

December 25, 2022
The Nativity of the Lord: Christmas Day

PRELUDE "Prelude and Fugue in F major" Bach

WELCOME

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL OFFERING

INTROIT "Mary's Little Boy-Child" HAIRSTON

OPENING SENTENCES Luke 2:10-11; Isa. 52:7; John 1:14

There is good news of great joy for all!
Our Savior is born: the Messiah, the Lord.
How beautiful is the messenger of peace,
who proclaims the good news of salvation.
The Word became flesh to live among us;
now we have seen the glory of God.
Let us worship God!

+**HYMN #152** "Angels We Have Heard on High" GLORIA

PRAYER OF THE DAY

HYMN #165 "I Wonder as I Wander" I WONDER AS I WANDER

CALL TO CONFESSION Titus 2:11-12

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
God of grace and truth,
in Jesus Christ you came among us
as light shining in darkness.
We confess that we have not welcomed the light,
or trusted good news to be good.
We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst,
expecting little, and hoping for less.

Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope,
so that we may receive the fullness of your grace,
and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Titus 2:14

... we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN #145 "Of the Father's Love Begotten" DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
... O Christ, our light, **hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ Those who are able may stand. 1

HYMN #169 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" W ZLOBIE LEZY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

HYMN #149 "Away in a Manger" CRADLE SONG

INVITATION TO OFFERING John 1:16; Isa. 9:6; Luke 2:11

OFFERTORY "Silent Night" Gruber

+**RESPONSE #173** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (refrain) ADESTE FIDELES
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

+**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *A Brief Statement of Faith*
(United States, 1991)

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

+**HYMN #157** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" IN DULCI JUBILO

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 52:7-10

HYMN #159 "Sing We Now of Christmas" NOEL NOUVELET

PSALM Psalm 98

HYMN #154 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" FOREST GREEN

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Hebrews 1:1-4

HYMN #168 "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing" SUSSEX CAROL

GOSPEL LESSON John 1:1-14

RESPONSE Luke 2:19
Treasure these words
and ponder them in your heart.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "Still a Bach Christmas" arr. Althouse

LITANY FOR CHRISTMAS
The grace of God has appeared,
bringing salvation to all.
Glory to God in the highest!

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.
Glory to God in the highest!

For a child has been born for us,
a Son has been given to us.
Glory to God in the highest!

He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Glory to God in the highest!

To us is born in the city of David
a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.
Glory to God in the highest!

And the Word became flesh
and lived among us.
Glory to God in the highest!

Christ is born! **Give him glory!**
Christ has come down from heaven! **Receive him!**
Christ is now on earth! **Exalt him!**
O earth, sing to the Lord!
O you nations, praise him in joy,
for he has been glorified! **Amen.**

+**HYMN #151** "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" GO TELL IT

+**BLESSING** Isa. 60:1
Arise and shine, for your light has come!
The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
Alleluia!

+**CHARGE** Luke 2:10-11
Go and tell this good news of great joy:
to us a Savior is born.
Amen!

POSTLUDE "Judex Crederis" Fasolo

Join us for fellowship after worship.
It is not necessary to remain seated during the postlude.

SERVING US TODAY
Guest Organist: Caitlyn Brown
Liturgist: Peter Robinson
Greeters: Katharine Wise
and Andrew, Colin, Timmy, Sam, and Ben Pinches
Sound: Marty Subject
Livestream: Andrew Pinches
Security: Andrew Pinches

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#15. Persecution: After Stephen's death, a Pharisee named Saul and other Jewish leaders begin arresting many Christians in Jerusalem. The apostles are scattered. (*Acts 8:1-4*)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 47. What do you affirm when you say that "he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father"?

First, that Christ has gone to be with the Father, hidden except to the eyes of faith. Second, however, that Christ is not cut off from us in the remote past, or in some place from which he cannot reach us, but is present to us here and now by grace. He reigns with divine authority, protecting us, guiding us, and interceding for us until he returns in glory.

CREDITS

Prayers: *Book of Common Worship*, Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press. Used with permission.

Other Scripture Readings: New Revised Standard Version Bible—Updated Edition, copyright © 2021 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Affirmation of Faith: From *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Part I: Book of Confessions*, published by the Office of the General Assembly, © 2016.

