

# ***The First Presbyterian Church***

**Bell Anthem**                    *“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day”*                    John Calkin

**Second Lesson**                    Titus 2:11-14                    Pew Bible Page #1041

**Sermon**                    “Grace Has Appeared!”                    Pastor Scott Cress

**\*Hymn**                    *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*                    Page #155

**\*Affirmation of Faith:**                    The Nicene Creed                    Page #15

## **Prayers of God’s People and the 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

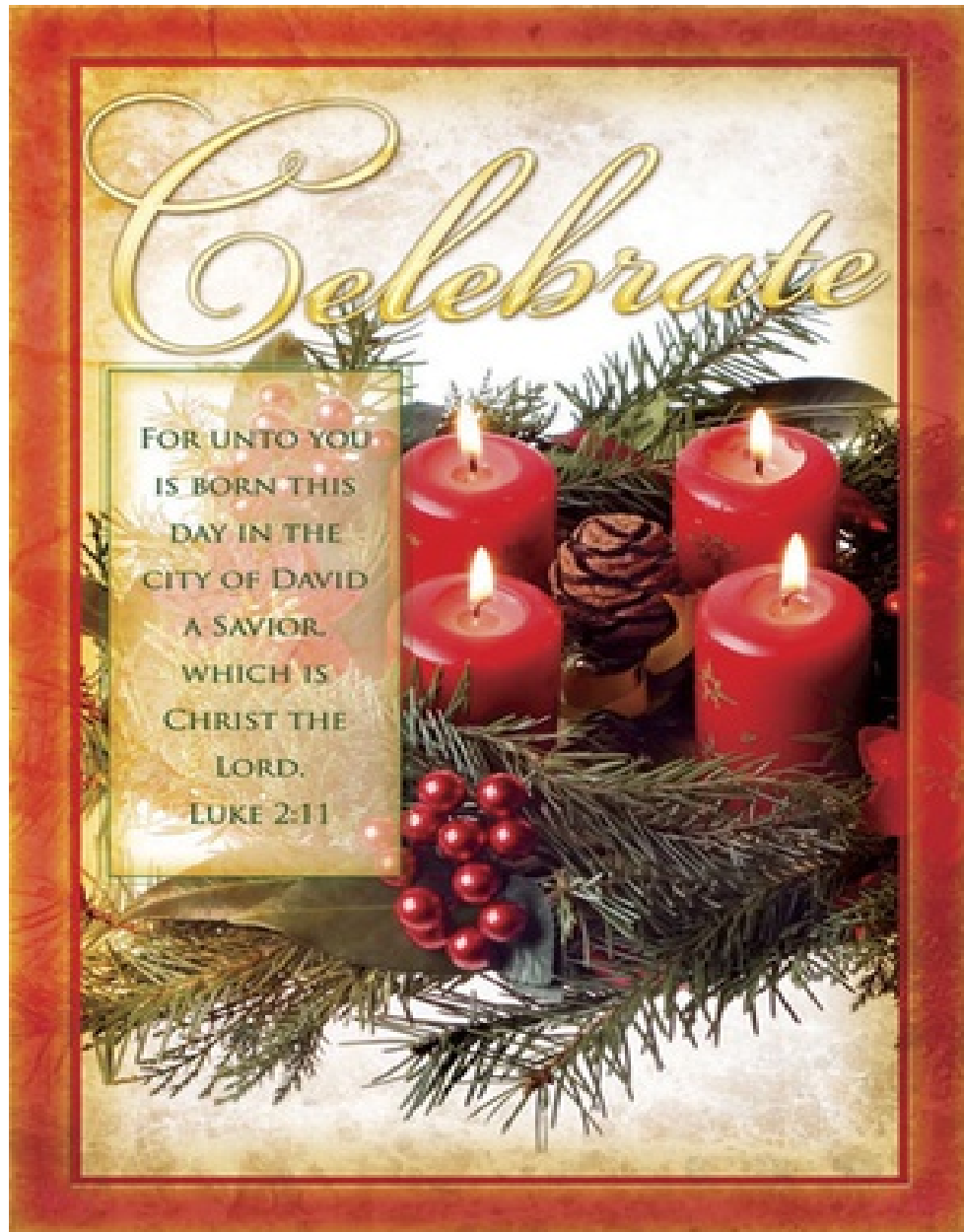
**Our Tithes and Offerings**                    *“Wexford Carol”*                    Dean James  
**\*The Doxology**                    Page #809  
**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn**                    *“Good Christians Friends, Rejoice”*                    Page #157

