

First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge

3rd Sunday in Advent December 11, 2022

Welcome to our church! It is a joy to worship with you on this morning. Please join us after worship in Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCMENTS
SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE
SUNG RESPONSE #85 (GtG)

Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

We Gather as God's People

OPENING PRAYER – Let us pray.

Advent God, this is the season that we journey with you, to Bethlehem's stable and a new-born King. Our ears are attuned to the song of angels, and our eyes are alert for Bethlehem's star. Forgive us if on our journey if we are distracted by the tempting offers of this world. Keep our hearts aflame with the hope of Christmas, and the promise of a Savior. **Amen**

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

Come to worship: Shouting!

God lives and moves among us!

Come to worship: Singing!

Mary invites us to join in her lullaby.

Come to worship: Praying!

We offer our confessions, petitions and praises.

Come to worship: Listening!

Today may our ears be opened to new understanding of your story.

*HYMN #2 Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

CALL TO CONFESSION – Please be seated.

God has a vision of a time and place where enemies become friends, where the world is full of God's hope and peace. But we know how we resist living in such a kingdom and our eyes are blinded. Recognizing our need for true peace, both with others and within our own selves, let us confess those ways we have distanced ourselves from God.

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

God, we are not all as brave as Mary was. Often we hear your words and we are too afraid to take the gifts you have offered us. They seem too big and we would have to give up so much in order to receive them. We cannot see beyond our own trepidation, we cannot understand how anyone would want to follow such an uncertain path. We see your blessing, God, but we also seek your understanding if we do not always understand them. There is a balance and we hope to hold it. Amen.

KYRIE #572

"Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy up on us."

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God always surprises us with forgiveness. Let us surprise ourselves, truly let this be time when we share the best parts of love, compassion, joy, and peace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE

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

Kindergarten and younger children may now leave with Olivia Meyers for Story Circle in Fellowship Hall.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Lord our God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us. Let us hear your promise in this Scripture, and let the world know your blessing in our lives. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

FIRST READING

Psalm 29

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor. The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice

of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, 'Glory!' The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever. May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Isaiah 42: 1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

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

SERMON

We Respond to God's Love

*HYMN #92 (GtG)

While We Are Waiting, Come

While we are waiting come While we are waiting come Jesus our Lord Emmanuel While we are waiting come

With pow'r and glory come With pow'r and glory come Jesus our Lord Emmanuel While we are waiting come

Come Savior quickly come Come Savior quickly come Jesus our Lord Emmanuel While we are waiting come

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, creator and lover of the earth, origin and destiny of us all. We believe in Jesus the Christ, God coming to us in the fragile promise of a baby yet unborn, who emerges as the herald of hope, God's laughter in the face of despair. Plunged into death, he broke free the captives, and is leading the way to the land of promise where justice and peace will flourish.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who implants the seed of truth, brings us to birth as the body of Christ, and empowers us to confront and transform the world. For the coming of that day on this day, we work and pray: Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

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.

OFFERATORY

*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.

Holy One, this Advent season we wait in joy, And we give with joy. Joy for all you have given us; Joy because of your sacred promises. Receive these generous offerings, and use them to spread your joy in our world. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve God

*HYMN #99 My Soul Gives Glory to My God

My soul gives glory to my God, My heart pours out its praise. God lifted up my lowliness In many marvelous ways.

My God has done great things for me: Yes, holy is God's Name. All people will declare me blessed, And blessings they shall claim.

From age to age to all who fear, Such mercy love imparts, Dispensing justice far and near, Dismissing selfish hearts.

Love casts the mighty from their thrones, Promotes the insecure, Leaves hungry spirits satisfied; The rich seem suddenly poor.

Praise God, whose loving covenant Supports those in distress, Remembering past promises With present faithfulness.

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING RESPONSE #743

Step by Step

O God, You are my God and I will ever praise You O God, You are my God and I will ever praise You I will seek You in the morning And I will learn to walk in Your ways And step by step You'll lead me And I will follow You all of my days

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)

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

On December 14th we will be joining with Guiding Light Presbyterian Church in Girard for "A Blue Christmas" as many struggle to cope with grief and loss over the holiday season. The service will take place at 7pm at FPCMR.

Congratulations to Hannah Heinl and Bret Warrick on the birth of their second son Brody John Warrick. Big brother, Brock Douglas was pleased to be introduced to baby brother. Others greeting him are Grandmother Robin Warrick, Aunt Makayla, Uncle Chad and great grandmother Virginia Gilmore.

The Community Parish Quarterly Food Distribution will be held Tuesday, December 13 from 10:00 a.m. to noon here at the First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge.

Responsibilities

Pastor- Rev. Kori Robbins

Liturgist- Darlene Smith

Elder- Sue McCabe

Deacon- Shirley Brodie

Music-Anita Miller

Thank you for your generosity

December 4th \$1,851.66

November 27th \$1,317

November 20th \$2,403



Jaret Bunch 12/17



THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 11 9:15am Church School

9:30am Tiny Tots

10:30am Worship /Fellowship

Monday, December 05 7:00pm Al-Anon & Al-Ateen

Tuesday, December 13 10am-Noon Food Distribution

Wednesday, December 14 7:00pm Blue Christmas

Sunday, December 18 9:15am Church School

9:30am Tiny Tots

10:30am Worship/Fellowship

Staff

Pastor Christian Education

Reverend Kori Robbins Carole Rummell

(406)-560-5548

Pastor@FPCMR.org <u>Head of Personnel</u>

Jane Meyers

Administrative Assistant Custodians

April Dahl April Mohn/ 330-652-5712 James Boyce

Hours

Pastor's Office Hours General Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9am-3pm
9am-1pm

Church Info

<u>Address</u>- 3654 Main Street Mineral Ridge, OH 44440

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