



First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge

**Christmas Eve
December 24, 2022**

Welcome to our church! It is a joy to worship with you on this evening. We hope you have a wonderful Christmastime!

**Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

SONG #85 (GtG) *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*

We Gather as God's People

OPENING PRAYER – *Let us pray.*

O God of incarnate love, we come to this blessed Christmas Eve with the awe of the shepherds who, when they beheld the Savior who had come into our world, praised your majesty and holy name. Your

incarnation reveals your glory in all creation. In the nativity scene, we see the reflection of your image and glory — in the child and the family, the animals at the manger, the shepherds and magi who came to worship, following the star in the sky.

Help us to know that your image and glory are manifest in each face, each creature, each star around us on this holy night. We remember especially the children who hold the promise of your glory, their wonder and joy. And parents who bear the promised hope, wise people who, like the magi, seek to discern God's will and who witness to the promise of a Savior for all the earth. Tonight we seek your glory, O God, in all these faces — those with us this evening, those beloved ones who are gone but remain so present in memory.

Open our eyes on this holy night, to behold your light in the darkness of our broken world. Indeed, on this hallowed night, we hold tight to your promise that the light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome it, for after the waiting the true light that enlightens all has come into our world.

For this light and this promise, we lift our candles high on this silent night and give you thanks and praise.

Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** – *Please stand and join me in the call to worship.*

Blessed are you, O Christ, Son of God,

You were before time began, and you came into the world to save us.

Blessed are you, Sun of righteousness,
You shine with God's love and illumine the whole universe.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary,
Born a child, you shared our humanity.
With all the voices of heaven, we celebrate the coming
of our Savior.

Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

With all the creatures on earth.

We sing and dance at his birth.

***HYMN #23** *Angels, We Have Heard on High*

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains **Refrain**

Refrain: Gloria, in excelsis Deo
 Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song? **Refrain**

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing,
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. **Refrain**

CALL TO CONFESSION – *Please be seated.*

*Tonight we remember the birth of Jesus Christ, a descendant
of David, who promised that if we have died with him, we will
also live with him, and that if we are faithless, he remains*

faithful – for he cannot deny himself. In the assurance of that promise, let us confess our sins, first in silent prayer.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION - *Please join me in the unison prayer of confession.*

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We have not searched for signs of your love in the world, or trusted good news to be good. We have failed to praise your Son's birth, and refused his peace on earth. We have expected little, and hoped for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

KYRIE #572

“Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy up on us.”

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The angel of the Lord said to Joseph, "You are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

SUNG RESPONSE

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

CHILDREN'S TIME

All kids are invited forward to hear a story about the birth of baby Jesus.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION— *Let us pray.*

Gracious God, we pray that your Spirit would open our ears to hear good news of great joy for all, so that we may sing with the angels who proclaimed glory in the highest and peace on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

Psalm 96: 10-13

Say among the nations, 'The Lord is king!
The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.

He will judge the peoples with equity.'

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it.

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the Lord; for he is coming,
for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with his truth.

*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

SECOND READING

Luke 2: 1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered

with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!’

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned,

glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Word of God for the People of God. Amen.

SERMON

Rev. Kori Robbins

We Respond to God's Love

***HYMN #29**

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

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a Holy light **Refrain**

The shepherds feared and trembled
When, lo! Above the Earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth **Refrain**

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn **Refrain**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe that God has come to us as a little child, making our weakness his strength, securing our salvation by becoming one of us, blessing us with a steadfast savior, filling our hearts with joy to be shared with one another. We believe that God

has birthed righteousness and justice into the world, giving us a law that will be written upon our hearts declaring an everlasting reign of peace. We believe that God calls us to participate in this reality of love, transforming us as disciples to go out into the world, sending us forth to announce his kingdom of peace and comfort, challenging us to see everyone as nothing less than beloved children. This we believe. This we preach. This we seek to embody in word and deed. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – *You may be seated.*

Trusting indeed that you are always there, we pray to you now as your Son taught us, saying together,

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

In the kingdom of God, we find that generosity of spirit, generosity of possessions & the radical sharing of skills are practiced openly. All gifts are important to God, so as the offering plate comes around, place your hand over it, committing to God that you will use your time, talent and treasures for furthering the work of God's kingdom.

