

First Presbyterian Church of Redwood Falls

Celebrating 150 Years

December 24, 2017 ~ 5 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Ministers: The members of the congregation

Pastor: Rev. Scott Prouty

Our Vision Statement of the First Presbyterian Church of Redwood Falls is: God's timeless love transforms each of us to joyously continue the ministry of Jesus Christ in our community and in our world.

Assemble in God's Name

Prelude
Introit

Chancel Choir

Advent Candle Lighting Service
Hymn #132

Confirmation student Grace Caraway and her family

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Call to Worship

L: Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy, for all people. To you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

P: There is nothing in death or life, in things present, or things to come, nothing in all creation, that can separate us from the love of God, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, Rejoice!

P: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Invocation

Good and Gracious God, on this holy night You gave us Your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, the Savior of all, lying in a manger. On this holy night draw us into the mystery of Your love. Join our voices with the heavenly host that we may sing Your glory on high. Give us a place among the shepherds that we may find the one for whom we have waited. Through Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn #119

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!"

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession in Unison**

God of Grace and Truth, in Jesus Christ You came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of Your grace, and live in the truth of the Christ the Lord.

***Time for Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the good news of Christmas. Tonight God reveals to us the wonders of divine love. For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given. His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

***Response Hymn #136 "Go, Tell it on The Mountain" (Refrain only)**

***Share the Peace of Christ with One Another**

(Members and guests, please pass the attendance pad from left to right)

Proclaim God's Word

Prayer of Illumination

Responsive Reading

John 1:1-4

Page 1279

Hymn #145

"What Child is This?"

Gospel Lesson **Sermon**

Matthew 1:18-2:12

Page 1138

The Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Give Thanks To God

God's Tithes and Your Offering Received **Offertory**

Karen Speros

***Response Hymn #144 "In the Bleak Mid-Winter" (Stanza 4)**

***Offertory Prayer**

God, our Owner and Creator, we return to You thanks for life and breath and for Your gifts of strength and skill, of money, wisdom, hope, and love. Use our tangled gratitude to extend our sharing of the gospel, until You bring to completion the good work You have begun in us, through the power of Jesus Christ in the unity of the Spirit, one God, three in one. Amen.

Go in God's Name

Anthem

"There was Love"

Chancel Choir
Solo: Karen Speros
Flutist: Julia Prouty

Candle Lighting Ritual

The Chancel Choir will start with the candle lighting by lighting their candles from the Christ Candle. They will disperse into the congregation. As you light your candle, please tip your candle into the lighted candle.

***Hymn #122**

"Silent Night"

***Benediction**

Postlude

(*) Asterisk signifies to please stand if you are able.

Ushers for Tonight: Dan Fuhr, Randy & Lynn Juell, Brent Prouty, Aaron Rohlik,
Keegan & Kyron Mammen, Marty Caraway

Greeting You Tonight: Tom & Barb Stough, Maynard & Joyce Nolting, Julie Reinstra

**Everyone is invited to join us in the Church Dining Room for our
Christmas Eve Friendship Dinner. Soups, meats, cheeses, veggies,
crackers and desserts will be served.**