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**                    *“Carol of the Birds”*                    Dean James





# CHRISTMAS DAY ♦ DECEMBER 25, 2022

## Service for the Lord's DaY

December 25, 2022

10:30 a.m. Worship

\*Congregation May Stand

## CHRISTMAS DAY



### Prelude

*"Catalonian Carol"*

Dean James

*In quiet reflection, let us turn our thoughts toward worship of Almighty God.*

### Welcome and Announcements

Tammy James

*Please hand any blue prayer request cards to the ushers as they pass the attendance folders.*

### Call to Worship

Isaiah 52:7-10

### Invocation

### \*Hymn

*"What Child Is This?"*

Page #150

### \*Responsive Reading

Psalm 97

Leader: The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

**People: Clouds and thick darkness are round about Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.**

Leader: Fire goes before Him, and burns up His adversaries round about.

**People: His lightnings lighten the world; the earth sees and trembles.**

Leader: The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.

# CHURCH CALENDAR



**People:** The heavens proclaim His righteousness; and all the peoples behold His glory.

**Leader:** All worshipers of images are put to shame, who make their boast in worthless idols; all gods bow down before Him.

**People:** Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of Thy judgments, O God.

**Leader:** For Thou, O LORD, art most high over all the earth; Thou art exalted far above all gods.

**People:** The LORD loves those who hate evil; He preserves the lives of His saints; He delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

**Leader:** Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

**All:** Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to His holy name!

**Prayer of Confession:** From Hymnal #457 *(unison)*  
Most holy and merciful Father: We confess in Your presence the sinfulness of our nature, and our shortcomings and offenses against You. You alone know how often we have sinned, in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. Have mercy, O Lord, upon us, who are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease You; and forgive our sins, through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Savior.

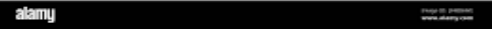
**Silent Confession** *(continue in silent prayer)* ....Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**

**\*The Gloria Patri** Page #805

**Children’s Message** “Sure, Charlie Brown” Pastor Scott Cress

**First Lesson** Luke 2:1-20 Pew Bible Page #889



**Today, December 25 ~ CHRISTMAS DAY!**

- 10:20 a.m. Pre-Service Prayer, Chapel
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

**Monday, December 26**  
*Church office Closed*

**Tuesday, December 27**  
*Church office Closed*

**Wednesday, December 28**  
*Church office Closed*  
6:30 p.m. Mid-week Bible Study, Pastor’s Study and Zoom

**Thursday, December 29**  
*Church office Closed*

**Friday, December 30**  
*Church office Closed*

**Saturday, December 31 ~ NEW YEAR’S EVE!**

**Next Sunday, January 1 ~ NEW YEAR’S DAY!**  
10:20 a.m. Pre-Service Prayer, Chapel  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary  
11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

# WELCOME

Welcome to our last worship service of 2022. God is Lord of all time and eternity, so we walk with Him — and one another — into all that the New Year brings. Merry Christmas!

**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS** worshipping with us this morning. We ask that you please include your name and address when filling out the Friendship Pads and pass the pad along the pew so others may do the same. After everyone has registered, send the pad back along the pew so you can learn the names of those sitting with you.  
Attendance Last Sunday: 79

**PASTOR:** Rev. Scott Cress  
**CHOIR/ORGANIST:** Dean James  
**WORSHIP LEADER:** Tammy James  
**BUILDING CLOSER:** Marsha Rollins  
**DEACON:** Linda Fogarty  
**USHERS:** Barb Auseon and Marsha Rollins

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Brenda Barron, Margaret Scott, Norma Baldwin, and Tammy Rose

