

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

GOING FORTH TO MINISTER

*CLOSING HYMN "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night" [20]

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BLESSING [Renew 160 v.4]

**I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship
When at his bidding every storm is stilled,
Or who can say how great the jubilation
When all our hearts with love for him are filled.
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
And countless voices then will join to sing,
And earth to heaven, and heaven to earth will answer:
At last the living Savior of the world is King.**

POSTLUDE Alejandro Alumbremos

*Please stand as you are able.
[**Bold type**] indicates text to be spoken or
song to be sung by the congregation.



O
holy
night

PLEASE JOIN US ON
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
AT 6:30 P.M., FOR OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THIS SERVICE TO
CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.

COMMUNION WILL SERVED.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 18, 2016
9:30 A.M.



GATHERING WITH PRAISE

PRELUDE Alejandro Alumbremos

FIRST THOUGHT

“I said to the man who stood at the gate of the Year, ‘Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.’ And he replied, “go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.” ~ Minnie Louise Haskins

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

*HYMN “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” [38]

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Lehmann Family

One: We light these candles knowing they are but symbols.

All: Symbols of the Light of the World, shining in the darkness.

One: May these Advent candles shine in this place and on all who gather here.

All: Let the Light of Christ shine upon us and show us the way that we may follow where He leads.

One: May the warmth of these candles be a symbol.

All: A symbol of the warmth we know within this family of faith where all are welcome.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

WELCOME

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Mary Ringwalt

God of Light, illuminate our darkness and the darkness of this world. Bring about a new day when we can see in each other something of Your image. Forgive us for we have contributed to the darkness by being selfish, greedy, thoughtless and unkind. Let the light of Your love shine into our lives that we may be restored and renewed. Grant us the peace of sins forgiven. By Your grace let us be light for others, showing them something of the love of Christ through our words and our actions. ~ Amen

(Let us continue to pray in silence.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, hear the good news of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*ACT OF PRAISE [Renew 160 v.1]

**I cannot tell why he whom angels worship
Should come in flesh as prophets long foretold,
Or why the Shepherd longs to save the wanderers
And bring them back rejoicing to the fold.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary
When Bethlehem’s manger was his only home,
And that he lived at Nazareth and labored,
And so the promised Savior of the world is come.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HANDBELL CHOIR

“A Christmas Carillon”
Arr/Margaret Tucker

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7 [O.T. p. 638]

SERMON

“Let There Be Light” Rev. Gillian Weighton

LIVING THE WORD

PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(During this time, children and their teachers leave for Sunday School.)

CHANCEL CHOIR

“A Star”
by Pepper Choplin

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY [592]

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. ~ Amen

WELCOME, ALL!

Welcome to this sanctuary.
Welcome to this time of worship and wonder.
Welcome to this family of faith.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We're glad you're here today and pray that your experience with us in worship is both challenging and uplifting!

9:30 a.m. Worship * 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
Fellowship to follow in Ihrman Hall.

Nursery care is available during worship service in Room 205.

STAY CONNECTED

WEB SITE: firstpresracine.org

PASTORS' EMAIL: pastorgillian@firstpresracine.org
scfringer@hotmail.com

OFFICE EMAIL: office@firstpresracine.org

OFFICE HOURS: Tues. thru Fri. — 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

TELEPHONE: 262.632.1686

ADDRESS: 716 College Avenue
Racine, WI 53403

To receive our mid-week E-votional along with news about what's going on in the church, call/email the office and ask to be added to the list!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18, 2016

Sun., Dec. 18	9:30 a.m.	Worship
Mon., Dec. 19		Office Closed
	6:45 p.m.	Kiwanis Youth Symphony Concert
Tues., Dec. 20	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Office Open
	7:00 p.m.	Session Meeting
Wed., Dec. 21	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Office Open
	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
Thurs., Dec. 22	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Office Open
	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
Fri., Dec. 23	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Office Open
		Pastor's Day Off
Sat. Dec. 24	6:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service

Please join us next Sunday the 25th at 9:30 a.m.
for our Christmas Morning Service

Scripture for Bible Study and Sunday Worship—Luke 1:1-18



FOOD PANTRY:

For the remainder of December,
we need to provide our clients
with hearty soups, beef stews,
corned beef hash and meaty chilis!



THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE FOR THE FOOD PANTRY:

WED., DEC. 21 — Kate Gleason, Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey, Julia Reeser

THURS., DEC. 22 — Bev Eifert, Nancy Hennessey, Ginny Holle, Mary Ringwalt

If you cannot make your shift, please find a sub and let LuAnn or Karin know.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN STAFF — JOYFULLY SERVING

ALL OF US - MINISTERS

REV. GILLIAN WEIGHTON - SENIOR PASTOR

REV. STEVE FRINGER - VISITATION PASTOR

ALEJANDRO ALUMBREROS - ORGANIST & CHOIR DIRECTOR

NANCY BUCK - HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

DORIS DESCHLER - FINANCIAL SECRETARY

VAL KLASS - SEXTON

SHELLEY MAURER - CHURCH SECRETARY

MARK PAFFRATH - MUSIC LEADER

PEGGY TAYLOR - PARISH NURSE

DECEMBER 18, 2016

Greeters: Bev Eifert, Marge Henze

Ushers: John & Linnea Brooke, Bud Eastman, LuAnn & Amanda Hansen

Perk-n-Pour: Dennis & Nancy Reeser, Martha Fusco

Liturgist: Mary Ringwalt



Prayers for our church family—including

Evelyn Vanderheyden,
Don & Nancy Tobias,
Annette Anderson,
Peg Rendall, Beth Elzinga,
Mary Lou Hill, Larry Cardwell,
Peggy Taylor, Maggie Seater,
Charles Von Rotz - uncle to
Diane Lehmann, and the
mothers of Elizabeth Tews
and Nicole Higgs.

Prayers for our military—

Lt. Col Jay Brooke, Andy Loth,
Kyle Sondergaard, Jordan Smith,
Scott Pence, Nicholas Hansen,
Christopher Hansen, Chad
Lawrence, Cpt. Mary Callahan
and Cpt. Eddie Callahan.

Prayers for our friends— Jeff
Erickson and Al Hagen from the
Caledonia Fire Dept., Lt. Col.
Matt Brooke — Army, Retired,
Alex Stinefast—nephew of our
church secretary.

Also prayer for those who
remain bright, cheery and
positive, although they may
not have a comfortable
place to lay their heads or
food to fill their bellies.
And a special prayer for all
those who lend a helping
hand to make the world a
brighter place for others.



Remember that
after worship
TODAY we will be
delivering the
Christmas Baskets!

A Friendly Reminder

THE DEADLINE IS NEXT WEEK
FRIDAY THE 23RD, FOR
JANUARY'S NEWSLETTER!

Art Show

**Our Advent and
Christmastide
Chapel Art
Exhibit** now

includes artwork by Ellen and
Larry Cardwell, Ardath Trebra,
Don Tobias, Lissy Blandford
and Sarah Seversen.

Jen Seversen's photographs are
on their way. Visit the Chapel
to see the creativity of our
parishioners—and perhaps
do a little holiday shopping.

Checks should be made out
to First Presbyterian Church
with the artist's name on the
memo line.

PER CAPITA

Note from Doris—

If you haven't yet paid this
year's per capita for our
"Presbyterian Dues," it is
due immediately and is
\$30 per family member.

2017 offering envelopes are
available on the northeast
table in the sanctuary.

Thank you!

Up in the Early Morning

Cauld blaws the wind frae
east to west,
The drift is driving sairly;
Sae loud and shrill's
I hear the blast,
I'm sure it's winter fairly.

Up in the morning's no for me,
Up in the morning early;
When a' the hills are
cover'd wi' snaw,
I'm sure its winter fairly.

The birds sit chittering
in the thorn,
A' day they fare but sparely;
And lang's the night frae
e'en to morn,
I'm sure it's winter fairly.

Up in the morning's no for me,
Up in the morning early;
When a' the hills are cover'd
wi' snaw,
I'm sure its winter fairly.

~ Robert Burns

