

# First Sunday of Christmas

December 29, 2024

9:00 a.m.

*Welcome friends in Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today and to celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ. We extend a warm greeting of Christian Fellowship to you.*

\*Congregation standing for those who are able

The Words of Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the Friendship pads and pass them back to the center aisle.

## Our Approach to God

Prelude O Come, All Ye Faithful Wade

The Call to Worship

Glory to God in the highest! For unto us is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

**We quiet our hearts and open our eyes to see him. Our Messiah has come!**

Let us worship him who was born the King of angels.

**We come to adore him, Christ the Lord!**

\*The Hymn of Praise O Come, All Ye Faithful 41

The First Reading *The Mysterious Moving Nativity*<sup>1</sup> Kitty Myers  
By Cheryl Kirking

The Hymn *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child* 27

The Second Reading *Are You Going to Miss Christmas?*<sup>2</sup> Adam Engel  
By Ruth Graham

The Third Reading *Stop... Look... Listen*<sup>3</sup> John Taipale  
By Joni Eareckson Tada

\*The Hymn *Silent Night* 60

\*The Call to Confession

Christ our Savior is born! Jesus came to earth as a human, just like us but without sin. He came so that we who sin may be freed from sin. With the peace that comes from knowing Jesus came, let us confess our sins and be forgiven.

\*The Prayer of Confession

**God of our salvation, in Christ you have done great things. Our hearts are filled with joy. By your power you lifted us out of the wasteland of sin and brought us into your kingdom. Salvation is your gift to us. We confess that often we try to replace your gift with our own efforts. We try to complete what is already perfect; we try to add to what is already full; we try to earn what we already have. Forgive us for our foolishness. [Silent confession.] Merciful God, grant that we may have a fresh understanding of what you have done for us and a renewed resolve to live for your glory and praise. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

\*The Assurance of Pardon

The angel told the shepherds, "I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today, in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you." Christ our Savior is born! In Christ, our sins are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

\*The Response *Angels We Have Heard on High* (chorus) 23

**Glo...ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo...ria, in excelsis Deo.**

## The Word of God

The Time with the Children Laurel Taipale

The Fourth Reading *No Angels, No Shepherds, No Star*<sup>4</sup> Sam Engel  
By Theodore Rellstab

<sup>1</sup> Cheryl Kirking, *All is Calm, All is Bright* (Grand Rapids, Fleming H. Revell, 2001), 21.

<sup>2</sup> Billy and Ruth Graham, *This Christmas Night*, (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 2007), 45.

<sup>3</sup> Eareckson Tada, MacArthur, and Wolgemuth, *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2001), 73.

<sup>4</sup> Theodore Rellstab, *No Angels, No Shepherds, No Star* (sermon given at St. John Lutheran Church, Defiance, OH, on January 1, 2023)

### Our Response to Serve

\* The Affirmation of Faith    The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)    hymnal, page 14

\*The Hymn                      *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*                      31

The Morning Prayers and the Lord's Prayer (using sins)

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

The Offertory                      *Away in a Manger*                      Wagner

\*The Doxology    *Angels, from the Reals of Glory* (verse 4)                      22

**All creation, join in praising, God the Father, Spirit, Son.**

**Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:**

**Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!**

\*The Prayer of Dedication

\*The Hymn                      *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*                      29

\*The Charge and Benediction

\*The Congregational Response    *Go with Us, Lord*                      535

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,**

**That in Your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to You.**

Postlude                      *Fantasia on a French Carol*                      Hughes

**Please join us immediately following worship in the gathering area for refreshments and fellowship.**

Songs and broadcast are covered by:

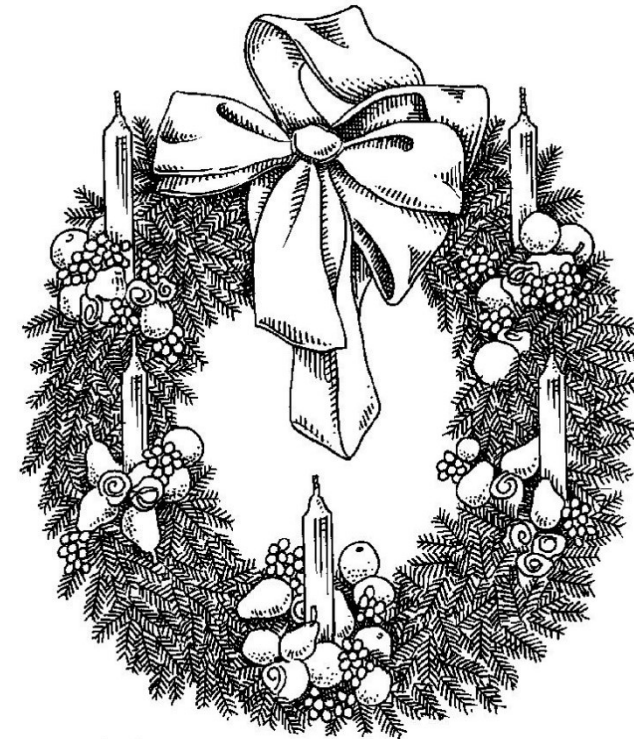
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# Second Presbyterian Church

2665 Midland Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603

Phone: (989) 792-1023

December 29, 2024



The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

J o h n    1    :    9

*Seeking and Serving Christ. We are a Place for Growing Christians.*

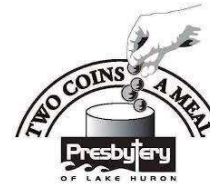
**Liturgists:** Adam Engel, Samantha Engel, Kitty Myers, John Taipale, and Laurel Taipale

**Ushers:** Pete & Ginny Brucker

**Greeter:** Diane Kemerer

**Fellowship Hour Host:**

**Musical Talent:** Laurel Taipale, organist



January's Mission is "2 Coins a Meal," the hunger ministry of Presbytery of Lake Huron, supported by all the congregations within the Presbytery. Stayed tuned for more information. (Coins and paper accepted )

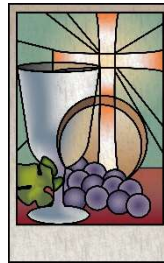
### Rescue Mission Lunches



Saturday, **January 4**, please join us in the church kitchen to assemble bag lunches for the Saginaw Rescue Mission. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the church kitchen (Please enter from parking lot through Fellowship Hall door) to visit and share in the work of making sandwiches and lunches for those struggling with hunger. We look forward to seeing you as we gather to help those in need.

### Communion

**Sunday, January 5**, communion will be celebrated during the worship service. We hold an open communion at Second Presbyterian Church which means all believing Christians are welcome to participate. We also invite you to bring non-perishable food items for **The Ecumenical Food Pantry at First Presbyterian Church**. We do so knowing that it is our privilege to feed the hungry and care for the poor as we are fed and sustained by the grace of God.



### Taking Down the Greens

Please plan to stay after worship on Sunday, January 5, and help us take down the greens. After worship we will "un-deck" the halls. The more people we have helping, the quicker we will finish. Lunch will be provided.

### Music and Worship Committee

We need some people willing to learn and help with the Live-Stream operations. Please see Chuck Kemerer, Cheryl Kelley, Deb Easlick, or Bruce Smith if you are interested in learning the live-stream process.



### Music Notes

You are invited to sing with the Walkup Choir on Sunday, January 5. Come to rehearsal at 8:30am Sunday morning in the choir room, sit in the pews during the service, and then walkup to sing for the anthem. This is a great opportunity to try out the choir or do some singing even if you are not able to sing in the choir every Sunday.



### Upcoming Schedule

Sunday, December 29 - no choir  
Wednesday, January 1 - no rehearsal  
Sunday, January 5 - walk-up choir at 8:30am  
Wednesday, January 8 - choir only, no handbells  
Wednesday, January 15 - choir and handbells

**\*The office will be closed on Wednesday , January 1, 2025.** The office will be open Monday, December 30, Tuesday, December 31, and Thursday, January 2 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. As always, please call the office before driving to the church as unforeseen circumstances can occur. Pastor Ruth will be on vacation December 25 – January 1.\*