

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF PORT HURON**



**Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 22, 2024
Reverend Kathy Tessin**

*** indicates when to stand, as you are able**

PROCESSIONAL AND PRELUDE

Musician, Elizabeth Roe

(During the Prelude, please quietly take time to prepare your heart and mind for God's presence in worship.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kathy Tessin

Welcome to this time of worship, where we will share the love of God through Jesus Christ, find the joy in the Christmas season, the peace of the Holy Spirit's movement through this gathered body, and see the hope in the promise of eternal life with God. **Please sign our Friendship Pad at the end of each pew, so we can start to get to know you!**

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

Rev. Tessin

Not in the mighty places of power,
but in little Bethlehem,
in a room out back:

The Messiah is coming.

Not born in nobility and wealth,
but of Mary and Joseph,
who pondered and planed wood:

The Messiah is coming.

Not announced by prophets, priests, and kings,
but by two women,
who were the first to know:

The Messiah is coming.

Nothing will be impossible for God,
but when and where we least expect it,

look among the straw and the stars:
The Messiah is coming.

**LITURGY OF THE ADVENT WREATH: THE FOURTH WEEK –
CANDLE OF LOVE**

The Lozen Family

Congregation: “With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.” (Psalm 89: 1b-2)

Congregational Sung Response:

**Light four candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He is coming; tell the glad tidings.
Let your lights be shining.”**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Liturgist Steve Ahlquist

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Liturgist Steve

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. Though we have heard Mary’s song, we still seek security in pride and power and possessions. Though we know your story, we resist the costs of following you. We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you intend. Make us messengers of the peace you bring. As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service. (A moment of silent prayer to confess our own personal sins) We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS (Responsively)

Liturgist Steve

None of us are too far gone, not to be granted God's forgiveness.

God loves all of us.

God forgives all of us.

God grants us His hope, peace and joy, through His forgiveness.

Believe the Good News: through Jesus Christ, we are loved and we are forgiven all our sins.

Thanks be to God.

***SUNG RESPONSE** (Hymn: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice")

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, with heart and soul and voice,
Now we need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Call you one and call you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you!**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9:2-7

Liturgist Steve

HYMN: "Once in Royal David's City" #49

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY "The King's Birthday"

SPECIAL MUSIC WITHIN THE CHRISTMAS PLAY

"The First Noel"

"Oh Holy Night"

"Something in His Eyes"

"We Three Kings"

"Twinkle, Twinkle Christmas Star"

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

"Joy to the World"

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (verse 1) #41

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Tessin

COMMISSIONING TO NEW SERVICE:

Beth Schoffner, Volunteer Christian Education Coordinator

HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (verse 2 and 3) #41

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Tessin

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.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS Rev. Tessin

***DOXOLOGY**

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

THANKSGIVING PRAYER Rev. Tessin

***CLOSING HYMN** "Angels from the Realm of Glory" #22

***SENDING AND BLESSING**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH FRIENDSHIP: Please be sure to sign the Friendship Register. We welcome you, whether as part of our church family or a one-time visit! Please provide your email so we can make you aware of other events happening in the church.

THANK YOU for sharing your gifts with us! Our liturgist today is Steve Ahlquist. The greeter is Anne Wilton. The Tech Team members working the video and sound board are Mark Schian and Ken MacBeth. The Coffee Hour Hosts are Jacquie Green and Cheryl Frank. Sanctuary flowers are provided by Judy Hall and Randy Goode in memory of Bradley and Gary Hall and Pamela Goode.

G.I.F.T. (age 3-3rd grade) AND MOUNTAIN MOVERS (4th grade-8th grade): There will be NO G.I.F.T. or Mountain Movers TODAY due to the Children's Play. Sunday School on December 29th will be offered by Pastor Kathy and Beth, learning about worship and opportunities to participate!

SANCTUARY FLOWERS AND COFFEE HOUR: There are available dates in December, January and February. Please sign up in the book located on the office counter and in Fellowship Hall at Coffee Hour on Sundays.

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT SALE: In support of those suffering food insecurity, the Christmas Ornament table will be in the Gathering Room in December. Donations go to the Blue Water Community Food Depot. If paying by check, please make it out to Blue Water Community Food Depot and indicate "Paper Ornament Sale" in the memo line. Non-perishable food donations can continue to be brought in; there is a collection container in the church foyer off the parking lot entrance.

LARGE PRINT HYMNS AND BULLETINS: Large print hymnals and bulletins are available for use during the worship service. Please let an usher know if you would like one for the service.

UPCOMING EVENT INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS EVE EVE FAMILY EVENT: On **Monday, December 23rd, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.** come out for the 5th Annual Christmas Eve Sing Along. This family event at Lynch's Irish Tavern (210 Huron Ave, Port Huron) is organized by Price Smith. Tickets are \$12.00 each and are available to purchase at Lynch's Irish Tavern or on Eventbrite (Please see the Flocknotes weekly email for the QR code).

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION AND WORSHIP: Invite your family and friends to join us on **Tuesday, December 24th at 5:00 p.m.** for communion and candlelight worship in the Sanctuary.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: The classes on Monday, December 23rd and 30th are cancelled. The class will resume on Monday, January 6th, when we will begin looking at Luke 8 and the Parable of the Sower. No preparation required; come join us in the new year!

DISCIPLESHIP ADULT STUDY: The classes on Wednesday, December 25th and January 1st are cancelled due to the holidays. Class will resume Wednesday evenings on January 8th from 6:00-7:30 p.m., and we'll continue with our "The Best Yes" study.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Mon./12-23:Financial Counters	9:00 a.m.
No Adult Bible Study	
Christmas Eve Eve Family Event	6:00 p.m.
At Lynch's Tavern	
Tues./12-24:Christmas Eve Communion and Worship	5:00 p.m.
Wed./12-25: Merry Christmas! Office Closed	
No Discipleship Class	
Thurs./12-26: Office Closed	

UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 23: Christmas Eve “Eve” Christmas Carol Sing 6:00 PM,
Lynch’s Irish Tavern

December 24: Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Worship
at 5:00 PM

December 25 & 26th: Merry Christmas! Office Closed

January 1st & 2nd: Happy New Year! Office Closed

January 11: Mandatory training for Ruling Elders on Session and Deacons,
9:00 AM-12 PM

**Families with children: Please be advised that our worship service, including the Children’s Message, is streamed live online. If you would not like your child’s face in view, please sit with your child in the Parlor where the service is played on the TV.*

First Presbyterian Church of Port Huron

811 Wall St. – Port Huron, MI 48060

(810) 985-6191 / portpresby@gmail.com

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Facebook: @FirstPresbyterianChurchPort Huron

YouTube: 1st Presbyterian Church Port Huron

Website: fpcporthuron.org

Pastor: Reverend Kathy Tessin

Financial Secretary: Kristie Lamb

Administrative Assistant: Laura Gaffney

*Media/Marketing: Paige Cronce
and Laura Gaffney*

Custodian/Maintenance: Bill Briscoe

Musicians: Elizabeth Roe and Price Smith

Nursery Attendant: Elizabeth Block

Nursery Assistant: Amy Block

***Our mission is KNOW
the Love of God, GROW
in the Christian faith,
And GO share our faith
in Jesus Christ.***