

Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church
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December 11, 2022 Worship

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Just a few notes to keep in mind:

- ◆ We are singing in person together again! So come, and sing boldly!
- ◆ Masks optional for all activities in the church building.

Prelude Christmas Carols (Steve Braden on Autoharp)

Welcome (Rev. Rob Smith)

Call to Worship (Denise Lewis is reader)

Opening Song: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear vs 1, 4 & 5

Advent Candle 3: (Congregation sing)

The pulse of joy flies through our veins – the grace of God flows in us.
Its steady thrum helps us become disciples foll'wing Jesus.
Hold fast the Spirit's way, though evil holds such a strong sway.
Embrace new life in Christ, the holy fire of Advent.

(Currens Family will read and light Advent Candle)

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Prayer of Reconciliation (Mary Brause)

Assurance of Grace (Rev. Rob Smith)

Passing of Peace

Song Angels, from the Realms of Glory #143

Prayer of Illumination: (Taize) Prepare the Way of the Lord #95 (Cantor)

Scripture Isaiah 42:1-9 (Mary Brause)

42Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; he

bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Children's sermon (Rev. Rob Smith)

Sermon Something New (Rev. Rob Smith)

Song: I Hear a Sound CCLI #14129

Call To Offering (Denise Lewis)

Offertory Advent Cry by Joseph Martin (Spirit of Life Choir, Karen Cromer Johnson soloist)

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;
praise Christ, all creatures here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise triune God whom we adore. Amen

Prayers of the People

All: 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.

Announcements (Rev. Rob Smith)

Closing Song Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates #93

Charge and Benediction (Rev. Rob Smith)

Postlude (Martha Davis)

Announcements

Welcome to Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church! If this is your first time here we want to say a special thank you for worshipping with us today. We would enjoy getting to know you if you would be so kind to sign the attendance roster and include your contact information. If you are interested in receiving our weekly email blast, please send a quick email to the office at spirit@spiritoflifeav.org.

Children's Sunday School goes through December 18th from 9:30-10:15, upstairs in the SS room. Kids can Zoom in for SS if they can't attend in person. Class is suspended on Dec 25. (Christmas weekend) and Jan. 1 (New Year's weekend).

Date	Teacher	Helper
12/11	Sara	Afanwi
12/18	Prepare for Children's Christmas program	
12/25	No Sunday school/Christmas break	
01/01	No Sunday school/New Year's break	

Meet in the Middle meets Wednesdays. Time together will begin at 4:30 and include snacks, group guitar lessons for older kids / playing for younger kids, singing, Holy Moly video and lesson, and conclude with dinner for kids, youth and adults 6:00- 6:30 dinner. Monetary donations for dinner appreciated. If you're unable to join in person, jump on zoom with this new link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85002502767>.

*Children's Christmas program practice will be during M&M on Wednesday, December 14th. Program will be during the December 18th, Sunday 10 am service.

Confirmation Class will be for 7th and 8th graders, on the 2nd Sunday of the month after church. Next class is today, December 11th. Note: we will also plan for a retreat in March or April.

Our youth will be given **piggy banks** to collect coins for Advent / Christmas charity offering, so if you have a few spare coins find one of our Sunday School aged children and help fill their piggy banks for a good cause. They will be collecting from now until Christmas.

Giving Tree: Community Service team will be collecting gift cards for our own Church families to help them with their Christmas holiday expenses. Please donate gift cards for Target, Walmart, Aldi, or Cub in increments of \$25 or more. Please write the \$\$ amount on each gift card. There is a collection box in the front entryway through today, December 11th. If you wish to contribute still, but don't have the specified gift cards, you may drop a check in the offering designated

accordingly. In addition, if your family is in need of help with their Christmas expenses, please let Pastor Rob know.

The Christian Ed committee will be putting together **Christmas treat bags** for the children. Donations of pre-wrapped candy/treats or small favors may be left at church today, December 11th, in the basket below the table in the front hall. We will be giving them to the children on December 18th.

(Monday) COFFEE and CONVERSATION Meet with Pastor Rob and others for Coffee and Conversation on Mondays, from 9:20 am to 11:00 am. Come as you are. This is a gathering online and in person. It is open for you to pop in and out any time so feel free to drop in and say hello. *Note, same time and same login, recurring meeting each week. Join Zoom Meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/286584190>. One tap mobile +13126266799, 286584190# +19292056099, 286584190#.

Christmas Eve Communion worship will be at 5:00 p.m. Bring your family for our traditional one-hour worship service.

Join us for **Worship on Christmas Day** at 10 a.m. It will be a casual time (wear your pj's) where we will be singing lots of Christmas Carols and having a little fun.

Thank you! Armful of Love 2022 was a success! With your help, we provided gift cards for holiday presents and groceries to nearly 500 families, or 2,163 individuals, in our community. Thank you for supporting Armful of Love. We are grateful for the individuals and organizations that donated money or gift cards to support this program. We raised about \$143,000, and our dedicated volunteers distributed that to families so that they could purchase gifts for their children and provide a holiday meal. *We would not be able to provide this service to families in our community without your generosity.* On behalf of the Dakota County families served by Armful of Love, thank you for your generous contributions that make this program possible.

If you have a **prayer request** you wish to share with our Spirit Care Prayer Team, please email our deacon, Chris Sachs at ccsachs123@gmail.com. Word it as you wish it to be submitted, and we will post it for our prayer team.

Note: The church office will be closed December 12 - 14, as well as December 26-29.

2021 Per Capita is \$36.50