



Welcome to Worship

Sunday, December 29, 2024

11:10 a.m.

The first Sunday after Christmas Day



PRESBYTERIAN
Church of the Cross

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

While by Our Sheep (Settings 1-4)

Jeffrey Blersch

As the prelude begins, you are invited to begin your personal preparation for worship.

SILENT MEDITATION

All will come again into its strength: the fields undivided, the waters undammed, the trees towering, and the walls built low. And in the valleys, people as strong and as varied as the land. And no churches where God is imprisoned and lamented like a trapped and wounded animal. The houses welcoming all who knock and a sense of boundless offering in all relations, and in you and me.

The Book of Hours, Rainer Maria Rilke

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 148

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 – Praise the Lord all the Earth!

PRAISE AND ADORATION

*HYMN #113

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

(*Please stand, if you are able)

CONFESSION AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Loving God, we know that You have a plan for us. We know that Your way for us is better than our own. And yet time and again, we make our own plan and seek our own way. We follow our own agenda and we disregard Yours. Forgive us Lord. As we look to the New Year, give us the vision to see Your plan. Give us the courage to follow Your way. Let us be guided by You. Help us to live as we should. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PETITION

KYRIE ELEISON (#121)

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

ST. LOUIS

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
 We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us; abide with us, our Lord
 Emmanuel!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#583)**

Glory to God

GLORIA (Taizé)

**WELCOME*****HYMN #145**

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVE

ANNOUNCEMENTS**FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER****JOYS AND CONCERNS****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

The Birthday of a King

William H. Niedlinger

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Luke 2: 41-52

page 833 of the pew Bible

SERMON

"The Heart's Treasure"

Rev. Garry

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**Section 3.06 of *The Scots Confession*

That when the fullness of time came God sent his Son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world, who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, a virgin, by means of the Holy Ghost. And so was born the "just seed of David," the "Angel of the great counsel of God," the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, true God and true man, two perfect natures united and joined in one person.

***SANCTUS**

Holy, Holy, God Almighty

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Ho - ly, ho - ly, God al - mighty, — Heav'n and earth Your prais - ses sing!

Shout Ho - san - nas to the Sav - iour, Bless - ing, hon - or to - the King.

In the name of the Lord, the bear - er of light tri - umphs o'er the dark of night

ev - er - more and ev - er - more. — A - men.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**OFFERTORY**

Sounds of Christmas (A Medley of Four Carols)

arr. Margaret Goldston

*(Sing We Now of Christmas, Angels We Have Heard on High, Joy to the World, Hark! The Herald Angels Sing)****DOXOLOGY (#609)**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious and Loving God, You have given us the ultimate gift – Your Son. Please accept our tithes and offerings. Let our resources be used for Your glory, and not our own. Let our skills and talents be used for the work of Your kingdom, and not our own. We dedicate them to You in Your holy name. Amen.

***HYMN #136**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**BENEDICTION RESPONSE*****POSTLUDE**

Carol of the Bells

Paul Fey

SERVING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Music Marissa Mathia, piano; Kristi Treu, soprano; Mark Kanitz, organ

Childcare Ministry Kari Bernet, Chelsea Spielman, Tami Lancaster

Ushers Neal Hubbard, Captain; Doug Reid, Kim Reid, Charlotte Hubbard, Cheri Carpenter

Greeters North Door: Karen Saunders Welcome Center Door: Paul and Kathy Nickel

Information Center Kathy Nickel

STAFF

Rev. Marshall Zieman, D. Min.	Pastor, Head of Staff	marshall@pcoc.us
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Announcements

For the week of December 29, 2024

The Week at a Glance

Sunday, December 29

No Sunday School

11:10 Worship

Tuesday, December 31

Office Closed

Wednesday, January 1

Office Closed

Thursday, January 2

9:30 Presbyterian Women Bible Study

Friday, January 3

6:00 SHF Lock In

Sunday, January 5

No Sunday School

11:10 Worship

4:45 JHF Fellowship

Worship Services at 9:00 & 11:10 a.m.

Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship at 10 a.m.

Office Hours: 9:00 to 4:30 Monday-Friday

Joys and Concerns.

The flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Tim and Brenda Graumann in honor of their 40th wedding anniversary.

Joe Eckman passed away on December 21. A graveside service will be held at the National Cemetery later in the spring.

Ronald Roeder passed away on December 13. A Celebration of Life will be held for Ron at a later date.

Giving Envelopes for 2025. New year giving envelopes are now available in the Welcome Center on a table close to the Information Desk. If you don't find your envelopes or would like to use envelopes, please contact Rock in the church office.

New Member

**Discussion on
Sunday, January 12.**

If you are interested
in joining the church,



please attend our next New Member Discussion, at noon following worship on Sunday, January 12 in the Welcome Center. The discussion will last about an hour and a light lunch will be served. Sign up online or call the church office.

The Tuesday Bible Studies Resume January 14. Our Tuesday gatherings resume on January 14, continuing in our study of Romans. Newcomers are always welcome; just bring your favorite Bible and join us in the classroom in the Welcome Center at 7:00 a.m. (men's only) or 1:00 p.m. (everyone).

Presbyterian Men – On Saturday, January 25th at 9:00 am, PCOC men are invited to attend a continental breakfast and program in the Welcome Center. Our speaker will feature Josh Planos, VP of Marketing, Communications & PR, at Better Business Bureau of the Midwest Plains. He will speak about "Scam Prevention" covering key strategies to protect yourself from scams and what to be on the lookout for in today's increasingly digital world. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to safeguard your finances and personal information. Please sign-up to attend at the Information Desk by Sunday, January 19th, and feel free to invite a friend to join you! Contact Jon Boomgaarden with questions.

Adult Education in 2025 – Register Online Now

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

- “Theologians, Philosophers, Composers and the Pursuit of Beauty,” by led Cindy Sloan, Jan 12–Feb 23.
- “More Than Words, 10 Values for the Modern Family,” led by Emily and Josh Murray, Jan 12–March 2.
- “Embracing Community Connections,” led by Patty Ritchie and Kathy Moore, April 27 and May 4.

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

“Blessed Are You, The Beatitudes of Jesus in Scripture and in Life,” led by Kirk Ryckman, Jan 15 – Mar 19

Cornerstone – Register Online Now

The Spring Semester of Cornerstone begins January 15.

PER CAPITA – What it is and Why?

All members should be aware of the Per Capita Assessment that our church pays each year. This money goes to offset the administrative cost for the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. As a connectional church, we need to maintain effective channels of communication, and coordination so that our ministry as Presbyterians works well. The per capita assessment supports this process so that all Presbyterian programs, missions, and ministries may function better.

This year our per capita remains at \$40.80 per member. What that means is our church will pay \$28,927.20 by February 15, 2025, for our membership at Church of the Cross. If you decide to give a special gift to cover the per capita cost for your family, it will help the church offset our assessment. That would be:

\$40.80 for a single family member

\$81.60 for a two-member family

\$122.40 for a three- member family

\$163.20 for a four-member family

You are welcome to use the blue pew envelopes. Please drop it in the offering plate or mail your gift to Rock Sumner, Business Administrator at the church office.

A Reminder of our Holiday Hours

Tuesday, December 31	The Church Office is Closed
Wednesday, January 1	The Church Office is Closed
Thursday, January 2	Regular Office Hours resume
Sunday, January 5	One service only at 11:10
Sunday, January 12	Regular Sunday Schedule returns

The Perfect Gift. Christmas Joy Special Offering

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the Presbyterian Church (USA). God has blessed the Church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This national offering smooths the path for our current and retired church workers and their families in their time of critical need and prepares the way for our future leaders at

Presbyterian-related schools and colleges, equipping communities of color. Please make your check out to PCOC and include “Joy Offering” in the memo line, enclosing your check in a blue pew envelope.

