RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE
* Gloria Patri
  
  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.

SCRIPTURE
  
  Isaiah 9.1-7

ANTHEM
  
  Westminster Choir

Christmas is Coming - Joel Raney

SCRIPTURE
  
  Luke 1.68-79

* DOXOLOGY
  
  Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SERMON

The Reverend James Webb

The Second Adverb of Advent: Peacefully

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation
Prayer of Thanksgiving / Lord’s Prayer
Communion
  
  Please wait for the usher to release your row.
  The server will place the bread onto your open palm. Gluten-free wafers are served by request.
  The second server will hand you the cup. Please indicate juice or wine.
  Take the bread and cup back to your seat so that all may partake together.

Music:
  
  A Communion Hymn for Christmas

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the...
right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly  - arr. Larry Sue

Handbell Duet

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 4.4-9

NT page 187

* HYMN  #49

Once in Royal David's City

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

BENEDICTION

CLOSING MUSIC

Participants in today's service are:

Irv Johnson  Liturgist
David McArthur  Music Director
Susan Chapman  Piano, Handbells
Kim Rodehorst  Handbells
Donna Fullerton  Organ

As you enter, please be respectful, quietly preparing your hearts for worship.
Announcements

1. As you enter worship, please sign the Friendship Pad. It’s a small thing but very important. If you are a non-member, please give us your address/phone. Thank you.

2. Greeters are needed for Sunday Worship at 10:00 am. A Sign-up sheet is located in the Lobby or contact Kimberly Caldwell.

3. The Family Room (Room 110) is open every Sunday morning for your use. Live stream of worship, toys and activities for children, privacy for nursing parents, and changing tables or bathroom available.

4. The cart for donations to House of Neighborly Service is located in the Lobby. Thank you for continuing to remember others.

5. The Weekly list for TLC prayer may be picked up from Donna at the front of the Sanctuary after worship.

6. The All-Church Christmas Dinner is December 11th. Don’t forget to sign-up in the Lobby or at the Reception Desk.

7. It’s not too late to turn in your 2023 pledge card. Extra pledge cards can be found on the respective Welcome Tables for both services. Thank you for your support of the ministries of MVPC. ~ Stewardship & Finance Committee.

8. Mission Committee is in the early planning stages for an MVPC African Adventure to Malawi in July 2023. The trip will be about two weeks long and is open to anyone High School age and over who has an interest in visiting our Partner Church of Engalaweni and other villages, sightseeing along the shore of Lake Malawi, some historic sites, and hopefully ending with a 3 or 4 day safari to a regional game park. Itinerary details and initial pricing will be shared at an informational meeting on an upcoming Sunday in January.

9. Lost your Nametag? Never had one? If you are in need of a name tag replacement, please put your name on the notepad in the foyer. All backs will be magnetic unless you specify you want a clip.


11. Sign up to help at the Living Nativity. This event gives MVPC the opportunity to spread the true meaning of Christmas to the Loveland Community. Clipboard is in the Lobby.

Weekly Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday: 12/04</th>
<th>Monday: 12/05</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am, Traditional Worship</td>
<td>5:00 pm, Handbell Rehearsal – Chapel, Bell Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 am, Loveland Preschool Book Fair – Room 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 am, How to Spell Presbyterian Class – No classes until Jan. 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 pm, Galatians Bible Study – Room 1, with Garry</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 pm, Praise Team Rehearsal - Life Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm, Common Table - Life Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm, MVPC Students Christmas Party - off site</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wednesday 12/07</th>
<th>Thursday 12/08</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am, Men’s Breakfast at the Village Inn</td>
<td>1:00 pm, Martha Circle - Susanne Evan’s home</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am, Fellowship Committee - Room 1</td>
<td>2:00 pm, Evangelism Committee - Room 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 pm, Westminster Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary</td>
<td>7:00 pm, Praise Team Rehearsal - Life Center</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday 12/09</th>
<th>Saturday 12/10</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am, Traditional Worship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am, How to Spell Presbyterian Class – resumes Jan. 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm, Galatians Bible Study – Room 1, with Garry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm, All-church Christmas Dinner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm following dinner, Worship - Life Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make reservations at <a href="http://www.myMVPC.com">www.myMVPC.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Isaiah 9:1-7

1 But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

2 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.

3 You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

4 For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

5 For all the boots of the trampling warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

6 For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7 His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Luke 1:68-79

68 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

69 He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,

70 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

71 that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

Philippians 4:4-9

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

9 Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.
Prepare the Way, O Zion    #13
Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

Refrain:
O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.

Christ brings God’s rule, O Zion; He comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding. [Refrain]

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior’s rule embrace.
And tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing. [Refrain]

Tune: Then Swenska Psalmboken, 1697; Arr. American Lutheran Hymnal, 1930
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Once in Royal David’s City    #49
Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and His shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor oppressed, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

Jesus is our childhood’s pattern, day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feels for all our sadness, and He shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through His own redeeming love,
for that Child, so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav’n above,
and He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848
Tune: Henry John Gaauntlett, 1849
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