First Sunday of Christmas

December 31, 2023

10:00 AM

Tom Eckrote

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF APPROACH

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 148)

Rheta Jenks, Liturgist

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

All: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

One: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

All: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

One: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

All: Young men and women alike, old and young together! Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. Let us worship the Lord together.

*HYMN #464 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Tom Eckrote

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CALL FOR THE OFFERING

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it. Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth. Let us offer them with joy in our hearts and a deep sense of gratitude.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY HYMN #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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

To you, O God of all glory, we offer the gifts of our lives as a way of bearing witness to the gift of your Word made flesh. Use the humble things we offer as signs of your grace and truth so that all may know your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #29 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

*CHARGE

POSTLUDE

(4)

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*For those who are able, please stand.

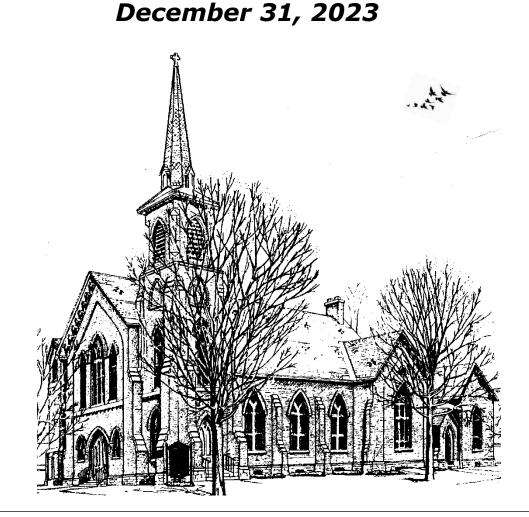
- Today's Ushers: Rush & Marty Pond
- **Coffee Hour:** today is hosted by Andrea Ducharme
- **Choir Practice:** will be held at 9:15 each Sunday morning before Worship.
- Worship & Music: Monday, January 8, 10:30 in the Media Center.
- Session: Tuesday, January 9, 7 p.m. in the Media Center
- **Mission Committee:** Wednesday, January 10, 12:30 in the Media Center
- Deacons: Tuesday, January 16, 7 p.m. in the Media Center
- **Community Dinner:** Thursday, January 18, 4:00 5:15, Mid-Winter Picnic! This is a sit-down dinner with Take-out available.

Remember in Your Prayers & Correspondence

Howard Rose; Anthonia Todd

Church Office: Education Center, 64 Oswego St., Ba	
9am – 2pm M-F Phone 315-635	-9964 Fax 315-638-4792
PastorRev. Kirsty H. Dickson-Maret	Clerk of SessionStephanie Stine
Director of Music & ChoirsRheta Jenks	OrganistLee Johnston
Deacon Co-ModeratorMarty Pond	Deacon Co-ModeratorShane Adams
Administrative AssistantElizabeth Bayer	Financial SecretaryAndrea Ducharme
TreasurerDiana Anastas	Nursery School DirectorJessica Newcomb

First Presbyterian Church Baldwinsville, NY



Identity Statement

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

Like a great light in a land of deep darkness, the mercy of the Lord shines upon us. Friends, let us prepare to enter the new year with hearts that have been unburdened, and let us make our confession before God and one another. Please join me in our Prayer of Confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Dear Heavenly Father, we lower our heads before you and we confess that we have too often forgotten that we are yours.

Sometimes we carry on our lives as if there was no God and we fall short of being a credible witness to You.

For these things we ask your forgiveness, and we also ask for your strength. Give us clear minds and open hearts so we may witness to You in our world.

Remind us to be who You would have us to be regardless of what we are doing or who we are with.

Hold us to You and build our relationship with You and with those You have given us on earth. Amen.

One: Now that we have confessed as a body, let us take the truths that have troubled our hearts to God silently. Let us not be worried about the awkwardness of silence, as we take some time to focus on speaking with our God.

SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Gloria Patri #579

*PASSING OF THE PEACE:

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **All: And also with you.** One: Let us share signs of peace with one another.

MUSICAL OFFERING

EPISTLE READING	Galatians 4:4-7 red Bible p. 1420, black Bible p. 18	Liturgist 9
GOSPEL LESSON	Luke 2:22-40 red Bible p. 1246, black Bible p. 59	Tom Eckrote

*HYMN SING

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

WE OFFER OUR LIVES TO GOD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*HYMN #49 "Once in Royal David's City"

WE HEAR AND REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD

red Bible p.908, black Bible p.692

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Liturgist