

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

**December 26, 2021**

**10:00am**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

**GATHERING**

**PRESERVICE MUSIC**

*“The Friendly Beasts”*  
*“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day”*  
*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*  
*“Mary, Did You Know?”*  
*“Away in a Manger”*  
*“Still, Still, Still”*  
*“Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child”*  
*“Silent Night, Holy Night”*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHARING OF PRAYER REQUESTS**

**CHIMES**

**PRELUDE**

*“Joy to the World”* (Wilson)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Isaiah 9:2, John 1:5

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**

The light shines in the darkness.

**And the darkness did not overcome it**

For Christ is born in Bethlehem.

**Come, let us adore him.**

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

Congregational Requests (#108 to #156)  
(first and last verses)

**\*PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Almighty God, Christ your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, born in Bethlehem. May we receive Christ into our lives and become, through him, your blessed children who walk in the light you have sent into our world. Through Christ we pray. **Amen.**

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

As we celebrate the birth of Christ our Savior, let us acknowledge our failure to receive him fully into our world, trusting in the mercy of God.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Almighty God, we confess that our hearts have not been open to all that you have revealed to us in the Nativity of your Son. You sent Christ to be born as a helpless Child, and yet we have not attended to suffering of children. You chose humble Mary to be the mother of our Lord Jesus, and yet we have not attended to the struggles of women. The holy family could find no room in Bethlehem but a stable, and yet we have not attended to the cry of the homeless. You announced your birth to lowly shepherds, yet we ignore those who tend our farms and fields. Forgive our lack of attention, and free us for joyful compassion, that we may know Christ in serving others. Though Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Isaiah foretold the good news that is now proclaimed to us: The Lord has comforted the people and redeemed Jerusalem.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **THE WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Holy God, through the power of your Holy Spirit illumine your word, that we might see Christ, the living Word, the light of the world. **Amen.**

### **READING FROM THE BOOK OF PSALMS**

Psalm 98

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES**

Isaiah 52:7–10

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT**

Hebrews 1:1–12

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

(Please stand for the reading of the Gospels if you are able)

**\*READING FROM THE GOSPELS**

John 1:1–14

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

Congregational Requests (#108 to #156)  
(first and last verses)

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,  
the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**MEDITATION ON THE STEWARDSHIP OF TIME, TALENT, AND  
TREASURE**

Rejoice! For I bring good news and great joy to all people: today is born to you a Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Let us with gladness present the offerings of our life and labor to the Lord.

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

*"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"* (Rasley)

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

**On this glad new day for all the earth we are grateful for giving hearts made joyful in the gift of your Son. For you, O God, are generosity itself. Bless these gifts we offer to the benefit of those in need. Bless our lives in service of sharing your love in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen**

## **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.**

## **SENDING**

### **CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

Congregational Requests (#108 to #156)  
(first and last verses)

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE TO PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH**

### **QUARTET**

“Feliz Navidad” (Feliciano)  
(Jody Bevers, Wayne Bevers, Bob Entrop, Erica Entrop)

### **\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

### **\*POSTLUDE**

*“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”*

\*Please stand if you are able where asterisks are printed.

Words in **bold print** are spoken by the congregation.