Music: "Prelude and Fugue in F major." By Johann Sebastian Bach. Public domain. "Mary's Little Boy-Child." Words and music by Jester Hairston, 1956. Copyright © 1956 Bourne Co. Used with permission, One License #A-717602. "Angels We Have Heard on High." Text: Traditional French carol, 18th century; trans. *Crown of Jesus Music*, 1862, alt. Tune: Traditional French melody, 18th century; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1937. Public domain. "I Wonder as I Wander." Text: Traditional Appalachian carol; coll. John Jacob Niles, 1934. Tune: Traditional Appalachian melody; coll. John Jacob Niles, 1934; arr. Donald P. Hustad, 1984. Copyright © 1934 (renewed) G. Schirmer, Inc. Arr. © 1985 G. Schirmer, Inc. Used with permission, One License #A-717602. "Of the Father's Love Begotten." Text: Marcus Aurelius C. Prudentius, 4th century; trans. John M. Neale, 1854, and Henry W. Baker, 1859, alt. Tune: Plainsong, c. 13th century; arr. based on C. Winfried Douglas, 1916. Public domain. "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly." Text: traditional Polish carol; trans. Edith M. G. Reed, 1921. Tune: traditional Polish melody; harm. David Hugh Jones, 1953. Translation used by permission of Bell & Hyman Publishers. Music © 1955 by permission of Westminster/John Knox Press. Used with permission, One License #A-717602. "Away in a Manger." Text: anonymous, 1885; stanza 3, 1892, alt. Tune: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1895. Public domain. "Silent Night." Music by Franz Gruber, 1818. Public domain. "O Come, All Ye Faithful." Text: Latin hymn, attr. John F. Wade, 1751; trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others, alt. Tune: John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751. Public domain. "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice." Text: Macaronic carol, 14th century; para. John M. Neale, 1853, alt. Tune: traditional German melody, 14th century. Public domain. "Sing We Now of Christmas." Text: traditional French carol. Tune: traditional French melody; harm. Martin Shaw, 1928. Music used by permission of Oxford University Press. Used with permission, A-717602. "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Text: Phillips Brooks, 1868. Tune: traditional English melody; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906. Music used by permission of Oxford University Press. Used with permission, One License #A-717602. "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing." Text: traditional English carol. Tune: traditional carol melody; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1912. Music © 1919 Stainer & Bell. Used by permission of Galaxy Musix Corp. Used with permission, One License #A-717602. "Still a Bach Christmas: A Christmas Duet on 'Still, Still' and J. S. Bach's 'Air' from *Orchestral Suite in D*." Traditional Austrian carol and "Air" from *Orchestral Suite in D* by Johann Sebastian Bach. Adapted and arranged with new words by Jay Althouse. Copyright © 1995 Alfred Publishing Co. Used with permission, One License #A-717602. "Go, Tell It on the Mountain." Text: John W. Work, 1907. Tune: African American spiritual; arr. Donald P. Hustad, 1989. Music copyright © 1990 Hope Publishing Company. Used with permission, One License #A-717602. "Judex Crederis." By Giovanni Batista Fasolo. Public domain.

Art: *The Nativity of Christ*. From the *Hortus deliciarum* (the Garden of Delights, 12th century) compiled by Herrad of Landsberg. Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hortus_Deliciarum,_Die_Geburt_Christi.JPG. Public domain.

Mason First Presbyterian Church

131 E Maple St, Mason, MI 48854-1655

(517) 676-9333

info@masonpresbyterian.org

www.masonpresbyterian.org

Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00-11:30am

MINISTERS

All Members

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Bill Pinches

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Charlie Herrick

Spiritual Growth Director: Lori Filka

Office Manager: Sheren Wright

Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director: Deb Melse

Choral Music Accompanist / Organist: Feng Kang

Adult Spiritual Growth Coordinator: Michelle Mackey

Child Care: Aimee Cruickshank, Isaiah Hawkins,

Hannah Koutz, Sam Pinches, Lucy Simons

ELDERS

Class of 2022: Jenny Bond, Ed Clarke, Debbie Shellenbarger, Gladys Welker.

Class of 2023: Bruce Archer, Tim Hammond, Mary Ozee, Steve Sowles.

Class of 2024: Jerry Ambrose, Lucinda Davenport, Loren Harkness, Tonya Seely.

Elders-Elect: Anita Cote, Mary Garland Jackson, Monte Shuck.

Clerk: Bruce Archer.

DEACONS

Class of 2022: Marge Clarke, Sandy Diehl, Linda Myall, Mari Nicol.

Class of 2023: Lisa Castle, Jay Harkness, Vern Schrock, Steve VanDyke.

Class of 2024: Donna Hujsak, Issie Nielsen, Camille Subject.

Deacons-Elect: Marge Clarke, Julie Dart, Timmy Pinches.

Moderators: Sandy Diehl and Mari Nicol.

DAILY PRAYER

search for "Daily Prayer (Presbyterian Book of Common Worship)" in your podcast app, or go to www.buzzsprout.com/1466482

EVENTS THIS WEEK

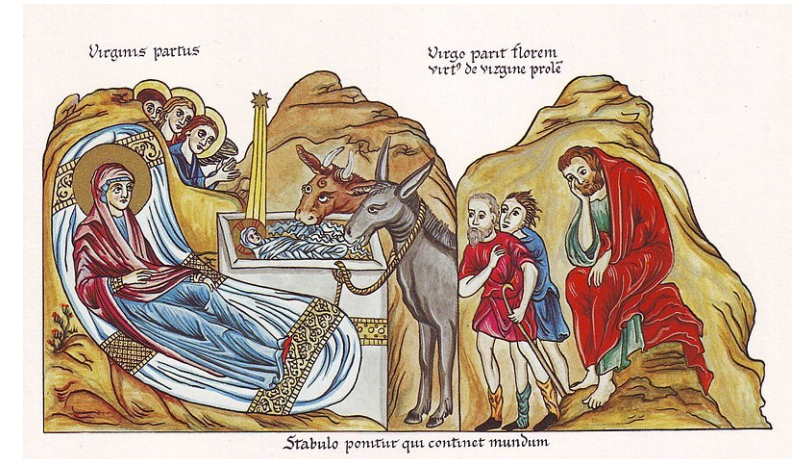
Monday	Church Office closed	
Wednesday	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:30 am
Friday	Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath	
Fri./Sat.	Winter Lock-In at Camp Greenwood	
Saturday	Christmas Eve worship service	6:30 pm

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Dave Barber	Dec. 27
Lisa Castle	Dec. 28
Beckett Barber	Dec. 30
Caidra VanDyke	Dec. 30

Mason First Presbyterian Church

December 25, 2022
The Nativity of the Lord:
Christmas Day



The Nativity of Christ
from a 12th-century illustrated encyclopedia
called the *Hortus deliciarum* (the Garden of Delights)
compiled by Herrad of Landsberg

The fruit of the Spirit
is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity,
faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
(Galatians 5:22-23)