

First Presbyterian Church

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Sunday, December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

8:30am

PRELUDE

"In the Bleak Midwinter" — arr. Barr

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: Colvin Family

Leader: This third Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy. May the joyful promise of Your presence,
O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.

People: **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

*Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

No. 41

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Creator God, the One who separated light from darkness. We thank You and praise You for each new beginning: the first day, the birth of the Good News, our Baptism, and every new day thereafter that we abide in Your grace. We confess that we are a formless void, full of darkness without Your light. Forgive us for not recognizing that the Christmas star represents Your light that was there from the beginning. Help us to know that if we seek it, we will find it with us all the way to the end. We pray in the name of the One proclaimed by John the Baptist - Immanuel. 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

"Spirit of the Living God"

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(For those who wish, children grades 1-4 can leave for children's church at this time.)

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 1:1-5(OT p1)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:1 (NT p34)

SERMON

ADVENT SERIES: THE HEART OF CHRIST

Rev. Robert Bronkema

"A Heart for Us from Beginning to End"

*HYMN

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

No. 38

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"Joyfully Sing, Welcome the King" — Davenport

Chancel Choir

*DOXOLOGY

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.

*HYMN

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

No. 31

*BENEDICTION & CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

*POSTLUDE

"Fantasy on Mendelssohn" — arr. Page

Next Week

Advent Sermon Series: The Heart of Christ

Isaiah 52:7-10

Luke 2:1-7

"A Heart for You"

11:00am

Greeting & Announcements

Lighting the Advent Wreath: Fasnacht Family

Leader: This third Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy. May the joyful promise of Your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.

**People: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

*Praise & Worship

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Hosanna, Praise is Rising
Newborn King

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message

(For those who wish, children grades 1-4 can leave for children's church at this time.)

Scripture Readings

Genesis 1:1-5; Mark 1:1

Sermon: **Advent Series: The Heart of Christ** "A Heart for Us from Beginning to End"

*Offering/Closing Song

What Child is This

*Benediction

SERMON NOTES:
