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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENDLETON, OREGON – DEC. 22ND, 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LOVE



PASTOR: REV. JONATHAN MITCHELL

MUSIC LEADER: CARLY ELDER & STEVE MULLER

LITURGIST: GARY ZIMMERMAN

- **BOLD** words are spoken together
- The nursery is open for children aged 0-5
- There are children's activity booklets available to keep!
- Mary Carnevale provided beautiful flowers in memory of Millie Grilley and to celebrate Millie and Wesley Grilley's wedding anniversary on the 27th.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN #102

Savior of the Nations, Come

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Brian, Jennifer, Caleb, and Morgan Currin

CALL TO WORSHIP

FROM MICAH 5 AND LUKE 1

Rejoice in the presence and love of Christ.

We rejoice in the one who lives in our hearts.

Rejoice, for Christ brings justice and peace to our world.

We rejoice in the one who calls us to justice and peace.

Rejoice with faith and hope.

We rejoice in the one whose promises are true.

Come, let us worship the LORD!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, giver of all good gifts, we come before you as children in need of your wisdom and grace.

Our fears and our hopes are braided together in the rhythm of daily life.

Our visions of the future depend on our own hands and ability.

Our expectations remain reasonable and within our control.

Break into this tangle of fear and hope, bringing peace to our souls.

Break into our vision of the future, returning us to your hands.

Break into our expectations, awakening us with curiosity and wonder; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(time for silent, personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...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 PHILIPPIANS 1

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

Greet one another with the peace of Christ

ANTHEM

Away in the Manger
(No Applause Please)

BELLS OF JOY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON OT P. 815

MICAH 5:2-5A

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON NT P. 210

HEBREWS 10:5-10

GOSPEL LESSON

NT P. 53

LUKE 1:39-56

SERMON

Without Fear

*HYMN #482

Baptized in Water

BAPTISM AND AFFIRMATION OF MEMBERSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF MEMBERSHIP: Emily Arnold, Mindy Arnold, Bill Cole

BAPTISM: Bradleigh Arnold

SPECIAL MUSIC

Come Oh Come Emanuel CHANCEL CHOIR

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 #132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

*BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please sign and pass the fellowship pads at the end of the pews. It is a great way to determine who sits in the pew next to you. Please join us for coffee hour following worship.
- Presbyterian Women meet for Bible study on the second Wednesday of each month, 9:30 am at the church.
- Please join us for the Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols service Tuesday at 7:00 PM.
- There will be a congregational meeting following worship on Sunday, January 26 to approve the pastor's terms of call and hear reports about the budget and mission study.
- All quilters invited to a community-quilting group at Peace Lutheran Church 9 AM to Noon on Thursdays.
- There is a "Contemporary Christmas" Concert and Sing-A-Long program and event today at the First Christian Church. More information displayed in the flyer below.
- Starting in January there will be a 40 days bible study. More information is on the flyer below.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

There are several opportunities this Fall and Winter to study and grow in spiritual discipline. Choose one, or try them all!

1) From Horizons, the Presbyterian Women magazine, "Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation." This is an in-depth examination of how we respond with justice and equity to God's call to care for the nations and our earth. Join us the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am, beginning in October. ***For questions, please call Lori Powell, 541-278-6738.***

2) Pastor Jonathan will be offering "Feasting on the Word: furthering our understanding of the sermon texts." Pastor will be offering this as a time to deeply engage with the Word, as preached and taught from the pulpit. The study will be happening this fall. Details about dates/times will be forthcoming

3) The Congregational Vitality Commission is pleased to offer "Forty Days with the Gospel of Matthew" starting in the New Year. This unique study is in a prayer journal format, outlining 40 days of Bible study and reflection, with Bible text, thoughtful comment, challenging questions and space for you to think, write, draw and pray. ***The person to call for questions is Darcey Ridgway.***

**Three different kinds of Bible study, Three different times and places.
Three ways to connect your spiritual questions with informed
direction, discussion, laughter and love. Three ways to grow closer to
God's will and purpose for your life. See you there!**

Celebrate Christmas with Music & Cheer!

Christmas Sing-a-Long

~ Over 60 Minutes ~

of Contemporary and Classic Christmas Favorites!



December 22, 2024, 4:00 pm

First Christian Church - Pendleton

215 N. Main Street

(541) 276-5358

40 DAYS

with the



Please join us for “40 Days with the Gospel of Matthew (Volume 1)” Bible study! The first part of this study will start on January 6, 2025 and end on February 14, 2025 (40 days). This daily devotional journal will take you through Matthew 15:20.

The second part of this study (40 Days with the Gospel of Matthew, Volume 2) will begin with Matthew 15:21-28 and will start on March 5, 2025 and end on Easter. This “40 Days” series is intended to be both devotional and journal that encourages the reader to study, reflect, discern and pray about that day’s Scripture reading.

There is space after each daily Scripture entry to write about the key words or phrases that resonate with you and a place to write your insights.

Group discussions will be led by Pastor Jonathan on the following dates:

(Part 1): January 12, January 26 and February 16.

(Part 2): March 16 and April 6.

Books will be provided by the Congregational Vitality Commission and are also available at Brett’s Books. Please let Darcey Ridgway know if you are interested so the correct number of books can be ordered. She can be reached at (541) 310-0951.

Any and all questions about this Bible study can also be directed to Darcey.