



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

December 1, 2021

10:30 am
Sunday Worship
Firstprescf.org



Scripture Text: Luke 1:67-79

Sermon: "The Way of Peace"

Worshiping from home? Prepare your worship area with a light source and communion elements. Your light can be lit when we light the Advent candles. This could be a candle (real or electric), a small lamp, or even your Christmas lights. For those who bless and receive the elements at home, please prepare a slice or roll of bread, a corn tortilla, Naan, or rice cake and a cup of juice of any kind, or wine. God speaks through whatever we bring to the table!

**This Weekend's Worship – 10:30 am
Second Sunday of Advent
Communion Sunday**



Second Sunday of Advent – The Light of Peace

Our responsive Advent liturgy this season was written by [Maren Tirabassi](#), based on the works of theologian and civil rights leader, [Howard Thurman](#). As we light the candle of peace, we ponder the many ways God guides us in work for peace.

We light two candles this week to illuminate peace. For as God lights both gentle dawn and slash of lightning strike, we affirm all the ways we seek peace – kind persuasion with eye contact, and a justice march with big signs, a silent vigil of prayer and fasting, and the gift of dignity for the most vulnerable, our quiet visits to therapist or recovery group, and loud demands to stop gun violence.

We light two candles so we will listen to the angel mandate of 'Peace on Earth.'

For ordinary, available, gentle and brave, are the hope and peace of Advent.

**We will light Candles this Christmas,
Candles of joy despite all the sadness,
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long. (Howard Thurman)**

Pastor Julie

Church Birthdays

Dec. 1-Lanny Zimmer, Doris Wilken, 4-Bonnie Bickett, 6-Ann Crawford, 7-Mark Mortenson, 9-Jane Seeley, 11-Dick Goering

**For your prayers...
Dan Bohnker**

Nick Federspiel

Bruce McCart and Pete McCart

Sympathy to Chad and Sally Lee and family on the death of his grandmother.

Notice...

Adopt-A-Family gifts due Sunday, December 12.

Christmas Poinsettia sponsor donations until December 22. See details page on page 2.

Worship Leaders and Greeters needed. See page 3 to sign up.

Scan the QR code above for our Order of Worship

Thanks for serving last week:

Worship Leader: Carolyn Stephenson

Computer Operator: Dave Luck

Videographer: Neal Leeper

Greeters: Denise Brown, Marsha Flater

SHINE Photo: Brock Swarbrick

Thanks to **'Pete' McCart** for her years of helping mail our newsletter to non-computer readers.

Thank You!

Thanks to Sue Luck and Evelyn Boice for making the new Advent parame-nts, Connie Herbon arranging the Advent Candles, and the SHINE kids for the Chrismons on the tree.



Membership Anniversaries

Lynette Cline, 12/6/81– 40 yrs

Sue Weinberg, 12/6/81-40 yrs

Gary Clark, 12/7/1986-35 yrs

Chuck & Connie Seeliger, 12/10/2006 - 15 yrs

Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering reflects that God is with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us who have pointed us to God. 50% of your gifts assists current and retired church workers with critical financial need. The other 50% goes to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

This week's schedule (Zoom and on-site)

Thursday, December 2

1:00 pm Esther Circle, dining room

Saturday, December 4

9:30 am Sarah Circle, dining room

Sunday, December 5

10:30 am Sunday Worship, sanctuary
-SHINE Christmas Pageant music practice

Wednesday, December 8

2:00 pm 2022 Budget Meeting, dining room

Christmas Poinsettia Sponsors

The Worship Committee invites you to sponsor this year's poinsettia arrangement in memory or honor of a loved one. The committee will provide the arrangement for Christmas Eve worship. Loved one's names will be featured **in our newsletter on December 22.**



Any donations beyond cost will go toward future liturgical decorations. Forms will be in the narthex. Donations of any amount accepted. **The deadline is Sunday, December 19.**



Pledge Cards

It is not too late to fill out and return your Estimate of Giving Pledge Card for 2022. If you have already sent it in-thank you!

End of Year Schedule

SUNDAY SHINE SCHEDULE

November 28-No Sunday SHINE-Thanksgiving Break
December 5-Christmas Program Song Practice Only
(Children will return to worship for Communion)
December 12-Regular Sunday SHINE
December 19-Christmas Program in Worship
December 26-No Sunday SHINE-Christmas Break
January 2-No Sunday SHINE-Christmas Break

Ideas for Earth Friendly Holiday Giving

The [Presbyterian Hunger Program](#) is offering advice for people who want to engage in more Earth-friendly holiday celebrations this year. Check out this link for [Earth Friendly Holiday Giving](#) ideas. Even our smallest efforts can cause a ripple effect of awareness in our families and communities.

Have an OK Christmas Concert

Cedar Heights Presbyterian Church, 2015 Rainbow Dr, Cedar Falls, is hosting Christmas Concert Sunday, December 5, 3:00 pm. Professional string duo The OK Factor (Olivia and Karla) will be offering very special Christmas music. Please join them for this great opportunity to get into the spirit of the season. There is no entrance fee, but freewill offerings/donations are much appreciated, 10% of which will go to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.

House of Hope Event

House of Hope's Festival of Lights is a festive event that will get everyone in the spirit of the season! All proceeds benefit House of Hope. Festival of Lights is December 10, 11, and 12 at the KOA Resort located at 4550 Hess Rd., Waterloo (near Lost Island Water Park).

The public will be invited to walk through and enjoy all the displays for \$20 per vehicle. We will have Christmas carolers, hot chocolate, Santa, and more!

Winter Concert

Monday, December 13, 7:30 pm

Great Hall, GBPAC-UNI

The New Horizons Band will offer its winter concert. Under the direction of Diana Blake, the New Horizons Band features musicians 55 and older who travel from all over Iowa. This event is free and open to the public.

Advent Devotional

You may download a free Advent devotional available through Presbyterians Today. See the link below.

pcusa.org/2021advent

We need YOU to be a greeter!

Please sign up in the narthex or online:

[Sign Up Genius: Greeters](#)



Worship Leaders-We need YOU TOO!

Please sign up in the narthex or online!

[Sign Up Genius: Worship Leaders](#)

Adopt A Family

You can select from any or all of the five choices below. Please wrap it and put a tag on the gift that tells who it is for and what it is. We will change the tag to the name only before delivery. Your gifts should be taken **to the church library**. The **deadline to return gifts is Sunday, December 12**. A cart is available if needed.

Click on the link/s, choose the item/s you wish to shop for, then click 'submit and sign up' at the bottom of the screen. You'll be directed to the next page; enter in your name, email and phone number then click 'Sign Up Now' at the bottom. Your information is confidential. You will then receive a confirmation email.

Or, please consider sending a check to First Presbyterian Church and put Adopt-A-Family in the memo.



2 yr old girl: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ba9a728abf4cf8-adopt4>



5 yr old boy: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A728ABF4CF8-adopt>



10 yr old boy: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A728ABF4CF8-adopt1>



Mother: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ba9a728abf4cf8-adopt3>



Household: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A728ABF4CF8-adopt2>