

CSPL114571, CCLI 736861 One license A-727852

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENDLETON, OREGON – DECEMBER 17TH, 2023
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT- JOY



PASTOR: REV. JONATHAN MITCHELL

MUSIC LEADER: STEVE MULLER

ORGANIST/PIANIST: CARLY ELDER

LITURGIST: KAYLEE ZIMMERMAN

- **BOLD** words are spoken together
- The nursery is open for children aged 0-5
- There are children's activity bags available!
- The beautiful flowers were provided by Theresa Ulrich in loving memory of her parents, Jim & Ellen Johnson and her sister, Molly Johnson.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING PRAYER

MINUTE FOR MISSION

MARY DAVIS

Christmas Joy Offering

*HYMN #123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Theresa Ulrich, Jim Varady, Tina and Nathan Kennedy

CALL TO WORSHIP

FROM PSALM 126 AND ISAIAH 61

When the Lord restores our fortunes,

we are like those who dream.

Our mouths are filled with laughter;

our hearts sing with shouts of joy.

We will greatly rejoice in the LORD, our whole beings shall exult in God.

For the LORD has clothed us with the garments of salvation,

God has covered us with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Come, let us worship the LORD!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Your love is good news for the oppressed, O Lord, and you bind up the brokenhearted.

Forgive us, O God, when we think that your good news is only for us.

Forgive us, O God, when we twist your gospel into something that fits comfortably into our lives.

By your light, let us see you leading us beyond ourselves and into the world you love.

By your grace, forgive us, and free us to try again.

(time for silent, personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

FROM PSALM 126

The LORD had done great things for us, and we rejoice.

The LORD restores us from weeping to shouts of joy.

Join me in these words of forgiveness:

By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*GLORIA PATRI

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.***

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

FROM ISAIAH 61

Clothed in the garments of salvation and the robes of righteousness, let us celebrate God's love by sharing the peace of Christ.

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you!**

Greet one another with the peace of Christ

CAROL #136

Go Tell It on the Mountain

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Bible Lessons and Congregational Carols

HEBREW LESSON	OT P. 598	ISAIAH 7: 14
CAROL #88	<i>O Come, O Come Emmanuel</i>	vs. 1
GOSPEL LESSON	NT P. 53	Luke 1: 26-28
CAROL #69	<i>I, The Lord of Sea and Sky</i>	vv. 1-2
GOSPEL LESSON	NT P. 1	Matthew 1:18-21
CAROL #69	<i>I, The Lord of Sea and Sky</i>	v. 3
GOSPEL LESSON	NT P. 54	Luke 2:1-4
CAROL #115	<i>Away in a Manager</i>	
GOSPEL LESSON	NT P. 54	Luke 2: 8-16
CAROL #133	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	vv. 1, 3
GOSPEL LESSON	NT P. 1	Matthew 2:1-5, 7-8
CAROL #151	<i>We Three Kings of Orient Are</i>	vv. 1-4
PRAYER		
CAROL #134	<i>Joy to the World</i>	
OFFERING		

*DOXOLOGY GTG #607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen

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 #119 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-  Please sign and pass the fellowship pads at the end of the pews. It is a great way to find out who is sitting in the pew next to you. Please join us for coffee hour following worship.
-  PW Bible Study at 9:30 am every second Wednesday of each month.
-  The Congregational Vitality Commission will again be hosting “Discussion and Desserts” book study starting in January. The book we have chosen for this year is “The American Way of Eating: Undercover at Walmart, Applebee’s, Farm Fields and the Dinner Table” by Tracie McMillan. If you are interested in participating in next year’s book study, please let Darcey Ridgway or the church office know.
-  The Altrusa “Sunday Suppers” at the Salvation Army are looking for small toiletry items (like the ones you get at hotels) to give to the guests this winter. If you are so inclined, please bring in your donations of shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, etc. to the church between now and the end of the year.

Advent Calendar 2023

Sunday, Dec. 3 First Sunday of Advent

- Worship at 10:00 AM. Lighting the candle of hope in the Advent Wreath
- Advent Celebration 4:00 – 6:00 PM in the Rogers Room
- Fun for all ages. Caring Connection will provide a meal. We will make decorations, enjoy each other's company, and decorate the tree in the sanctuary.

Sunday, Dec. 10 Second Sunday of Advent

- Worship at 10:00 AM. Lighting the candle of peace in the Advent Wreath

Sunday, Dec. 17 Third Sunday of Advent

- Worship at 10:00 AM. Lighting the candle of joy in the Advent Wreath
- Christmas Pageant during worship
- All kiddos are invited. No preparation necessary. Arrive at 9:30 for "rehearsal."

Sunday, Dec. 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve.

- Worship at 10:00 AM. Lighting the candle of love in the Advent Wreath
- Lessons and Carols at 7:00 PM Lighting the Christ candle in the Advent Wreath.
- This is a service of readings and music that culminates with the singing of "Silent Night" and passing the light to one another.



The Longest Night

A nondenominational contemplative service that focuses on Christ as the Light of the World overcoming the darkness of loss, suffering and loneliness. We recognize that this season is not always joyous and offer this special service designed to provide hope and healing. All are welcome!

**7:00 pm Thursday
December 21**

**St. Clare Chapel
St. Anthony Hospital**

For more information please call 541-278-6574