



1702 Iowa Street  
Davenport, IA 52803  
A Congregation of the  
Presbyterian Church  
(U.S.A.)

**First Sunday in Christmastide**  
**January 01, 2023**  
**Worship at 9:30 a.m.**

## Welcome!

We are an open and affirming congregation, and a proud member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians (covnetpres.org).



People of all gender identities are welcome here, along with their families.

## We are a Matthew 25 church



Matthew 25 congregations identify themselves as working toward one or more of three goals: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty.

## Land Acknowledgement

First Presbyterian Church gratefully acknowledges the Indigenous Peoples on whose ancestral homelands we gather, as well as the diverse and vibrant Indigenous communities who make Iowa and Illinois their home today. The communities we serve through our ministries occupy the traditional homelands of the people of the Kiikaapoi, Myaamia, Ojééthi Šakówinj, Peoria, Sauk, and Meskwaki nations. We honor these and numerous Indigenous tribes who first made the banks of the Mississippi River a center for arts and commerce.



*Flight Into Egypt, Jesus MAFA, Cameroon, 1973.*

*JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.*

## Preparation for Worship

We invite you to meditate silently on art, music, and Scripture.

\*Worshippers who are comfortable doing so, please stand.

**Bold** indicates congregational response.

To help you get to know the people sitting in your pew/row, please complete the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbors.

## LECTIONARY SCRIPTURES FOR MEDITATION

Isaiah 63: 7-9

Psalm 148

Hebrews 2: 10-18

Matthew 2: 13-23

## The Church Gathers To...

**Prelude**

Praeludium, BuxWV 139

Dietrich Buxtehude

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Pat Halverson

**Prelude**

God Rest You Merry

Wilbur Held

## Our Staff

Rev. Elissa Bailey  
Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala  
*Bridging Pastors*  
Rev. Pat Halverson\*  
*Parish Associate*  
Kristy Woodrow  
*Director of Christian Education*  
Sarah Greim & Paula Hartmann  
*\* Interim Christian Ed. Coordinators*  
Matt Bishop  
*Director of Music*  
Alex Gilson  
*Principal Organist  
& Assistant Director of Music*  
Linda Bengfort\*  
*Assistant Choral Director*  
Kathy Middleton\*  
*Assistant Choral Director  
for Children*  
Kristine Olson  
*Finance Manager*  
Becky Lopez\*  
*Accounting Assistant*  
Susan Parker  
*Church Administrative Assistant*  
Darren Long  
*Facilities & Custodial Supervisor*  
Kevin Wilson  
*Custodian*  
Chad Dean\*  
*Custodian*  
Nichole Kerker\*  
*Nursery Coordinator*  
Kelley Wohlers\*  
*Nursery Caregiver*  
\* Part-time employee

First Presbyterian Church  
1702 Iowa Street  
Davenport, Iowa 52803  
Phone: 563-326-1691

Outside office hours, this number  
will go to the pastor on call in case  
of emergency.

For more information, see the  
e-news, church website or  
Facebook [www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org)

## Praise Almighty God

### Call to Worship

*based on Isaiah 63:7-9*

Let us together recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,  
all that the Lord has done for us. In mercy and steadfast love, we are saved.

**We are called the children of God  
because God has saved and redeemed us.**

It was no messenger or angel,  
but rather God's presence that saved us.

**God lifts us up and carries us through all of life.**

**We offer our praise and thanks to God.**

### \*Hymn #38

### It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, That glo - rious song of old,  
2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, With peace - ful wings un - furled,  
3. And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load, Whose forms are bend - ing low,  
4. For lo, the days are has - tening on, By proph - et bards fore - told,  
From an - gels bend - ing near the earth, To touch their harps of gold:  
And still their heaven - ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world:  
Who toil a - long the climb - ing way With pain - ful steps and slow;  
When with the ev - er - cir - cling years Comes round the age of gold;  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, From heaven's all - gra - cious King":  
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on hov - ering wing;  
Look now! for glad and gold - en hours Come swift - ly on the wing:  
When peace shall o - ver all the earth Its an - cient splen - dors fling,  
The world in sol - emn still - ness lay, To hear the an - gels sing.  
And ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.  
O rest be - side the wea - ry road, And hear the an - gels sing.  
And the whole world give back the song Which now the an - gels sing.

