

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 27th, 2020

1st Sunday after Christmas

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MUSICAL PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP AND COUNTDOWN

MINI MOVIE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

PRELUDE II Est Ne

*Arr. Edward L. Good*

CHORAL INTROIT Gloria, Gloria

GREETING L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice in God, who is our life and salvation.

Christ has come to make us heirs of God's promises.

**God commanded, and we were created.**

**We are children of the Most High.**

Praise God from the heights of heaven.

Praise God, all people of the earth.

**God opens our eyes to see the light.**

**We will be called by a new name.**

Men and women, youth and aged

Sing of God's glory, shout your praise.

**God has made us heirs of promise.**

**We will praise God's holy name.**

MORNING PRAYER (read by Lay Reader)

Faithful God, by whose Spirit all people and places become holy, lead us by that Spirit today. We have come to celebrate a birth that offers us rebirth. We have gathered that you might claim us as heirs with Christ, of eternal life. Unite our hearts and minds in a chorus of praise, that the life of this church might be quickened, renewed, and refocused. May your faithful people become a crown of beauty in your hands. Amen.

\*HYMN Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#558

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**We bring our prayers to you, gracious God, sensing that there is more to life than the ways we have known. We are drawn to the Messiah, yet we shrink from**

**following where faith leads. We are afraid of what we might lose if we are guided by the Spirit. Thoughts of sacrifice and servanthood are not appealing to us. We are reluctant to enter into a close relationship with you. We think we know better than you what is best for us. Forgive our arrogance. Help us see the Christ. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rejoice in God! Exalt God's name! You will be clothed with garments of salvation. They will fit you better than anything you have known. The robes of righteousness are not heavy burdens, but offer a freedom you have not felt before. You will become a crown of beauty, a new creation in the hands of a loving God.

\*GLORIA PATRI

#805

SPECIAL MUSIC Away in a Manger

*Traditional English melody*

Molly MacGregor-violin

CHILDREN'S CHAT Sally MacGregor

\*HYMN In the Bleak Midwinter verses 1,3, & 4

*On insert*

SCRIPTURE Psalm 148 (p.571); Galatians 4:4-7 (p. 1061) & Luke 2:22-40 (p.933)

MESSAGE Chaplain Andrew MacGregor

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *On insert*

PERIOD OF GUIDED PRAYER Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

OFFERINGS OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY Une Vierge Pucelle

*Arr. Edward L. Good*

\*DOXOLOGY

#809

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER (unison)

**With joyous praise, we return to you a portion of all you have given to us. May our giving exceed the demands of the law. You have invited us to sacrifices befitting our blessings. You have asked us to care for those less privileged. What we offer in these moments is a beginning. We will ponder again your amazing grace in granting us life, in offering the child Jesus to bring us back to you, and in giving us the name "Christian." Praise be to you, O God. Amen.**

\*HYMN Joy to the World verses 1,3, & 4

#146

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Go in peace, carrying God's word to the world.

Praise God and tell the good news of a Savior.

**Our eyes have seen an amazing gift.**

**Our lives will witness our salvation.**

Let praise fill all your waking hours.

Let your dreams reflect God's consolation.

**We are not slaves to the exercises of our day.**

**We are free to live by eternal values.**

God sends the Spirit to be our companion.

Welcome the Spirit's leading and guidance.

**We are heirs of amazing blessings.**

**We are gifted to become a blessing to others. Amen**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*RESPONSE TO BENEDICTION** Go, Tell It on the Mountain (*refrain only*) #151

**POSTLUDE** Noel Nouvelet *Arr. Edward L. Good*

**A Christmas Suite - Three French Noels, Arr. Edward L. Good, H.W.**

**Gray Publication, used with permission, #L1025, Jubilate Music Group.**

\*All those who are able, please stand.

