



## The Second Sunday of Christmas

January 5, 2025

10:30am

### GATHER

#### WORDS OF WELCOME

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Reuben Chrestman

Gather us in, the brokenhearted and the joyful.

**Gather us in, the weak and the strong.**

Gather us in, the fearful and the brave.

**Gather us in, the young and the old.**

Gather us in, to sing of God's works.

**Gather us in, to praise Jesus Christ.**

Gather us in, to worship and wonder.

**Gather us in, to know of God's love.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE      Here in This Place (Gather Us In) *stanzas 1 2 and 4*

No. 401

#### CONFESSION AND PARDON

*Call to Confession*

*Prayer of Confession*

We read in Ephesians that we were chosen by God before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before God in love.

**Such a privilege...**

Such a responsibility....

**God chose us...to be holy and blameless.**

We do try, but being holy all the time is not easy.

**Forgive us Lord, when we fail.**

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\*You are invited to stand.

Please join in saying/singing aloud the responses **printed in bold**.

Hymn numbers correspond to the pages in the red or purple *Glory to God* hymn book in the pew rack in front of you.

Today's Call to Confession, Prayer for Illumination, Invitation to the Offering, Prayer of Thanksgiving, and Charge and Benediction were written, prepared, or selected by Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Carrico, Jr for *Presbyterian Outlook*.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon written by Moira Laidlaw and posted on Re:Worship.

Prayers of the People written by Bruce Prewer and posted on Re:Worship.

Call to Worship written by Mary J. Scifres and posted on Re:Worship.

We read that we are destined for adoption as God's children through Jesus Christ...

**Such a privilege...**

Such a responsibility....

**Our identity as members of God's family should be apparent to others...**

That means being recognizable as Christians through our words and deeds.

**Forgive us Lord, when we fail**

We also read that we were marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit which is the guarantee of our inheritance as God's own people...

**Such a privilege...**

Such a wonderful privilege, knowing that the burden of living up to such an inheritance has been taken off our shoulders because of the grace which has been lavished upon us.

For God also promised that in Jesus we have been forgiven according to the riches of his grace.

**May we always be aware of the tremendous privilege which has been bestowed upon us by God and may our response to such blessings be to live as grace-full and joy-full followers of Jesus, our Lord and our Saviour. Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon*

*Sung Response*

God of Grace and God of Glory *stanza 4*

No. 307

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Following the Sharing of the Peace of Christ, children are invited to come forward and sit on the front row of chairs, next to the piano.*

## PROCLAIM

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SONG OF PREPARATION

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise *stanza 4*

No. 486

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

*New Testament Reading*

Ephesians 1:3-14

NRSVue

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Reading*

John 1:(1-9)10-18

NRSVue

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Elder Jennifer Beasley

\*HYMN OF CELEBRATION

Hark, the Herald Angel Sing (Jesus, the Light of the World)

No. 127

## RESPOND

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*(Inclusive Language Text of the Confession of 1967)*

***“In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which everyone stands convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.”***

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE AND ENGAGEMENT

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of all things seen and unseen, if you had insulated yourself from the pain of the world, then your name could not be love and our condition would be without hope. Thank you for being so personally involved, for revealing your complete commitment in Jesus of Nazareth. Through him we pray with hope, in him we pray with love.

Let your healing love be known this day by all who suffer ailment of body, or distress of mind, or agony of spirit

Please reveal your compassion,

**Loving God, bring wholeness to all.**

Let your intimate love be known today by all who feel forgotten or lost, and all who are walking in the dark valley of despair.

Please reveal your compassion,

**Loving God, bring wholeness to all.**

Let your fierce love this day redress the wrongs of all who suffer exploitation, injustice, abuse, neglect, violence or unwarranted imprisonment.

Please reveal your compassion,

**Loving God, bring wholeness to all.**

Let your nurturing love today encourage those who are gathering resolve to make tough decisions, take on new responsibilities, or break free from some bondage.

Please reveal your compassion,

**Loving God, bring wholeness to all.**

Let your relentless love this day upset congregations that have become self-centred or even contemptuous of other churches.

Please reveal your compassion,

**Loving God, bring wholeness to all.**

Let your reconciling love today gather together the separated Christians, and make them aware of the fellowship and mission of the one, universal body of Christ

Please reveal your compassion,

**Loving God, bring wholeness to all.**

Let your inspiring love this day rejuvenate pastors, priests and prophets who have become weary to the very roots of their souls.

Please reveal your compassion,

**Loving God, bring wholeness to all.**

Thank you for hearing us, most loving God. With the whole body of believers in time and eternity, we want to love, praise and serve you, today and evermore. Through Christ Jesus your true Son.

**Amen!**

#### OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*During the time of offering, you are invited to make a financial contribution to LPC. You may do so by placing cash or a check (payable to "LPC") in the offering plate, or give by credit card by using the QR code to be directed to our online giving page. You are also encouraged to be in prayer about how you can use your time and talents to serve God and neighbor this week.*



\**Offertory* (sung)

Jesus, Light of Joy stanzas 1, 2, 3

No. 673

*Stand for stanzas 2 & 3.*

\*DOXOLOGY

Praise God From Whom Blessings Flow

No. 606

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,**

**Praise God all creatures here below**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host,**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**...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<sup>1</sup> 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.**

### GO

\*SENDING HYMN

Men of Faith, Rise Up and Sing

No. 319

\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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<sup>1</sup> When saying the Lord's Prayer, some prefer to use the words "forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us" or "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Please pray as you feel led.

Worship may be over, but our service has just begun.

*We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us.  
Lakeview Presbyterian Church brings God's word to life  
in a welcoming atmosphere of worship, prayer, and fellowship,  
while spreading the love of Jesus Christ  
through Christian education and outreach, wherein all are welcome.*