## Confess to a Forgiving Creator

### Call to Confession

*based on Hebrews 2:17*

Jesus became like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Let us therefore confess our sins to the Lord.

### Prayer of Confession

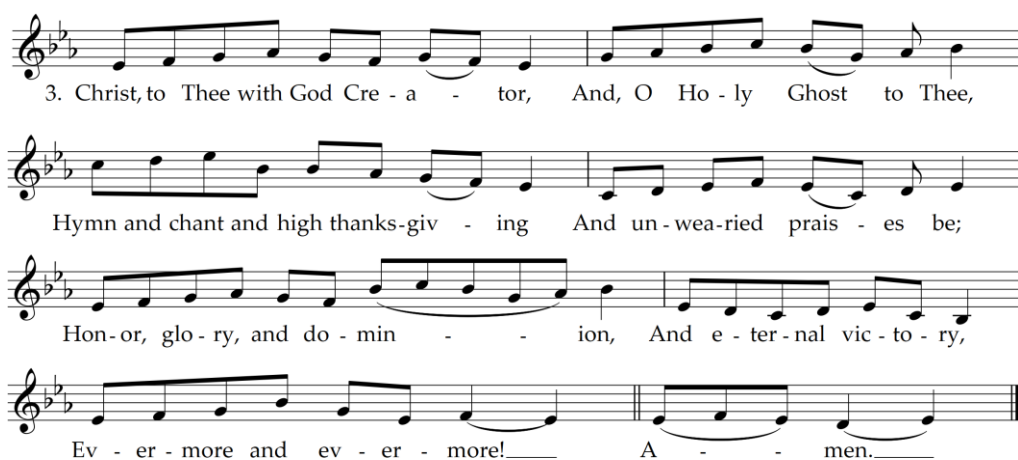
**Gracious God, we begin another year with worship. We also ask you to forgive us for our sins of thought, word and deed in these recent weeks of the holiday season. (time of silence) Renew us in faith, in zeal for serving you, and in an undivided heart of love for Jesus Christ; through Christ, our Lord, Amen.**

### Assurance

We are not forgiven because we do more for God, but because of the grace and mercy of God through Christ. In Jesus Christ, we are welcomed as children. We are completely forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

**\*Response to Grace**      Of the Father's Love Begotten (Verse 3)      DIVINUM MYSTERIUM



## Listen for God's Word

### Prayer for Illumination

God of Light, as we look to your word, we ask for illumination to understand and apply it, and for the Spirit's presence within to lead us in your truth and love.  
Amen.

### Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures

Matthew 2:13-23

Now after they [the wise men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

"A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## JOYS & CONCERNS

**In Our Prayers:** families and victims of gun violence; the people of Ukraine and all who groan under oppression; for God's presence with all who are grieving the loss of Dwight Wood, Juanita White Daugherty Briggs, Gayle Allard, Betty Nelson, Eleanor Beadles White, Kathy Goldsmith (Ruth Rensberger's daughter), Larry Kisler, Jim Lasala, Ella Johns, Georgia Sodawasser, Gloria Wadsworth, Chris Cook, Bruce Kahler, Jim Calhoun, Holly Rivera; for God's mercy and grace to touch Kirk Christie, Lorraine Sewick, John Timm and family, Brandon Bufe, Allison Kennedy, Dylan's grandmother, Roberta Shadensack, Julia Pedigo, Jim Woods, Tammy Wood, Benjamin Bartnicke, Erin Middleton Cavan, Danielle, Dorothy Bain, Lynette, Brenda Cole, David Milnes, Hudson Stoner, Dorothy Downing, and those experiencing abuse, addiction, violence, loss, suicide, COVID-19, and natural disaster.

**Mission Partners:** Rev. José Pilar Alvarez Cabrera and Rev. Nestor Eduardo Alvarez Cabrera in Zacapa, Guatemala; Alice Chikomo in Harare, Zimbabwe; Veda Gill in Pakistan.

**Hospital visits:** the Pastors make hospital visits when patients give permission and when pandemic precautions permit.

