



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023

9:00 am



Gathering Around the Word

Prelude "Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland" (Savior of the Heathen, Come) J.S. Bach
Dr. Anthony Leach, Organ

Invitation to Attentiveness John Porter

Lighting of the Advent Candle Evan Embser

Guided Reflection Allison Maus

6 His shoots shall spread out;
his beauty shall be like the olive tree
and his fragrance like that of Lebanon.
7 They shall again live beneath my shadow;
they shall flourish as a garden;
they shall blossom like the vine;
their fragrance shall be like the wine of Lebanon.
Hosea 14:6-7

"To savor the scent of something means breathing intentionally, slowly. It means filling our lungs in a way that centers us and relaxes us. It means pausing in an appreciation that is its own kind of prayer."
Ginny Kubitz Moyer

Image: The Soul of the Rose by John William Waterhouse

Introit Hymn No. 90 "Wait for the Lord"

***Hymn No. 99 v. 1,3,5** "My Soul Gives Glory to My God"

Prayer of Preparation Lindsay Burkholder

Hearing the Word

First Scripture Reading 2 Corinthians 2:14-17 Lindsey Burkholder

Anthem "What is This Lovely Fragrance" arr. Healey Willan

Children's Time Deannine Shipman

Song After Children's Time Hymn No. 378 v. 4 "We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom"

Second Scripture Reading John 12:1-8 John Porter

Sermon John Porter

Responding to the Word

*Hymn No. 129 v. 1,3

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

*Affirmation of Faith

John Porter

Leader: God is calling us, inviting us, what is your answer?

All: Like our sister Mary, we say yes

Yes to your favor, your presence, your blessing.

Yes that we are enough just as we are, where we are.

Yes to your calling and the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon us to fulfill it

Yes to bearing and birthing your Word and your Promises and your Kingdom in this time and place.

Yes to all things being possible with you.

Like our sister Mary we say

Here I am, the Lord's humble servant.

Let it be done to me, in me, through me.

Like our sister Mary we sing and celebrate you O God,

For though we are your humble servants you have noticed us.

Announcements

Reed Dressler

Call to Offering

Reed Dressler

Please place your written reflections in the offering plate.

Offertory Anthem

“Nia” (Purpose) from the Nguzo Saba Suite

Glenn E. Burleigh

Doxology No. 605

“Praise to God the Father”

*Prayer of Dedication

Lindsay Burkholder

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Allison Maus

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Allison Maus

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.

*Hymn No. 107, v. 1,3,4

“Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn”

*Charge

Allison Maus

*Choral Response

“Keep your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”

*Benediction

Reed Dressler

Postlude

“What Is This Lovely Fragrance”
Dr. Anthony Leach, organ

Paul Manz

Do you make your contributions online? As we head into 2024, if you have changed your pledge:

- Online Giving: if you have a recurring contribution set up, please log in to your account and make any necessary updates. If you need help with this, reach out to Michelle and she will either help you OR connect you to Online Services. Creating a new recurring contribution will not override an existing one; existing ones must be deleted or stopped.

Ushers this Morning:

Head Usher: Reed Miller

Ushers: Sharon Ambrose, Scott Banfield, Curt Dell, and Betty Macdonald

Information Desk: Scott Sesler

Greeters this Morning:

Fraser Street: Marti Sawyer

Parking Lot: Carol Graham

Coffee Hour:

Hosts: Jamey Perry

Assistants: Owen Perry and John Marsden

2023 Christmas Dinner

The annual Christmas Day Dinner will take place this year with in-person dining in the Social Hall from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Reservations can be made online or by calling the church office. Meal delivery, between 1:30 and 2:30 pm, is available only for those who are physically unable to attend in person. Please call the church office at 814-238-2422 to request delivery. Walk-ins will be accepted on a space-available basis.

make a
RESERVATION



sign up to
DONATE FOOD



sign up to
VOLUNTEER



Flowers for 2024 Sunday Worship

For anyone wanting to supply flowers for 2024 Sunday worship services, the flower chart is posted in the hallway between the sanctuary and the church office. You may sign up on the chart or call the church office at 814-238-2422.

Gifts for the Christ Child



Our Christmas collection to help children & communities impacted by disasters and violence in the United States, and around the world



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

No Adult Education until January 7th

There will be no Adult Education until January 7th. Join us for Coffee Hour after service today and next week in the Martin Room.

COLLEGE AGE AND YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS EVE OPEN HOUSE

JUST BEFORE OUR 11PM SERVICE

.....
DECEMBER 24TH 10:15PM
MARTIN ROOM STOP BY AND SAY HI TO SOME OLD FRIENDS AND NEW FRIENDS AND GRAB A REFRESHMENT BEFORE WORSHIP. WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU

Worship Bags Available

Children's Worship Bags will be available for our children during WORSHIP on the morning of December 24th, and December 31st since there will not be any other children's offerings those days aside from a children's message. Exploration Hour returns on January 7th, 2024.

On December 31st there will be something else fun & special for children to do in the service! (a surprise!)



For more information about the church and our programs please visit our website at scpresby.org.

If you are an online attender we hope you will "sign the pew pad" virtually on Sunday mornings by texting "check in" during the welcome and announcement time so we know you're watching! The phone number is: 833-234-1326. To give via our Online Giving site, scan the QR Code.



Sunday, December 24th—4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve

- 8:30 am Childcare Available—Rm 102
- **9:00 am Worship Service**
- 10:00 am Coffee Hour—Martin Rm
- 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Service
- 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service
- 10:15 pm College Age Open House—Martin Rm
- 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Monday, December 25th—Merry Christmas Church Office Closed

Stay and Play Closed

- 3:00 pm—6:00 pm Christmas Day Dinner

Tuesday, December 26th

Church Office Closed

Stay and Play Closed

Wednesday, December 27th

Stay and Play Closed

Thursday, December 28th

Stay and Play Closed

Friday, December 29th

Stay and Play Closed

Saturday, December 30th

Sunday, December 31st

First Night

- 8:30 am Childcare Available—Rm 102
- **9:00 am Worship Service**
- 10:00 am Coffee Hour—Martin Rm

Hearing Assist Devices are available on the back table in the Sanctuary



Children in Worship

9:00 am Worship - Infant and Toddler Care (through age 3) are available in Room 102 throughout the morning.

Children of all ages are invited to come forward for the children's message.

2023 Budget Updates thru 12/20/2023

Giving:	Expenses:
Budgeted Giving: \$775,000	Spending to Date: \$908,276
Target Giving: \$875,000	
Received to Date: \$768,592	
Actual % to Target: 87.8%	
Difference to Targeted (51 weeks): -8.4%	

Note: What is reported is only "giving" income and does not reflect total income



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