*First Presbyterian Church*

*101 South Decatur Street*

*Strasburg PA 17579*

*(717) 687-6030*

*straspres@straspres.org*

*www.straspres.org*

 Sunday, December 8, 2013  8:30am

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As the prelude plays, silently come into the Lord’s presence.

Open your heart and give yourself up to Christ who is here to meet you today.

*“Be still and know that I am God.”* Psalm 46:10

PRELUDE  *“Angels From the Realms of Glory”* – Mercer

*“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”* – Manz

*“Lo, How a Rose is Blooming”* - Brahms

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

(Please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it to your neighbor)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Thomas Family

 Leader: This second Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way. May the Word sent from God through the prophets lead us to the way of salvation.

 **People: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

\*HYMN *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” No. 2*

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

**God of hope and faithfulness, we praise You for never giving up on us. As You sent a shoot from Jesse to give us salvation, so You place in our lives rays of hope that never dim. We praise You for allowing us to be Your representatives here on this earth, even as we stumble and fail in the mission that You have given us. Forgive us for seeing more despair than hope, and for quenching the Spirit when we should allow it to flourish. We pray this through Jesus our Lord, Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

*[Please share Christ’s peace with one another with*

 *handshakes, hugs, kisses—however you feel led.]*

\*HYMN *“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”*

**Angels, from the Realms of Glory wing your flight o’er all the earth;**

**Ye, who sang creation’s story now proclaim Messiah’s birth:**

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

 (Children may come up front during the hymn for the Children’s Message)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Garner Family

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Matthew 3:1-3 (NT p2)*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *Isaiah 11:1-10 (OT p640)*

SERMON  *“Allowing the Shoot to Grow”* Rev. Robert Bronkema

\*HYMN  *“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”* *No. 22*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER  *(pg. 16 in the hymnal)*

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

 OFFERTORY *“Winter Carol (In the Bleak Midwinter)”* Chancel Choir

 \*DOXOLOGY

*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.*

\*APOSTLES’ CREED *(p.14 in the hymnal)*

\*HYMN *“Go Tell It On the Mountain”* *No. 29*

\*BENEDICTION & RESPONSE

**O Come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here;**

**Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,**

**And death’s dark shadows put to flight.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

\*POSTLUDE  *“Grands Jeux”* – Boyvin

***“Come As You Are”***

11:00am

Greeting & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Allison Family

 Leader: This second Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way. May the Word sent from God through the prophets lead us to the way of salvation.

 **People: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

\*Praise & Worship

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

*Gloria*

*The More I Seek You*

Prayer & Peace

Children’s Message: Garner Family

Scripture Reading:

*Matthew 3:1-3; Isaiah 11:1-10*

Sermon  *“Allowing the Shoot to Grow”*

\*Closing Song

*Our God*

\*Benediction

Sermon Notes:

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