**InTouch Information:** For anyone who is homebound and would enjoy a contact from one of First Presbyterian's In-Touch members, please contact Deacon Colleen Duenas.

**The Prayer Chain** connects those who need prayer with those who commit to a ministry of prayer. Contact Mary Ann Francois (563-355-5292).

**Printed Prayer Requests** require permission from the person(s) in need of prayer before prayers are printed in the bulletin. The best way to assure a hospital visit or a prayer is to contact the church office directly (563-326-1691).

**Prayer Shawls** are available for you to give to those you know who are experiencing a challenge or a joy. For your choosing, a variety of shawls are hanging on the coatrack near the church office.

## Respond to God's Word

### Affirmation of Faith

I believe in Jesus Christ and in the power of the Good News.  
I believe in the One whose spirit glorified a small village,  
and to whom shepherds and kings came to worship.  
I believe in the One whose life changed the course of history.  
I believe in the One who welcomed the poor, the oppressed,  
the discouraged, the afflicted, the sick and the blind.  
I believe in the One who with love changed the hearts of the proud,  
and who showed us that it is more important to serve than to be served.  
I believe that the peace, the justice, the righteousness,  
the forgiveness and the love that Christ proclaimed and modeled  
are the highest goals of any life that is lived.  
May I seek always to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

### Prayers of the People

God of grace and love, as we begin this new year in worship together, we thank you for the blessings and ways you have led us this past year. As we move into new leadership we ask you to continue to give us wisdom, resources, and joy-filled energy for the ministries to which you have called us. May we grow in faith and service as you show us the way. We also remember those in need, whether far from us, or in this community, or within our own church family. We pray for peace, for hope, for resources, and most of all, that your name be exalted in and through us. Thank you, O Christ, for coming to us. We pray as you taught us...

### 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 let us not fall into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

God of all gifts, we offer on this first day of the year the first fruits of all you have given to us. May these gifts be used to further your ministries among and through your people of this church. From this place may the good news change lives. To you, Lord, be all glory. Amen.

### Offertory

Offertoire

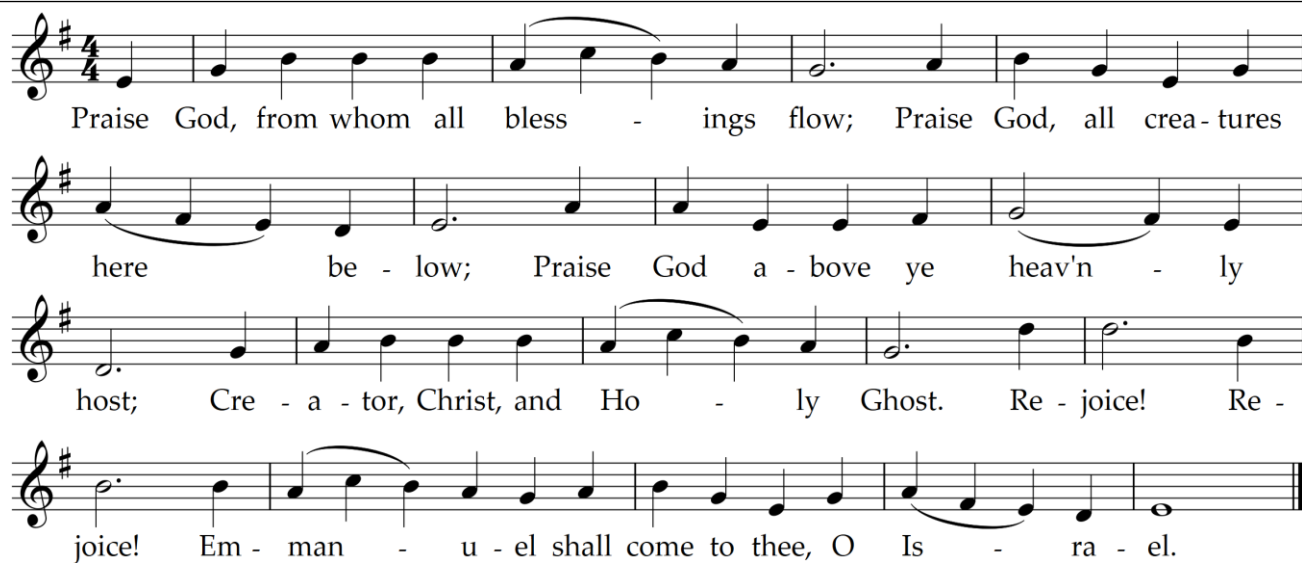
César Franck

*To share your treasure, you may use the offering plate that is placed in the narthex; or you may visit the church website at [www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org), and click on "Donate Now;" or you may use the link: <https://bit.ly/2V8nEgm>; or you may mail your check to the church office; or you may donate directly from your phone:*



