

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

December 11, 2011 • 10:00 AM • 3rd Sunday of Advent

(* Those who are able, please stand. Large print hymnals & wireless hearing aids available; ask an usher. Members, please wear your name tag.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Brahms

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Scaccia Family

Unison Prayer: **Risen Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives and shine among us now.**

*HYMN "Rejoice, Rejoice Believers" No. 15

*CONFESSION OF SIN Leader: Helen Adsit

Invitation

Unison Prayer

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.

We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.

We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Sharing God's Peace

Response "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" No. 9

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
"The Word of the Lord / Thanks be to God!" OT Bible Page 536

ANTHEM "He Shall Feed His Flock" GF Handel

GOSPEL READING John 1:6-8, 19-28
"The Word of the Lord / Thanks be to God!" NT Bible Page 70

CHILDREN'S TALK

(4yr to Gr1 invited upstairs to Activity Period in 203. Children leave through front exits)

Mary Grow

BAPTISM

Faith Michelle Turner

Parents Richard & Amy Turner

*HYMN "Lo, How a Rose, E'er Blooming" No. 48

SERMON "Look Where I'm Pointing"

OFFERING

Song of Praise "Lift Up Your Heads" No. 8

Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple, set apart From earthly use for heaven's employ, Adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Invitation

Offertory Music "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" Lau

Prayer of Dedication

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night" No. 20

*BENEDICTION – concluding with

Pastor:God is good **People:All the time!**

POSTLUDE "Sleepers Wake" Manz

Our Mission Statement: The First Presbyterian Church exists to improve our understanding of Christ; to spread His word and teachings; and to reach out to our church family, our community, and the world through acts of compassion, kindness, and love.

A Staffed Nursery & Toddler Care is available during our Services. The room is located on the first floor behind the sanctuary. We also offer an optional **Quiet Room** for parents with small children.

Welcome Visitors to this branch of the family of God. Please leave us your contact information on the pink card that you will find in the pew rack. We pray that you feel at home here and find guidance and strength for your daily life. We invite you to make this church your home. Please share a cup of coffee with us today during our fellowship time immediately after Worship.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS & WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

Ushers today are led by Kevin Taylor. Dec 18: Armen Roubian

Our Worship Recorder is Jay Fish. Dec 18: Mark Maginn

Greeters: Mary Davis, Joanie Lewis, Gene Millhouse. Dec 18: Candy Fay, Gage Fay, Sally Hinman

Our Acolyte is Brenden Hatzinger. Dec 18: Maegan Fish

Deacon Ramp Duty is Amy Garcia. Dec 18 is Patty Dunham

After Church Coffee Break is held immediately after today's service in our parlor. Join us for treats & fellowship. June Sperlik hosts. Dec 18: Dining Hall

Weekly Congregation & Presbytery Prayer List: Kathryn & Fred Jasiewicz; David, Brenda, Hunter & Hayden McMonagle and Westminster Presbyterian Church, Utica

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL CLASS LOCATION

Beverage Break 11:00–11:15am • Church School 11:15–12:15pm

(Nursery Available on the First Floor – Room 107)

Multi-Age GroupRoom 205

Grades 4 – 7.....Room 202

Grades 8 - 12Room 201

Christmas Mini with VeraChoir Room

See You This Afternoon



JOY will stay after the Candlelight Service to eat pizza and watch Christmas movies!! Please let Cynthia know by this morning, whether or not you are able to attend. Parents can pick up youth at 7:30pm or pay Cynthia to keep them.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today 10:00 amWorship Service
10:55 amChildren's Choir
11:00 amCoffee Break
11:15 amChurch School
NoonYouth Choir, Tone Chimes
12:30 pmSacred Dance Choir
4:00 pmChristmas Candlelight Service
JOY stays after for fun
Mon 11:00 amPW Team in parlor
Tues 10:00 amPrayer Shawl Ministry
7:00 pmTrustees meet
Wed 10:30 amWednesday Morning Club Program
NoonAdvent Prayer at 1st United Methodist
Thurs 6:30 pmChristmas Pageant rehearsal

NEXT SUNDAY:.....2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:26-38
Christmas Pageant, Cookie Exchange
Party for Fred, Caroling

www.shopromefirst.com – see our listing/promote our church!

Please ensure the doors are tightly shut behind you when entering and exiting our buildings

Christmas Caroling Next Sunday: Leave church at 3 and return about 5pm for hot chocolate. We'll carpool to shut-ins! Sign up today in narthex or music & parlor hallways.

Christmas Cookie Exchange: Next Sunday – Bring a dozen, or several dozen, to the kitchen before church and after church during the coffee hour pick out the same number that you brought and your Christmas cookies are done. The Fellowship committee will have plates and baggies. The coffee hour will be downstairs. Sponsored by our Fellowship Committee

Vera Noxon leads a Christmas Mini Course today and next week. We will discuss familiar stories, ask questions, and ponder the impossible! We will also view a special film entitled "Jesus B. C." Join us in the Choir Room following worship.

Our Christmas Pageant, "Cricket on the Hearth" is scheduled for next Sunday during worship. Our only rehearsal is scheduled for Thursday at 6:30pm. All Children and Youth involved in Choirs are involved in the pageant. Please make every effort to attend this important practice! Thank you!

Diana's in need of a top hat for the Pageant next week. Please see her today if you are able to place yours on loan!

Music News: Adult Choirs warm-up this afternoon at 3:15; Youth Choirs report to bell room at 3:30 to get robes & line up

Need Assistance Getting In to the Church on Sunday Morning? There's a Deacon on duty beginning ½ hr before worship to assist anyone. This allows you to drop someone at the ramp and leave them in the care of a Deacon while you park your car.

