

## Children in Worship

**There will be no Sunday School today.  
We will resume our regular schedule  
next Sunday, January 9th.**

### Today:

Due to the holidays and having only one service, Children and worship class and Creative Movement and Music are both taking a break from the schedule. Children who are in preschool and 1st/2nd grade are very welcome to stay in our service and worship with their families. We don't mind the wiggles! However, if preschool children are too wiggly for you parents, they are welcome in room 101 for childcare during the 10:00 am worship service.

### Adult Education

There is no Adult Ed today. Classes resume January 8th. See you then!

**JANUARY 1, 2012**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

**10:00 A.M. WORSHIP**

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE "No. 5: Canon" -T. Dubois

OPENING WORDS Susan Reisinger

MUSIC FOR PRAYER AND PREPARATION  
"Now the Old Year Has Passed Away" -J. S. Bach

### CALL TO WORSHIP

\*HYMN OF PRAISE No. 34 "In Bethlehem a Babe Was Born"

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison) Diana Malcom  
**Creative God, you make all things new and you hold out a new day and a new year for us. Yet how often we squander the opportunities, letting our doubts overwhelm us, letting our sins bind us, letting our fears stop us. You offer us new dreams, and we succumb to old weaknesses; you offer us hope and we choose the comfortable. Creative God, we have touched the joy of Christmas. Let us carry a measure of delight and bounty of love into your new day. Fill us with the joy of living and the spirit of giving as we approach the new year. In the name of Jesus. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61: 1-4

Page 641

ANTHEM

Zach Maser

ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Luke 2: 21-38

Page 889

SERMON "At the Beginning" Susan Reisinger

HYMN No. 36 "In the Bleak Midwinter"

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We are glad you are worshiping with us today. Please take a moment to sign the pew pad and pass it along to your neighbor, and then pass it back so that you may take the opportunity to greet those sitting near you after the service. Please provide your address and your e-mail address so that we may contact you about upcoming events that may be of interest to you.

**COMMISSIONING OF BETH ESSINGER-HILEMAN**

**OFFERING**

Offertory "Meditation" -L. Vierne

\*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"  
Hymnal No. 592

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

\*Offertory Prayer

**SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER**

HYMNAL NO. 309 "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

(please greet those sitting around you, especially taking time to welcome those who are visiting)

\*POSTLUDE "In Thee is Joy" -J. S. Bach