**\*Presentation of Our Gifts and Lives to God**





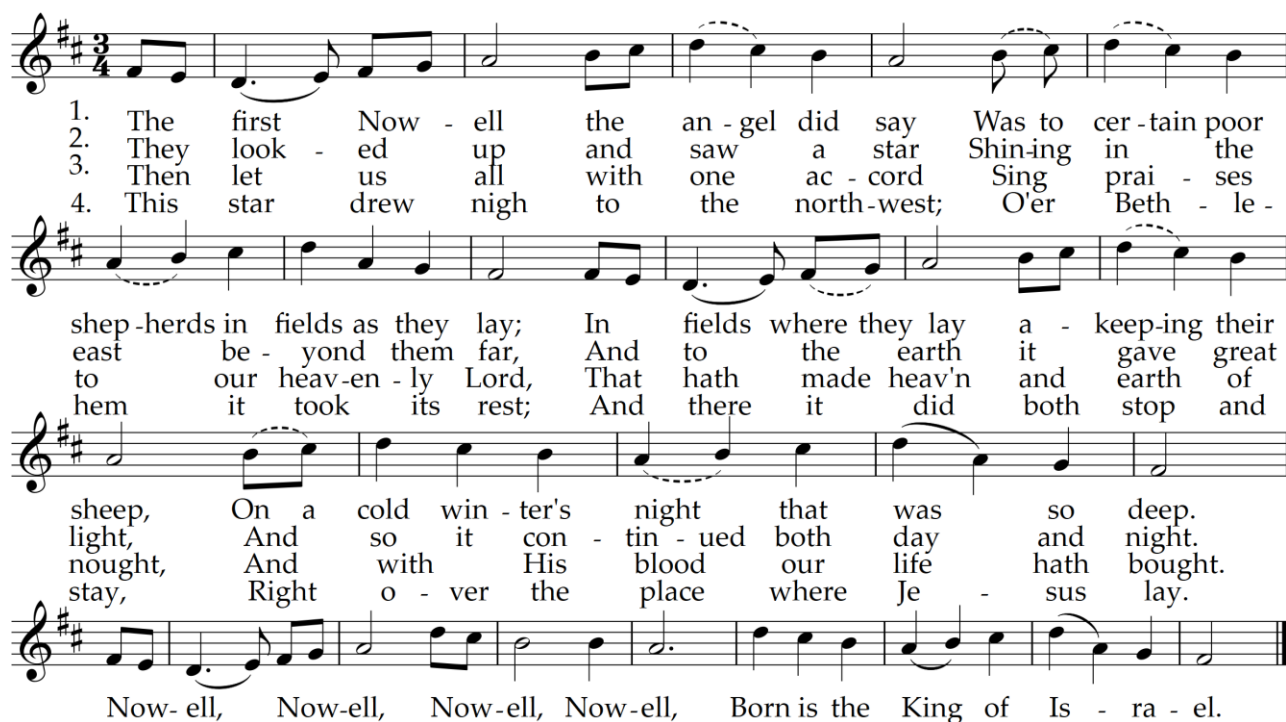
Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures  
here be - low; Praise God a - bove ye heav'n - ly  
host; Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re -  
joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

## Go To Serve With God's Blessing

\*Hymn #56

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL



1. The first Now - ell the an - gel did say Was to cer - tain poor  
2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shin - ing in the  
3. Then let us all with one ac - cord Sing prai - ses  
4. This star drew nigh to the north - west; O'er Beth - le -  
shep - herds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay a - keep - ing their  
east be - yond them far, And to the earth it gave great  
to our heav - en - ly Lord, That hath made heav'n and earth of  
hem it took its rest; And there it did both stop and  
sheep, On a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.  
light, And so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
nought, And with His blood our life and hath bought.  
stay, Right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.  
Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

