

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome on this special night! If this is your first time visiting with us or watching us on our Facebook stream, we extend a special welcome to join us again. We are glad that you have connected with us.

We wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas. May the Christ child who we celebrate on this special night come into your lives in a new and exciting way. Merry Christmas!

Christmas Poinsettias: Thanks to all who donated toward our Christmas poinsettias this year. A complete list of donors will be in the bulletins on Christmas Eve and also in the January 2021 newsletter.

ReFuel Groups will resume the week of January 17. If you would like to join a group for the next six week session, we will find a group for you. Currently we have two groups meeting on Sunday evenings at 6, a group meets on Mondays at 2, and a group meets on Tuesdays at 1. We will continue our journey through the New Testament book of 1 Peter. We will love to add more to these groups as a way to draw closer to god and one another. Talk to Pastor Dave if interested.

Angel Tree: Thanks to everyone who donated items for our Angel Tree. Three group received Christmas gifts: low income kids in our community, those served through the Presbyterian Mission Agency, and some of our shut-ins who have been isolated during this pandemic. Special thanks to Sue Bentley for organizing the tree once again this year.

Staying Encouraged: Our church is here to help you through this pandemic. Pastor Dave, Stephen Ministers, and Deacons are available to talk, pray, or read scripture with you via the telephone or in person. Feel free to use these resources as we want to help and encourage one another.

Pledge cards continue to be received. If you have yet to receive a pledge card, you can pick one up at the church or request that one be mailed to you. Thanks!

Sanctuary flowers: Our flower sign-up sheet for 2021 is now available to designate flowers in memory or honor of someone. Please find the sheet as you enter the sanctuary. Suggested donation is \$25.

Kids' Sunday School: Our children's Sunday school program is being offered on-line. Jaki Harada, a student at MSUB, is putting together a weekly lesson that is being sent out via e-mail.



First Presbyterian Church
2420 13th Street West
Billings, Montana
252-3434
www.fpcbillings.org

December 24, 2020
5:00 PM

Celebrating the Birth of Jesus Christ

Prelude *Sandi Rabas, accompanist*
“What Child is This/Away in a Manger”

Welcome and Announcements *Pastor Dave Thompson*

Special Music *“Deck the Halls”* *Natalie Ascheman, piano*

***Call to Worship: Isaiah 9:6**

Leader: For unto us a child is born,

People: For unto us a son is given,

Leader: And he shall be called:

People: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Leader: Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

All: We come together to worship the Lord,

***Christmas Carol # 41** *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

***Prayer of Adoration (In Unison)**

Holy God, we gather on this special night to encounter your hope and grace. We are drawn to you to understand more fully the depth of your love for us in Jesus Christ. You entered our world as a vulnerable baby, grew up among us, and died on the cross to save us. We come back to the manger this evening to offer you our worship and praise. We thank you for the amazing gift of new and eternal life which is offered to each and every one of us. We ask these things in the hope and joy of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Candles of Hope and Peace

Scripture of Hope: Isaiah 7:10-14 *pg. 636*

Lighting of the Hope and Peace Candles

Prayer for Peace

***Christmas Carol # 25** *“Away In A Manger”*

The Candles of Joy and Love

Children’s Time— All kids are invited forward

A Message of Love: John 1:6-14 *pg. 91*

Lighting of the Joy and Love Candles

Christmas Carol # 40 *“Joy to the World”*

The Christ Candle

The Light of Christ: Matthew 1:18-25 *pg. 1*

Christmas Reflection

***Christmas Carol # 53** *“What Child Is This”*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Our Response to the Light of Christ

The Offering *“O Holy Night”* *Sandi Rabas, piano*

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication and Pastoral Prayer**

Sharing the Light of Christ

Responsive Reading: John 1 (selected verses)

Leader: In the beginning was the word,

People: And the Word was with God,

Leader: And the word was God.

People: He was in the beginning with God.

Leader: All things came into being through Him,

People: And without him not one thing came into being.

Leader: What has come into being in him was life,

People: And that life was the light of all people.

Leader: The light shines in the darkness,

People: And the darkness did not overcome it.

Leader: And the word became flesh and dwelt among us,

People: And we have seen his glory,

Leader: The glory as of the Father’s only Son,

People: Full of grace and truth.

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light,

People: Those who live in deep darkness— on them light has shined.

Sharing the Light

***Christmas Carol # 60** *“Silent Night”*

(Please raise candle higher on each verse)

***Benediction**

Postlude *“Go Tell It on the Mountain”* *Sandi Rabas, accompanist*

Special thanks to John Reed for playing the guitar this evening