**ORGANIST** Nancy Dufek

**PIANIST** Marian Penn

**SINGERS** Diana Mann, Julie Radke

**VMIX** Robert Sanders **SOUND** James Deters

**PRODUCERS** Lynn Adams & Ernie Bliss

**Church office hours** Monday--Friday from 8:15 a.m. to noon

**Rev. James Deters, Pastor** [upccpastor@gmail.com](mailto:upccpastor@gmail.com)

**Kate Bernardo, Administrative Assistant** [kate.uppc@gmail.com](mailto:kate.uppc@gmail.com)

**Church office phone** 715-682-3093



## **United Presbyterian/Congregational Church**

**214 Vaughn Ave, Ashland, Wisconsin 54806**

**PASTOR: Reverend James Deters**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 am**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am**

**Website:** <https://upcchurch.org>

**Like us on Facebook at** United Presbyterian Congregational Church

**Join our Facebook group at** UPCC Connection

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God,  
the Lord alone.

You shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart,  
and with all your soul,  
and with all your might.

Deut. 6:4-5

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## **Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

**p.678**

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

## **Galatians 4:4-7**

**p.1061**

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And

because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

## **Luke 2:22-40**

**p.933**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

## BIRTHDAYS

- 28 Nils Wickman & Aaron Swanson Sr.
- 29 Terry Biglow
- 30 Ryan Adams
- 31 Ellea Rose Swanson, Eric Adams, Jim Deters & Jim Miller
- 1 TJ Yankee
- 2 Jonah Wickman

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Children's Chats** We are looking for volunteers to do children's chats via video for our Sunday streaming services. If you would like to volunteer, need help with this, or need to learn how to do this please email [ladams1055@gmail.com](mailto:ladams1055@gmail.com) or text or call Lynn at 715-209-6784.

In an effort to keep the congregation informed of events and activities of interest to the church family, please submit announcements for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. The submission deadline is noon every Tuesday. Please send your information to the church office via email to [info@upcchurch.org](mailto:info@upcchurch.org).

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## Hymn: In the Bleak Midwinter

1. In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan; earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
3. Angels and archangels may have gathered there; cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; but his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved with a kiss.
4. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I was a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him; give my heart.

# 558 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

... God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son. 1 Jn. 4:9



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;  
 3. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;  
 4. Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less let us be;



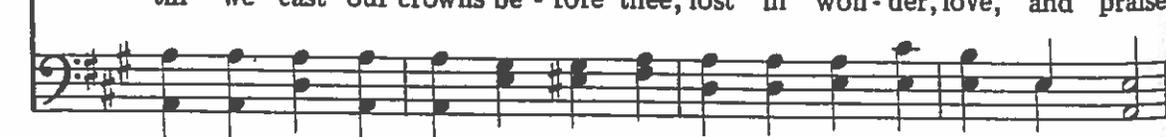
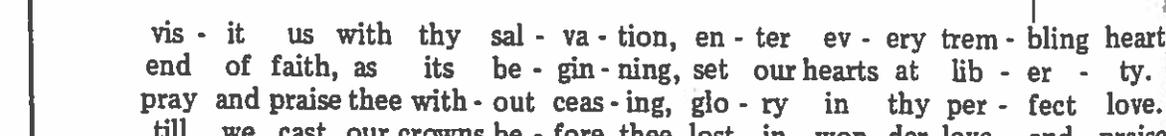
fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
 let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.  
 sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.  
 let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;  
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;  
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,  
 changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,