\*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

In Thee Is Gladness

J. S. Bach

### Copyright Information

Olivier Messiaen, "Dieu Parmi Nous" (©1936 Alphonse Leduc)

Paul Manz, "Gabriel's Message" (©2000 Augsburg Fortress)

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### **Newcomer's Inquiry**

Newcomer's Inquiry will be held on January 22, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. We invite anyone interested in learning more about First Presbyterian Church or exploring the possibility of becoming a church member. This event offers an opportunity to ask questions and meet some members of our congregation and leaders. This does not require making a membership decision. Please let the church office know if you are interested in attending @ 563-326-1691.

### **Donate Directly from Your Phone!**

First Presbyterian Church makes it easy to donate online! Simply open the camera app on your smartphone, take a photo of the QR Code below, and follow the link to our online giving site.



### **Year-End Reminder**

We ask all of our members to fulfill their 2022 pledge prior to December 31. Donors must deliver checks on or by Friday, December 30 in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2022. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2023 (January 1) will not qualify for a charitable deduction in 2022, even if the check is predated to or actually written in 2022.

However, under the so-called "mailbox exception," checks that are written, mailed, and postmarked in 2022 will be deductible in 2022 though they are not received by the church until 2023.

As always, thank you for your continued support of First Presbyterian Church. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Office at [olson@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:olson@fpcdavenport.org) or 563.326.1691 Ext. 219.

### **Ways to Give to First Presbyterian Church**

It is your generous financial commitment to First Pres that allows FPC to continue its ministries and missions to help support church members, community, and staff. With new technology and changes in tax law, the very meaningful act of placing your gift in the offering plate each Sunday is no longer the only way to financially support FPC. For anyone looking for alternative ways to give, below are additional options to give to FPC:

- Donate online by visiting [www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org)
- Required Minimum Distributions (RMD)
- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD)
- Gifting Stock

As always, thank you for your continued support of First Presbyterian Church. For specific instructions or if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Office at [olson@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:olson@fpcdavenport.org) or 563.326.1691 Ext. 219.

## 2023 Stewardship Pledge Campaign Update

"Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; **great is your faithfulness.**" - Lamentations 3:21-23

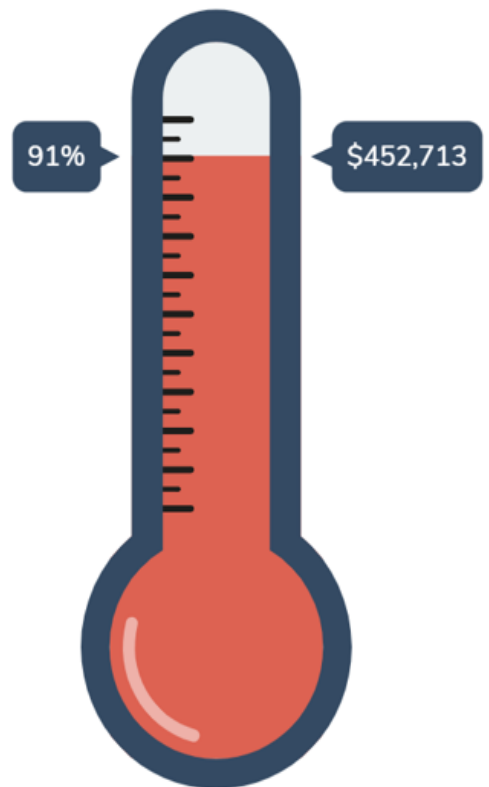
Giving, one of the ultimate acts of faith, demonstrates our belief in God who helps us provide for and serve others. Giving manifests our faith in First Presbyterian's role in God's future.