**CONTINUING PRAYER REQUESTS:** Earla & Curt Carver, John Long, Phil Hoffman, Mary Sanderson, Phyllis & John Payne, Carissa Benavides, Jack Bowles (*Cousin J.Long*), Charles Cress (*Pastor's Father*), Kara Dietrich, Jim Elliott (*Friend Pastor*), Brynn Ferguson, Melinda Foulke-Beckwith, Kevin & Bridget Fowler (*Parents B.Portteus*), Maxine & George Gaffney (*Friends B.Kneen*), Tim Gordon (*Cousin M.Rollins*), Linda Gray (*Friend M.Rollins*), Bill Gunn (*Brother B.Lipps*), Steve Hess (*Friend Irma*), Ashley Hightower, JB Jenkins (*Brother-in-law Irma*), Robert Jones (*Husband Irma*), Kurt Leutheuser (*Son E.Leutheuser*), Alexis Kozub, Scott Petrie (*Husband Kim*), Joanne Rollins (*Sister-in-law Marsha*), Tammy Rose (*Friend Irma*), Jackie Schaefer (*Friend Taylors*), Rosemarie Schneider (*Sister-in-law W. Schneide*), Sherri Selmer (*Friend Cress Family*), Tammy Simons (*Friend M.Rollins*), Donald Tesch (*Friend M.Games*), Dana Torres (*Nephew Irma*), Laura VanWormer (*Friend L.Fogarty*); **PRAY FOR MILITARY:** LT. Andrea Cornett (*USN*), Spencer Eves (*USNA-Grandson Judy & Ron Adams*); LT. Col. Garron Garn (*US Marines*), LT. Commander Zachary Laden (*US Navy, Grandson Taylors*), Captain Ben Larson (*National Guard--Grandson C.Dear*); Davis Regalado (*USMC-Friend J.Benzing*); LT. JG Sydney Rouble (*USN RN—Granddaughter Bishers*); **PRAY FOR MISSIONS:** Lingap Foundation, Outreach Foundation, and Samaritan's Purse; **PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS:** Mary Rose Dryer (*home*), Lois James

(*Medical Care*), Ellie Leutheuser (*Drews Village Green Rm 19*), and Kit Tamblyn (*Drews Village Green*)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING:** This year all donations received in the Christmas Offering envelopes will go to the Hillsdale Salvation Army to provide food and assistance to people in need in Hillsdale County. The "***Pew envelopes***" may also be used by writing "***Christmas Offering***" on them. Thank you!

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED (December 26-January 2):** In order for our staff to celebrate the holidays with their families, the Church office continues to be closed Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> through Monday, January 2, 2023. The office will open on Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9 AM until 3 PM. If you have a pressing need, Pastor Scott may always be reached by phone. Warmest wishes to you and your families for a Merry Christmas and a safe, happy and a healthy New Year!

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIPS: ARE YOU ABLE TO HOST?** Before and after Sunday morning worship, we enjoy conversation and coffee. Please consider signing up to serve coffee on Sundays at our weekly Coffee Fellowships for 2023. Signup today in kitchen! This is your chance to serve and give back!

**DOOR CLOSERS: ATTENTION!!!** Please make sure that all doors are fully locked especially the Manning Street entrance because a brand-new snow blower has been purchased and placed at that entrance. We want to cautious so that it doesn't show up missing because the doors weren't fully locked. Thank you for keeping our Church safe!!!

**FLOWER CALENDAR:** The new Flower Calendar has been placed in the hall by the Parlor. Please take a moment to place your name on the Flower Chart for giving flowers on any given Sunday in 2023. Thank you!

**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS for the coming year will take place next Sunday,** January 1, 2023. Officers for the Class of 2025 which will be installed as Ruling Elders are **Alan Dimmers, Gregg Patten, and Marsha Rollins** and as Deacons are **Mitzi Dimmers, Marty Games, Connie Hutchinson, Kathy Keil, and Laureen Kimbrough.** Please plan on attending worship that day if at all possible. Thank you!

**MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY:** Join us for Wednesday evening study of John's Gospel. The fun begins at 6:30 PM. You may participate in-person in the Pastor's study (*please RSVP*) or live on Zoom. Check [fpchillsdale.org](http://fpchillsdale.org) for the Zoom info.

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY:** Sunday School is cancelled for today and will resume on January 8<sup>th</sup>! We hope to see you in there!

**THE NEW GIVING ENVELOPE BOXES FOR 2023** can be picked up today in the Alcove on the small table. **NOTE:** The *Initial Offering Envelope* is to defray the cost of printing the giving envelopes and the amount received is posted to General Income. The Giving Boxes also contain special offering envelopes for *Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas*. Call Irma in the Church office if you can't find a box with your name on it.



*Dear Church Family,*

*I thank you for the Card Shower and Cake for my 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday! That was splendid and so kind of you to do that for me. I sincerely apologize for having to leave the festivities so quickly to visit with my friends visiting from out-of-town. You are the best and I am deeply honored and touched that you would celebrate me!*

*~Charlie Sharp*

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*We thank the bell ringers Barb Auseon, Linda Fogarty, Tammy James, and Nancy Veenstra for beautifying our service this Christmas Day!*

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**WE OFFER OUR MOST SINCERE THANKS**

## **TO OUTGOING OFFICERS**

*Ruling Elders Tom Conner and Lisa Roberts and Deacons Homer Bentley, Betty Kneen. You have all served FPC well and we thank you so much!*