Prayer Shawl Christmas: This group will contribute handmade (or purchased) mittens, hats, and/or scarves (all sizes - all ages - all colors) to the Salvation Army. Please submit your donations to a member of the group

So Joan Can't Keep A Secret from her Dad!! Don't forget the 85th Birthday Celebration for Fred Barnes, Sunday Dec 18 after Worship – please sign one of the lists now posted in the parlor & music room hallways and the narthex table.

Alternative Gifts Market: Sundays to Dec 18. Info in sanctuary and at Advent Day downstairs; selections from: Alternative Gifts International, Heifer Project, Church World Service and Samaritan's Purse.

ALL ARE WELCOME
to these
HOLY SEASON EVENTS

**Christmas
Candlelight Service**
4pm – Sunday, Dec 11

*Children & Youth Choirs
Senior Choir, Tone Chimes
Joyful Ringers Handbell Choir
Andrea Radesi, Piano, Organ
Cornelia Brewster, Flute
Glorious Sounds of the Season*

Christmas Pageant
10am – Sunday, Dec 18
"Cricket on the Pulpit"
*Written & Directed
by Diana O'Meara*

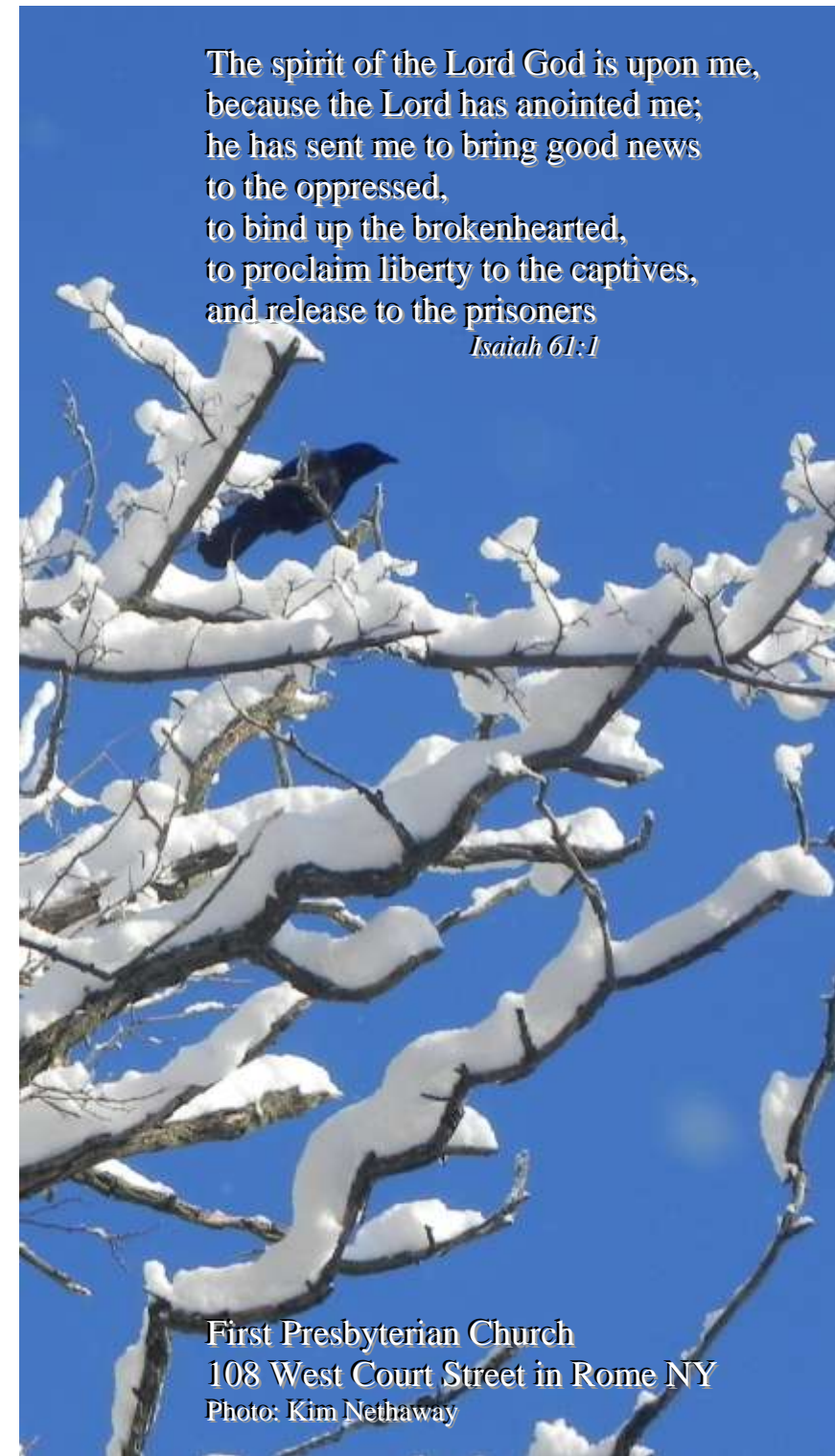
Christmas Eve
Worship at 7pm
Holy Communion

Christmas Day
Worship at 10am

1ST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
108 W COURT ST
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Handicapped Accessible
fpresbyt@twny.rr.com
www.fpresbyt.com

Nursery Care Often Available
Rev. Sam Pendergrast, Pastor



The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news
to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners
Isaiah 61:1

First Presbyterian Church
108 West Court Street in Rome NY
Photo: Kim Nethaway