

***Closing Hymn - "Joy to the World" - Blue Hymnal #270 vs 1 & 4**

Benediction

Pastor: May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy and make you heralds of the gospel.

All: Amen

***The Peace of Christ**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

***Sending**

Pastor Luke Schmalz

***Postlude: David VandenBelt**



Deeply Rooted ~ Future Focused

Pastor Luke Schmalz 920-428-0030

Office Hours - Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Please call the church office to meet with the Pastor

Keyboard/Organist Rachel Poches, David VandenBelt, Lorene Witte

Secretary Lorene Witte 924-4710

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Offering plates are located in the narthex.

The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



LET THE
peace of Christ
RULE IN YOUR HEARTS.
COLOSSIANS 3:15

December 29, 2024

The Order of Worship
**please stand, if you are able*

Prelude: David VandenBelt

Announcements

Welcome

Call to Worship (Psalm 148)

Pastor: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

All: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created. He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Pastor: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together!

All: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn - "What Child is This?" - Blue Hymnal #281

Prayer of Confession

Pastor: Generous God, you give us the greatest gift of all, yourself, but often we find it hard to take notice; we are caught up with our own gifts, given and received.

All: Forgive, generous God, for the casual way we treat your gift of love. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.

Prayer

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy

has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: Hear the good news! To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Response - 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.

JeLy Bell! All kids are invited to go to the JeLy Room for JeLy Church! (JeLy ~ Jesus Loves You)

Scripture:

I Samuel 2:8-20, 26; Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Message: "A Christmas People"

Pastor Luke Schmalz

*** The Apostles' Creed** (words projected)

Special Music - Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach, Jack Brooks

Moments of Praise & Prayer Requests

Prayers of the Congregation

The Lord's Prayer (words projected)

***Doxology (As the offering is brought forward)**

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

Special Music - Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach, Jack Brooks

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Our Church News

Altar Rep: Jim Rynberg

Greeting us today: Ted Caris

Next Sunday:

Song Leader: Gary Hooker

Tech Booth - Thank you volunteers! Garrett, Robin, Lou, Kendra

Happy Birthday to ~

Happy Anniversary to ~

Prayer Requests ~

Kelly Parks - fell and broke her hip - surgery has taken place with a partial hip replacement - therapy has begun

This Weeks Calendar

Sunday, December 29

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 30

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

Tuesday, December 31 - *Church Office Closed*

Wednesday, January 1 - *New Years Day!* - *Church Office Closed*

Thursday, January 2 - *Church Office Closed*

No Crafters

Friday, January 3

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Library

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

Saturday, January 4

Sunday, January 5

10:00 a.m. Worship with communion

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall



Welcome to worship! We are grateful for your presence - whether you are a visitor or a member. Friends and guests, welcome to worship in the name of Jesus, who is both Savior and Friend and who welcomes all. .

Thank you Stacey, Martha Kallenbach and Jack Brooks for sharing your gift of music with us this morning.

Thank YOU shoppers and crafters. Between the sale of crafts and the Plum Pudding items, the event brought in \$5,951.00 for the Women's Fellowship. The Women's Fellowship will be donating 10% of the profits to local charities, a contribution to the Wood Shop, and a contribution to the church's general fund.

Community Closet ... many thanks for your donations! Through Dec. 22, contributions are: towels-52, blankets-15, winter clothing-17, bed-sheets-8, cash-\$40. Thank YOU! We ask your continued support through January 5. Please put donations in the basket/box west of the main Sanctuary doors. Happy New Year. Charitable Giving/Jack

Pastor Luke will be on vacation December 26-January 3.

Executive Council will not meet this month.

Mark your calendar for a Guatemala Soup Lunch Fundraiser following worship on Sunday, January 12. Generous donations are welcome to support Gary Hooker.

