

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla**  
**Worship Service for the First Sunday of Christmas**

*January 1, 2023*

**Pre-Service Music:** *Who is He in Yonder Stall* - Tracy Craig McKibben

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude:** *Prayer* - Anthony Giamanco

**Introit #153:** *In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy* vs 1 All sing (please stand)

**Call to Worship**

Praise God! With the angels and hosts, we praise!

**With the sun and moon, we praise!**

With the fire and hail, we praise!

**With the frost and snow, we praise!**

With the mountains and valleys, we praise!

**With the skies and the seas, we praise! Praise God!**

**Prayer of the Day**

**O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #14:** *For the Beauty of the Earth* vs. 1, 2, 3, 5 (please stand)

**Call to Confession**

Even in a season of celebration and joy, there is grief and pain.

**Even as we celebrate God's goodness,  
we know that we have not always lived it.**

Even in all of this, Christ comes.

### Prayer of Confession

**Ever-present God, you became our Savior in all our distress. In all the ways we hurt, and all the ways we hurt others, in all the ways we feel neglected and all the ways we neglect others, in all the ways we cry out and all the ways we cause others to cry, you are with us, comforting us and holding us to account. In your love, redeem us once again. Lift us up and grant us your mercy, as you have throughout the generations.**

### Declaration of Pardon

Christ came into this world for us: imperfect humans, perpetual sinners, trying, learning, striving. He came to be tested, so that he might help us as we are tested, to forgive us all our sins.

**Praise be to our merciful and faithful high priest!**

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

### Passing the Peace of Christ

**Gloria:** “Gloria” refrain from *Angels We Have Heard on High* (please stand)

**Solo:** *Welcome, Welcome, Dear Redeemer* Cesar Frank Mary Kwantes

**Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.**

### Prayers of the People

*Worship leader will lead the prayers.* God of grace. **Hear our prayer.**

With wonder and thanksgiving for the Christ’s coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

Merciful God, broaden the church’s hospitality and welcome. Open our hearts to any in need of refuge and help, especially those who are persecuted. Prosper the work the work of all those assisting immigrants and refugees.

God of grace. **Hear our prayer.**

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen**

**Dedication of Tithes and Offerings** (please stand)

**Doxology #606:** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

### **Prayer of Dedication:**

**God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.**

**Hymn #153:**        *In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy*    v. 1,2,3,5        (seated)

### **Scriptures for the Day**

Alleluia! Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. **Alleluia!** (Col. 3:15, 16)

**Listen to the word of the Lord.**

**Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 63:7 - 9

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 2:1 - 23

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:**        *A New Moses*        Jonathan Kimball

**Communion Hymn #505:**    *The Trumpets Sound the Angels Sing*    (seated)

### **Invitation to the Table and Prayer of Thanksgiving**

This is the joyful feast of the people of God!  
People will come from north and south, from east and west,  
to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed it, and broke it and gave it to them.

Their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast that he has prepared.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and our great delight to praise you, O God.

We thank you for your steadfast love in spite of our human sin. We join with the heavenly choirs and the faithful of every time and place to sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and give it to his disciples saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way Jesus took the cup saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death, rising  
you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

According to Christ's commandment:

**We remember his death,  
we proclaim his resurrection,  
we await his coming in glory.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen**

Let us pray:

**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**

