

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

**CHRISTMAS EVE  
DECEMBER 24, 2022  
5:30pm**

**THE PEOPLE OF GOD GATHER**

**PRESERVICE MUSIC**

(Dr. Sara Montgomery & Carola Spreacker)

*"The First Noel"*  
*"Adeste Fideles"*  
*"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*  
*"The Coventry Carol"*  
*"What Child Is This?"*  
*"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"*  
*"Away in a Manger"*  
*"Silent Night"*

**WELCOME**

**CHIMES**

**PRELUDE**

*"O Holy Night"* (Adam)

**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** (Wayne Bevers)

Micah 5:2

**\*THE HYMN #82**

*"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"* (Prichard)

**THE PREPARATION FOR THE LIGHT** (Mary Hubbard)

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** (Bob Entrop) Luke 2:1-14

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

**RESPONSES TO THE BIRTH** (Bob Kurtz)

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 Nolen and Margy Barbour)

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.**

*(light the first candle)*

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.**

*(light the second candle)*

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.**

*(light the third candle)*

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."**

*(light the fourth candle)*

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.**

*(light the Christ candle)*

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)

## 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**

**\*HYMN #134**

*“Joy to the World”* (Handel) (verse 1)

**\*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 Supper.** The Lord’s Table is open to all who place their trust in Christ. Children are welcome to receive the Lord’s Supper. Baptism is encouraged, but not required. This is the joyous feast of the Lord! Welcome to his table. The bread/juice in cups have been prepared using antivirus precautions by our Chancel Guild. Please come forward by the center aisle row by row. 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. 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**  
**LITURGIST**  
**READERS**  
**SINGERS**

Randy Nolen  
Margy Barbour  
Wayne Bevers, Mary Hubbard, Bob Entrop, Bob Kurtz  
Wayne Bevers, Bob Entrop

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Roswell, New Mexico**

<b>Office Hours</b>	Monday through Thursday, 9am-noon & 1:00pm-3:00pm
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<b>Music Director</b>	Wayne Bevers (575) 626-9227, <a href="mailto:chaparral@dfn.com">chaparral@dfn.com</a>
<b>Organist</b>	Carola Spreacker
<b>Custodian</b>	Joe Fuentes