

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

**CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24, 2021
5:30 P.M.**

THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER

PRESERVICE MUSIC

*“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”
“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”
“The First Nowell”
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”
“Mary, Did You Know?”
“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”
“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

WELCOME

CHIMES

PRELUDE

“Songs of Christmas” (Wilson)

CALL TO WORSHIP (Margy Barbour)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

We will sing praises to the Lord with the lyre and the sound of the horn.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

We will sing you a new song, O God, for the marvelous things you have done.

Let us worship God together!

***OPENING HYMN #133**

O Come, All Ye Faithful” (Wade)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE PROMISE OF LIGHT (Rebecca Johnson)

Micah 5:2

***THE HYMN #82**

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” (Pritchard)

THE PREPARATION FOR THE LIGHT (Bob Kurtz)

The Annunciation

Luke 1:26-38

The Magnificat

Luke 1:46-55

DUET “*O Holy Night*” (Adam/Arr. DeCesare) (Wayne Bevers and Bob Entrop)

THE GIFT OF LIGHT (Dietta Hitchcock) Luke 2:1-14

***HYMN #113** “*Angels We Have Heard On High*” (French Carol)

RESPONSES TO THE BIRTH (Jon Hitchcock)

The Shepherds Luke 2:15-20

The Wise Men Matthew 2:1-11

DUET “*Joy to the World*” (Handel/Arr. Dover) (Wayne Bevers and Bob Entrop)

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD (Pastor Randy Nolen)

John 1:1-18

John 8:12

***HYMN #145**

“*What Child Is This*” (English Ballad)

THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER (See Insert)

OUR 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,

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 and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND THE CHRIST CANDLE (Randy and Marilyn Nolen)

Jesus says: I am coming soon.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

As the Lord has promised, in days to come...

The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together, and a little child shall lead them.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

The Lord will give you a sign, Look, the young woman is with child.

She shall bear a son, and name him Emmanuel: "God is with us."

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord. **Amen.**

(The pastor will light a candle from the Christ candle, and light the candles of the readers. They will light the candles of those on the aisles. Those on the aisles will light the candle of the one next to them, and so on down the pew. As you pass the flame, please keep the candle that is already lit upright to avoid spilling wax. Please extinguish your candle and drop it in one of the baskets as you are leaving).

***HYMN #122**

"Silent Night, Holy Night!" (Gruber)

QUARTET

"Feliz Navidad" (Feliciano)

(Jody Pacquing Bevers, Wayne Bevers, Bob Entrop, and Erica Entrop)

THE PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

Great God, as you came at night when all was still, so enter our lives this night. Illumine our paths with the light of Christ's presence, that we may clearly see the way before us, the truth to speak, and the life to live for him, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

"Joy to the World"

WORSHIP NOTES

Please pick up a candle on your way into the Sanctuary.

You will see asterisks (*) printed here and there in this order of worship. If you are able, please stand for those parts of the service.

The Lord's Table is open to all who place their trust in Christ. Children are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper: Virus Precautions. Communion is offered in two forms: (1) factory-sealed juice & wafer packets, and (2) bread-in-a-cup along with juice-in-a cup. The bread/juice in cups have been prepared using antivirus precautions by our Chancel Guild. Please come forward by the center aisle, maintaining a six-foot distance, row by row. On both the right and left sides of the Lord's Table you will find both options for receiving the bread and cup (the elements). Please serve yourself. Return to your seat by a side aisle, taking the elements with you. Please hold the elements until everyone has been served, and we will all enjoy them together. If you choose the factory-sealed sets, you may want to open them when you return to your seat. After eating and drinking, please leave the cups in the round pockets in front of each pew.

VISITORS

Welcome! We are thrilled to have you with us this evening. We invite you to join us for worship any Sunday at 10:00am. Pastor Randy would be glad to have coffee with you to talk about matters of faith and/or our church. Please contact him by phone, text, or email.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

MINISTER

Randy Nolen

LITURGIST

Margy Barbour

READERS

Rebecca Johnson, Bob Kurtz, Dietta Hitchcock, Jon Hitchcock

SINGERS

Wayne Bevers, Bob Entrop, Erica Entrop, Jodys Pacquing Bevers

First Presbyterian Church Roswell, New Mexico

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9am-noon & 1:00pm-3:00pm

Phone

(575) 622-4910

Email

office@fpcroswell.org

Website

www.fpcroswell.org

Fax

(575) 622-4918

Inspirational Phone Message

(575) 622-4923

Pastor

Randy Nolen (575) 622-4910, rnolen@fpcroswell.org

Administrative Assistant

Nova Rogers, (575) 622-4910, nrogers@fpcroswell.org

Organist

Carola Spreacker

Custodian

Joe Fuentes