Your generosity and commitment to the many missions of FPC has resulted in confirmed pledges totaling \$452,713. If you have returned your 2023 Stewardship Cards or set-up your online pledge already: **a sincere thank you!**

**We're making great progress! We've surpassed the number of 2022 pledgers and we've reached 91% of our goal! Prayerfully, we hope to reach our finish line soon.** We realize many tune into our worship services virtually and have not been able to turn in your pledge card. **You can still show your faith in God's future by pledging online or sending a picture of your pledge card to Kristine Olson at [olson@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:olson@fpcdavenport.org).**

If you want help setting up your online pledge, please contact Kristine Olson, Finance Manager, at [olson@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:olson@fpcdavenport.org) or (563) 326-1691 x219.

**GOAL: \$500,000**





### Christmas Flowers 2022

The poinsettias that grace the chancel and surround the Nativity figures in the narthex are given in memory or honor of the following loved ones who are held in grateful affection.

#### In Loving Memory Of

**Mrs. Lola J. Paulsen and Rachel J. D'Auben, Mother, and Grandmother; and Daughter** given by Pamela J. Paulsen and Family

**Leo and Juanita Oswald, Aloysius and Georgia Sodawasser** given by Kristina, Erin, Patrick, Alexis and Charlotte

**Our Parents; Birc & Jean Bawden, Harlen & Lucille Kardel** given Ron & Susie Kardel

**Anonymous** given by Anonymous

**Robert Francois Sr. & Jeffrey Francois** given by MaryAnn Francois Family

**Christine Johnson and Kathy Price** given by Brian, Kathlynn, Aidan and Keian Price

**Helen and Bill Chapman, my parents** given by Nancy Chapman

**Benjamin P. and Marion Steckel; Joel Steckel; and Darrell Orman** given by Melanie and Jed Steckel Families

**Leslie Fisher, Keith Fisher, Martha Lou Fisher, Ellwyn Henry Schwanz** given by Randy & Kelly Schwanz

**K.C. (Ervin) Griesenbeck** given by Tom & Sue Ervin

**Anna, Delmar, Jack & Amy Snyder** given by Luann Field

**Crystal & Winifred Duckett** given by their Daughters, Angella Whalen, Tecora & (Louis) Murry, Brayden & Kirsten

**Frances & Don Anthony** given by their Granddaughter, Angella Whalen

**Crystal & Winifred (Pooh) Duckett** given by Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren, Tessa & (Adam) Morrison, D.J. & Kayden Whalen, Corralle Whalen, Zach Mitchell, Norah & Luna, Crystal Whalen, Noah Nickel & Brooklyn

**Crystal & Winifred Duckett** given by her Daughter Angella Whalen

**Crystal & Winifred Duckett** given by their Grandchildren Tessa (Adam) Morrison, D.J. & Kayden Whalen Corsalie & (Zach) Whalen & Family, Crystal, Noah (Nickel) & Brooklyn Whalen

**Our Great GrandMother Pat Anthony** given by Tessa (Adam) Morrison, D.J. Whalen & Kayden, Cornalle Whalen, Zach Mitchell, Noah & Luna, Crystal Whalen, Noah Nickel & Brooklyn

**Crystal Dawn Duckett** given by her Son Matthew Munn,

**Francies S. & Donald R. Anthony** given by Grandson Matthew Munn & Family

**Bud & Lorrie Darland** given by Dianna Darland, Theresa & Sean Jacobsmeier & Family

**Don & Marie Cox, Bob Southerland, Emily & Wendall Jacobsmeier** given by Theresa & Sean Jacobsmeier & Family

**Sandy & Mickey Meeks** given by Dianna Darland, Theresa Jacobsmeier & Andrew Darland

**Norman & Ruth Mary Lau, Nels & Rhoda Evans** given by Kim & Sue Evans

**Forest & Beulah Fowler, Bruce Darland, & Vernell & Dorothea Brown** given by Dianna Darland & The Jacobsmeier Family

**Jack Stoner, Ellen Stoner, Esther Smith Mercatoris** given by Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

**Ken & Joan McKay** given by Daniel and Meredith Ellard

**Rebecca Ann Koos** given by Dick & Bev Koos

#### In Honor Of

**Our Families** given by Tom & Sue Ervin

**Hud Stoner & Family** given by Rev. Dr. Stoner - Lasala

**In Thanksgiving** for the privilege of ministering alongside First Pres as Bridging Pastor. given by Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

**The Chancel Guild wishes to thank all those who through their donations made it possible to beautify the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church this Christmas Season.**