 8:00 p.m., Social Hall

### SATURDAY:

Lay Reader Training, 9:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Communion Training, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Rotating Shelter, 8:00 p.m., Social Hall



*A Stephen Ministry  
Congregation*

