
1st Sunday of Christmas

January 1, 2023

10:00 AM

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME

SILENT CENTERING PRAYER

You bless us, O God. Throughout the ages people have praised you. All creatures that swim, crawl, and fly praise your sustenance of life. The waters, the skies, the mountains, and deserts praise you, God of life. Help us to embody this deep knowing that you sustain us. Stay near, open our hearts to your love as we start a New Year. Amen.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Victor Jenkins, Liturgist

One: Whoever you are, and whatever you are carrying in your heart today – joy, stress, grief, anger, loneliness, relief – know that you are welcome here.

All: Praise God for we are loved.

One: We give thanks that Christ is born – the one in whom we put our trust and hope to show us how to live and be. This baby is a sign of God’s love for us.

All: Praise God for we are loved.

One: Today is a new day, this is a new year. The presence of God’s spirit in our lives renews our dreams for a renewed world.

All: Praise God for we are loved.

*HYMN #256 “Let the Whole Creation Cry”

Come now, God, as once your Spirit poured forth life upon the earth come now and pour the wine of Christ’s blood for this creation, waiting for renewal. Be present in our hope in this holy time: in the silence of power and the power of silence; in the throne rooms of the rich and the shanties of the poor; in overfed communities and underfed souls; gather up hope in the bread and wine.

Break open the good news of your incarnation: on parched farmlands and frightened cities; in the hearts of the proud and the longings of the lowly. Come now, God, as where once we ate the bread of tears nourish us now with the abundance of your love made real in a small child born long ago and far away yet real and living now in our midst. For humanity is waiting and longing for life as we pray as Jesus taught us, **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.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, our Shepherd, your steadfast love present in this sacred meal sustains and restores us. Open our hearts to trust your presence to guide us into the place of promise and grant that we, who have heard words of hope, tasted the bread of life and the cup of peace may be messengers of hope to others.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

God has been good and gracious to us! Our response to God’s gifts is unending and is expressed through our words and actions. Let us show a portion of our thankfulness this day as we receive our offering.

OFFERTORY: “Once in Royal David City”, Margaret Sollish & Rheta Jenks

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

We are called to live in the complexity of a world where there is much to be celebrated, and much to be grieved. We know that we do not go alone. Christ is in the world and orients us towards justice and love. We bring the best of ourselves and our offerings to God’s church and world. Amen.

*HYMN #50 "Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow"
BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE

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*For those who are able, please stand.

- **Today's Usher:** Marty Pond
- **Communion Servers today are:** Rush and Marty Pond
- **Coffee Hour** today is hosted by Marty Pond.
- **Bible Study:** Monday, Jan. 9 at 11 a.m. in the Media Center and Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.
- **Church Office** will be closed on Mon., Jan. 2.
- **Church Women United Open House:** today from 2-4 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
- **A Welcome and Meet the Candidate** event is set for 1-3 p.m. Jan. 7 in the Fellowship Hall of the CE Building and the entire congregation is invited to attend. This will be a time for fellowship and conversation with Kirsty. In addition, Pastor Kirsty will be leading worship Jan. 8.
- **A Congregational Meeting** for the sole purpose of calling Pastor Kirsty Dickson-Maret to be the installed pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Baldwinsville will be held immediately following worship Jan. 8, 2023.
- **Music and Worship:** Mon., Jan. 9 at 10:00 in the Media Center.

First Presbyterian Church Baldwinsville, NY

January 1, 2023



Remember in Your Prayers & Correspondence

The family of Ellie Lyness, a long-time beloved member of our church, upon her death in October; Barry Bullis; Nancy Dobbins; Mimi Dundon; Freida Mason

Church Office: Education Center, 64 Oswego St., Baldwinsville, NY Website: presbville.com
9am – 2pm M-F Phone 315-635-9964 Fax 315-638-4792

Interim Pastor-----Rev. Dr. Carson O. Mouser	Clerk of Session-----Stephanie Stine
Director of Music & Choirs-----Rheta Jenks	Organist-----Lee Johnston
Deacon Moderator-----Marty Pond	Administrative Assistant---Elizabeth Bayer
Financial Secretary-----Andrea Ducharme	Treasurer-----Diana Anastas
Nursery School Director--Jessica Newcomb	

Identity Statement

We are a loving family of God, following Christ by practicing our legacy of worship, education, and mission to neighbors.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

God's love for us is unconditional and cannot be lost, freeing us to be honest about our lives. Pray with me.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (UNISON)

Holy One, you have accompanied us through the Season of Advent reminding us of God's intended peace and justice for the world. You have the power to bring joy in unexpected places. You have the power to transform our minds and hearts. Sometimes, in the hype of Christmas we fail to see the miracle of your presence.

God of love, at this time of year, we may not always be mindful of those struggling to get through another stressful family dinner, another holiday alone, another season in the absence of a loved one, another night with an empty stomach.

God of new beginnings, dreams, and hope, when Christmas is a busy time for us, we may get preoccupied, overtired, excited, or sad. We might push through the days and not acknowledge our feelings with honesty. Sometimes, we are scared to look deeply inside ourselves, or to reach out to others. We do not always find ways to hold the complexity of our experiences with care and compassion.

SILENT REFLECTION

Forgive us when we are not open to dreaming new possibilities, new habits, new thoughts, a new world more aligned with your ways. Remind us to pause and remember all the ways we have been blessed.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, our God is a God of mercy and new beginnings, even in our brokenness and imperfection, God never leaves us. May our dreams lead us to God and to the possibilities of how to be God's people in this new year. Remember, we are forgiven and cherished through and through.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Gloria Patri #579

(2)

WE HEAR AND REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 148

Liturgist

red Bible pg. 780 black Bible pg. 582

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 2:13-23

Rev. Dr. Carson O. Mouser

red Bible pg. 1170 black Bible pg. 2

This ends our reading of God's word this day.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON:

"Let Everything and Everyone Praise God"

Rev. Dr. Carson O. Mouser

WE OFFER OUR LIVES TO GOD

*HYMN #274 "O God of Earth and Space"

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Bread and wine silently speak of a new realm. Table and followers silently speak of a new community. Breaking and pouring silently speak of rebirth. Sharing and communing silently speak of rebuilding.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

You have entered this place, O God, and in your holy shadow, heaven tangles with earth in the bread and wine, and the promise of flesh is realized.

Come now, God, as you once came to us in a stable in Bethlehem. Come now and be with us in the bread of Christ's body in this world that hungers and waits for truth.