*First Presbyterian Church*

*101 South Decatur Street*

*Strasburg PA 17579*

*(717) 687-6030*

*straspres@straspres.org*

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 Sunday, December 22, 2013  8:30am

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As the prelude plays, silently come into the Lord’s presence.

Open your heart and give yourself up to Christ who is here to meet you today.

*“Be still and know that I am God.”* Psalm 46:10

PRELUDE  *“Gesừ Bambino”* – Yon

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

(Please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it to your neighbor)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Hess Family

 Leader: This last Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of the Prince of Peace.

 May the visitation of Your Holy Spirit, O God, make us ready for the coming of

 Jesus, our hope and joy.

 **People: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

\*HYMN *“O Come, All Ye Faithful” No. 41*

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

**Our waiting is almost over, Lord. We long for your coming back to take us with You. Thank You for sending Your Son Jesus to die for our sins so that we can be redeemed through his sacrifice. We praise You for a new life that came about because of his birth among us. Yet we live as if there is no real change that will come about in Your return. We forget when we see the empty manger that we are still waiting, hoping, dreaming. Lead us Lord to lives that walk with great expectation for the future that is to come. We pray this through Jesus our Lord, Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

*[Please share Christ’s peace with one another with*

 *handshakes, hugs, kisses—however you feel led.]*

\*HYMN *“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”*

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old**

**From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:**

**“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven’s all gracious King”:**

**The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.**

 (Children may come up front during the hymn for the Children’s Message)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE David Griffith

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Matthew 1:18-25 (NT p1)*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *Isaiah 7:10-16 (OT p636)*

SERMON  *“Knowing that God is With Us”* Rev. Robert Bronkema

\*HYMN  *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”* *No. 43*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER  *(pg. 16 in the hymnal)*

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

 OFFERTORY *“On Christmas Night” – Traditional Sussex Carol* Chancel Choir

 \*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.*

\*APOSTLES’ CREED *(p.14 in the hymnal)*

\*HYMN *“Joy To The World”* *No. 41*

\*BENEDICTION & RESPONSE

**O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;**

**Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven’s peace.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

\*POSTLUDE  *“Joy to the World”* – arr. Young

 ***“Come As You Are”***

11:00am

Greeting & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Geiger Family

 Leader: This last Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of the Prince of Peace.

 May the visitation of Your Holy Spirit, O God, make us ready for the coming of

 Jesus, our hope and joy.

 **People: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

\*Praise & Worship

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Newborn King*

*O Holy Night*

*Christmas Medley*

Prayer & Peace

Children’s Message: David Griffith

Scripture Reading:

*Matthew 1:18-25; Isaiah 7:10-16*

Sermon  *“Knowing that God is With Us”*

\*Closing Song

*Joyful (The One Who Saves)*

\*Benediction

Sermon Notes:

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