OFFERTORY

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #324**

Open my mouth and let me bear
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready my God,
Thy will to see;
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** – *Please join me in saying the prayer of dedication.*

O God, give us such love and wonder that with shepherds and magi, and pilgrims through the ages, we may adore the holy child, the promised King, and with our gifts worship him, who is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve God

***HYMN #60** *Silent Night, Holy Night*

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night! Son of God love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face

With dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Lighting of the Christmas Candles

*As your candle is lit, please turn and light the candle of
the person next to you.*

***THE CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION**

***HYMN #40** *Joy to the World*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come:
Let Earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns:
Let us their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

Prayer List

MEMBERS TO REMEMBER

Mary Alice Seaborn

Marlyne Young

Helen Redmond

Shirley Dull

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH, SUPPORT AND CONCERN

Betty Garland

Logan Morris (Infant Great-Grandson of Tom Morris)

Megan Taylor (Carole's cousin)

Amos Rodgers & Cody Tittle (Marlene's friends)

James Tincher (Marlene's son)

Bill Reddersen (Ted & Darlene Smith's friend)

David Giudici (Emily Pugh's friend)

Clayton & Eileen (Bev Myers' family friends)

Barb and Alan (friends of Suzie McCabe)

Linda Lukehart (Betty Garland's Daughter)

Paul Stevens (Bev Myers' son)

Jim Flores (Marty O'Neill's boyfriend)

Karen (Sue McCabe's friend)

Matt Smith (Kathy Graham's friend)

Dennis Copanic (Val Copanic's father)

Dennis Eggert (January Rendes' father)

Graig Colantone (Nicole Pugh's father)

Dareen Craver-Angeloff (Rodney's mother)

Cheryl Fisher (Bev Meyers' Daughter)

Ella McBride (friend of Sherri Craver)

Tom Crozier

Bill Happney

The Keeley family

Shannon Poole (daughter of Sherry and Tim Gleason)

Tony Rozzo (Meyers' Friend)

Samara Fabian

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

Eastminster Presbytery and staff
Our Mineral Ridge Church Family
Niles Community Services
Warren & Youngstown Rescue Missions
Coronavirus caregivers and patients
Refugees
Rev. Kade Mastra (Indonesian Partner)
Peace and healing for our country
Casa de Buen Trato
Needles's Eye
Ukraine
World Leaders
Jed and Jenny Koball (Peru)
Our PC(USA) coworkers
Revs. Scott & Elmarie Parker

Announcements

Worship for December 25th and January 1st will look a little different this year! Since those two holidays fall on Sundays, we're doing something a bit different. Worship will still be at 10:30 for both days, but we will meet in Fellowship Hall. Join us in the 25th for a service via YouTube put together by the Synod, and on the 1st, come hear about the 4 women listed in Jesus' family tree!

Christmas Flowers & Memorials

In Memory of

Albert & Mary Grady
John F. & Betty Brodie

Walter & Fayma Jones &
Brothers Thomas E. Jones &
Edward A. Jones

George & Ann Kaschak,
Shirley Craig

Grandma & Grandpa
Postlethwait, Grandma Craig,
Grandma & Grandpa Kaschak

Madeline Keeley,
Frank Keeley

Grandparents

June Keeley, Madeline Keeley,
Frank Keeley, Bud Keeley

Given by

Tom & Shirley Brodie

Lenora K. Jones

The Kaschak Family

Jeff, Brooke, Lonnie &
Dirk

Bryan, Melissa, Tyler &
Dillan Keeley

Bryan & Melissa Keeley

Terry Keeley & Family

In Memory of

Our Parents

Our Parents

Daryl Moore

Family Members

Family

Mary Johnson,
Harwood & Lou Rendes

William Rummell

Loved Ones

Given by

Diane & Joe Koch

Darryl & Jane Meyers

Lisa Sorg & Alyssa
Strange

Marty O'Neill

Tom & Helen Redmond

Mark, January &
Andrew Rendes

Carole Rummell

Ted & Darlene Smith

In Honor of

Grandpa Craig

Our Family

Debbie Rendes

Given by

Jeff, Brooke, Lonnie &
Dirk

Darryl & Jane Meyers

Mark, January &
Andrew Rendes

Birthday Wishes



Pauline Trapp 12/27

Sandy Larmey 12/31

Responsibilities

Pastor- Rev. Kori Robbins

Liturgist- Val Copanic

Elder- Jane Meyers

Deacon-

Music- Anita Miller

Story Circle Attendant- Olivia Meyers

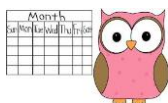
Media- Alyssa Strange

Thank you for your generosity

December 18th \$1,503

December 11th \$3,837

December 24th \$1,851.66



THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saturday, December 24	5:30pm	Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, December 25	10:30am	Bible Study and Light Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
Monday, December 26	7:00pm	Al-Anon & Al-Ateen
Sunday, January 1	10:30am	No regular Worship Bible Study and Light Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

Staff

Pastor

Reverend Kori Robbins
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Christian Education

Carole Rummell

Head of Personnel

Jane Meyers

Administrative Assistant

April Dahl
330-652-5712

Custodians

April Mohn/
James Boyce

Story Circle Attendant

Olivia Meyers

Media

Alyssa Strange

Hours

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9am-3pm

General Office Hours

Tuesday/Thursday
9am-1pm

Church Info

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