

Order of Worship

December 31, 2023

First Sunday of Christmas



Prelude

O Come, All Ye Faithful, Turner

Call to Worship (Responsive)

from Psalm 148

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

All: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

One: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

All: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

One: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

All: Praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

Hymn No. 140

Once in Royal David's City

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of rhythms, we confess: our faith would not be what it is without rituals. We return to this space again and again to hear old, familiar stories. For if we stopped, we know it would not take long before we lost our way. Forgive us for our fragility, and thank you for giving us ordinary rituals and rhythms to hold onto. With grateful and humble hearts we pray, Amen.

Moment for Silent Confession

Kyrie No. 551

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Gloria No. 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Hymn No. 146

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Second Reading

Luke 2:21-38

Homily

Rooted in Ritual, Rev. Dr. Kathy Wolf Reed

Hymn No. 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

The Apostles' Creed, Hymnal, p. 35

Prayers of the People

Offertory

Bethlehem Lullaby, Keeney

Doxology No. 606

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Hymnal p. 35

Hymn No. 136

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Benediction

Postlude

Postlude on "Antioch," Peterson

Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church, Auburn

New to the Presbyterian Church USA? We would love to share with you more about our Reformed tradition of theology and worship.

New to Auburn, or simply new to this congregation? We'd love to share with you more about the rich history of this church and its valuable contributions to the Auburn community.

Searching for a church home? We would love to join you in that search and help discern whether First Presbyterian may be where God is calling you to be nurtured, inspired, and empowered.

Please take a moment to fill out our [online Friendship Register](#) or you may contact either of us directly.

Revs. Nick and Kathy Reed, Co-Pastors