

The Synod of the Covenant and The Michigan Black Presbyterian Caucus
The First Sunday of Christmas
December 26, 2021

Prelude

O, Holy Night

Linda Stratton

Welcome/Opening Prayer

Chip Hardwick

Call to Worship in Song: *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Susan Rousch

Call to Worship in Word:

Deborah Fair

One: Sing praises to God on high, for glorious are God's works.

All: Sing praises to the ends of the earth.

One: Shout and sing for joy, O people of God,

**All: for great is the Holy One in our midst, blessed is the One
who comes to dwell among us. Let us Worship God!**

Opening Carol: *O Come All Ye Faithful*

The Schramm Family

Call to Confession:

Mike March

Unison Prayer of Confession:

Lord Jesus, you have given up all of the riches of heaven to come among us. You are God-with-us, Emmanuel. Yet all too often, we take this great act of love for granted. Amidst the gift-giving and family gatherings, we forget the glories of your Incarnation. We overlook your great sacrifice, coming alongside us to save us from our sin. Forgive us, Lord Jesus Christ, for this and all our sins, as we continue to confess in song...

Confession in Carol: *O Little Town of Bethlehem, v. 4*

Lorna March

Assurance of Pardon

Mike March

Hearing the Word Psalm 148, with *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Merritt and Dominique Worthen, Almartino Dargan III
Philippians 2:5-11

Sermon: *Why Praise, Today?*

Chip Hardwick

Carol of Response: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Daryl Taylor, Stefanie Lewis, Carolyn Kent

Testimonies: "Why Praise, Today?", interspersed with

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Adrienne Adams, Marianne Grano, Tom James, Deb Uchtman
The Vine Presbyterian Church Worship Band

Call to Giving and Offering Prayer:

Charon Barconey

Christmas Prayer:

Luke Choi

Closing Carol: *Good Christian Friends Rejoice*

Julie Delezenne, Renee Lawrence, June Zydek

Benediction:

Kevin Johnson

Postlude:

Dalos Grobe



Announcements

December 26, 2021

We pray for: Ann Potteiger and her husband (Ron), Heather Holben, The Davisons, Rex Felton, Nancy Cook, Faye Lyon, Joyce McClellan (Willows), The McQuistions, Tom Harrold, Jack Myers, those with Covid.

- Welcome to this space and this time set aside for worshiping God together. We are incredibly grateful to return to this space full of the stories of God's faithfulness. All are welcome here! Our session strongly recommends masks and distancing inside the building. Let's keep each other healthy and protect our neighbors.
- Worship is also being broadcast live on our Facebook page, [Facebook.com/FPC.Tiffin/](https://www.facebook.com/FPC.Tiffin/). See the worship services on our website at fpc.tiffin.org/worship.
- The Choir meets on Sundays at 9am. Handbells meet to practice on Tuesdays at 5:15pm.
- We have been asked to collect gently used shoes for the Transition Life Center. Please place lightly used shoes in the box near the nursery.
- Happy Birthday to Dr. Jamie Pursell (12/29)! May God bless you!
- The Giving Tree is up! Please place diapers and Pull-Ups for the Pantry under the tree in the Narthex. We need sizes 4 & up, including pullups!
- Please remember to turn in your 2022 pledge cards so we can know how to budget for the coming year.
- If you want your gift to the church to be included in the 2021 tax year, you can drop it off at the church office before 12/31.
- Please turn in your annual report information before the end of the year!
- The office will be closed 12/27 and 1/3 for the holidays.
- After Epiphany service 1/2, we will be taking down decorations.
- Join us on 1/9 for the installation of elders and celebrating our baptisms!