

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENDLETON, OREGON DECEMBER 20, 2020
4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT



PASTOR – Rev. Jonathan Mitchell
LITURGIST – Tina Kennedy
VOCALS – Steve Muller
PIANO – Sue Nelson

You are invited to participate with us.
Bold words are spoken together.
Bold Italic words are sung together.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION: CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING SUPPORTS THESE INSTITUTIONS

Menaul School
Albuquerque, NM
menaulschool.com

- 98% of graduates go on to college
- Ranked best Christian High School and 5th best private school in New Mexico by *Niche* (niche.com) in their February release of “2016 Best Private Schools in America”

Presbyterian Pan American School, Kingsville, TX
ppas.org

- 100% of graduates are accepted into colleges and universities in their home countries or in the United States
- Welcomes a diverse international student body, with 26 countries represented in the last 25 years

Stillman College
Tuscaloosa, AL
stillman.edu

- 93% of Stillman’s full-time faculty hold terminal degrees
- Stillman has been selected a College of Distinction for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 for Christian Education collegesofdistinction.com/school/stillman-college

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN #147

The First Nowell

1. The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as
they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Refrain:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.
2. They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
[Refrain]
3. And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
[Refrain]
4. This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o’er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.
[Refrain]
5. Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
[Refrain]
6. Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.
[Refrain]

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Ridgway/Currin Family

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Mary's Song, Luke 1

Our souls magnify the Lord.

Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

The Mighty One has done great things for us.

Holy is God's name.

God's mercy is ever near, from generation to generation.

God's strength scatters the proud, but lifts the humble of heart.

God's love fills us up, nourishing our hungry souls.

God's grace has called us here, strengthening our lives of faith.

Come, let us worship the Lord!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Savior God, shine upon us with your grace.

We long to align ourselves with the proud and the mighty.

Guide us to walk with those who are poor and powerless.

**When we yearn for riches and glory, guide our hearts
back to your thirst for justice and righteousness.**

Remember us with mercy.

**We desire to live as the household of faith
you would have us be.**

Help us live according to your gospel and trust
that all things are possible in your love.

(time for silent, personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

From Luke 1

Rejoice! God has looked with favor upon the powerless and the lowly. Christ has come to redeem us from our sin.

The Spirit has strengthened us with the power of grace and love.

Join me in these words of forgiveness:

By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

GLORIA PATRI #577 FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;

***As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.***

***As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.***

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Spirit is with us and brings us peace. Let us share the Creator's grace with one another.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

ANTHEM

Silent Night, Deck the halls

Elizabeth Curren

HEBREW LESSON

Psalm 89:1-4; 19-26

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

SERMON

Interruptions and Responses

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HYMN #136

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

1. While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. [Refrain]

2. The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. [Refrain]

3. Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. [Refrain]

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High

arr. by Nancy Lau