

first presbyterian church



# Christmas Sunday



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

659 State St., Holland, Michigan 49423

Office: (616) 392-9022 // Email: [office@fpcholland.org](mailto:office@fpcholland.org)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christmas Day

December 25, 2022

## PRELUDE

*We Three Kings*

Music by John Henry Hopkins / arr. John Dempsey

## LIFE AT FIRST

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Isaiah 9

One: The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;

**All: on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.**

One: For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,

**All: and the government will be on his shoulders.**

One: And he will be called

**All: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

One: Come, Let us worship!

## HYMN

#113 *Angels We have Heard on High*

## CHRISTMAS POEM

*Shepherd's Song at Christmas*

Langston Hughes

**Look there at the star!**

**I, among the least,**

**Will arise and take**

**A journey to the East.**

**But what shall I bring**

**As a present for the King?**

**What shall I bring to the Manger?**

**I will bring a song,**

**A song that I will sing,**

**A song for the King**

**In the Manger.**

Watch out for my flocks,  
Do not let them stray.  
I am going on a journey  
Far, far away.  
But what shall I bring  
As a present for the Child?  
What shall I bring to the Manger?

I will bring a lamb,  
Gentle, meek, and mild,  
A lamb for the Child  
In the Manger.

I'm just a shepherd boy,  
Very poor I am—  
But I know there is  
A King in Bethlehem.  
What shall I bring  
As a present just for Him?  
What shall I bring to the Manger?

I will bring my heart  
And give my heart to Him.  
I will bring my heart  
To the Manger.

## CHILDREN'S TIME

*Soon and Very Soon*

Soon and very soon we are going to see the king ( x3 )  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the king.

## STORY

*The Elves and the Shoemaker*

Grimm

## REFLECTIVE MUSIC

*Dona Nobis*

arr. Catherine McMichael

## SCRIPTURE

Luke 1: 67-75, 78-79

## STORY

*The Little Match Girl*

Hans Christian Andersen

## THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES OFFERINGS AND LIVES

*Presents* by Luci Shaw  
“Thanks be to God for God’s unspeakable gift.”  
2 Corinthians 9:15

What’s so good as getting?  
The anticipation, snow  
in the air, people with lists,  
voices that drop when you  
enter the room, the pine-wood  
fire smell and the smell of pine  
needles from the trimmed tree  
by the window – it all narrows down  
to the heft of the package in the  
hands, the wondering, the unwrapping  
(Careful – the paper’s too pretty  
to tear), the oh, the ah. What’s  
so good as getting  
if not giving?  
The covert questions, the catalogs  
with corners turned back the love  
that overlooks cost, the hiding place  
in the hamper, the card whose  
colored words can’t say it all,  
the glee of linking want/wish  
with have/hold the handing over,  
fingers brushing, the thing  
revealed, the spark as the eyes  
meet, and the hug. What’s  
so good as giving?

**HYMN**      #134      *Joy To the World*

**BENEDICTION**

## 113 Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heaven-ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - ri - a



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!



134

## Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 lions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and  
 sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,



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