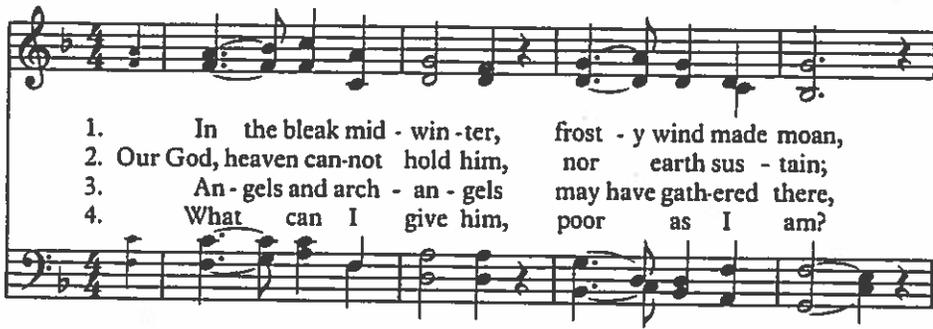


vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

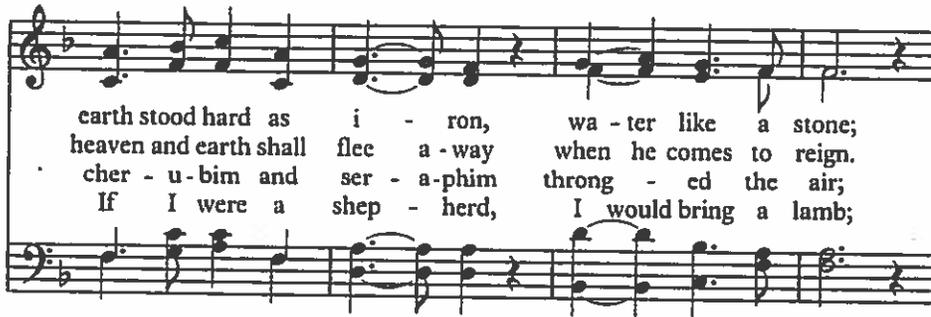


## In the Bleak Midwinter

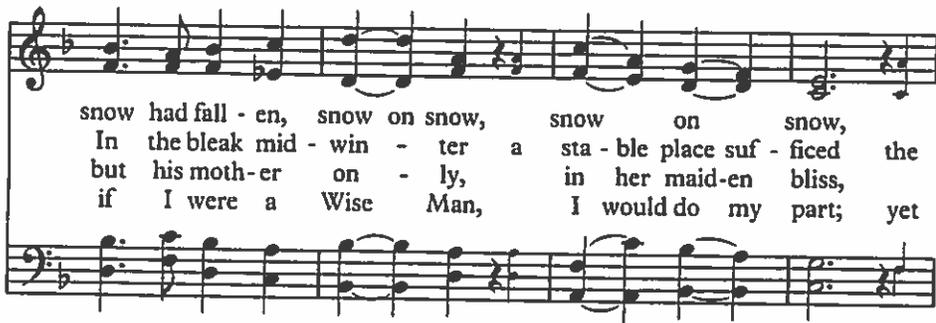
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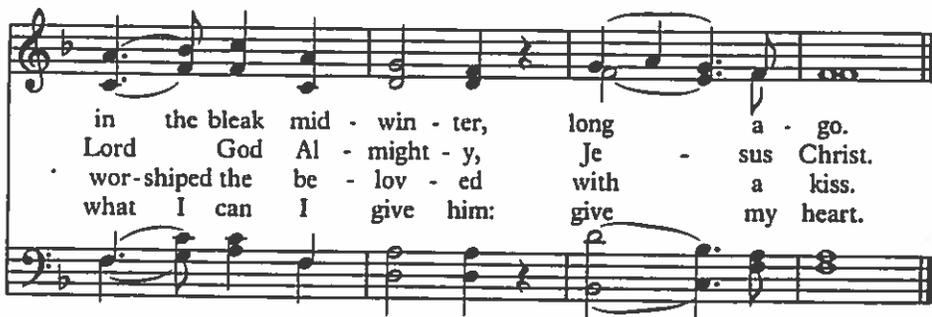
1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
 2. Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;  
 3. An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,  
 4. What can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign.  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim throng - ed the air;  
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 In the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed the  
 but his moth - er on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,  
 if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 Lord God Al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
 wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.  
 what I can I give him: give my heart.

WORDS: Christina G. Rossetti, 1872 (Lk. 2:8-14)  
 MUSIC: Gustav Holst, 1906

CRANHAM  
 Irr.

# Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come 146

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Ps. 98:4

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth  
 2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; let all th  
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns  
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 songs em - ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - tur  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 (1.) and heaven and na - ture sing,

(1.) and  
 sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sin  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy  
 found, far as, far as the curse - is four  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his lov  
 heaven and na - ture sing,