

Welcome

PINNACLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 31, 2023 | 10:00 am

First Sunday of Christmas

Prelude

Quand Jesus naquit à Noël
Lorraine Brugh, organist

Jean-Jacques Beauvarlet-Charpentier

Lighting of the Candles

Zadie Jensen

Words of Welcome

Wes Avram

Call to Worship

Wes Avram

*Opening Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

No. 119

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful all ye nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”

3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”

cont'd ►

Prayer of Adoration Zadie Jensen

Call to Confession Michael Hegeman

Common Confession and Assurance (unison) Michael Hegeman

We want to accept your birth: to welcome you into our hearts, to invite you into our homes, to follow where you lead, to hope, against hope, for your Kingdom. We want to be ready for a life-changing faith. May it be so, despite all we do differently. Prepare us. Soften us. Forgive us. Give us hope. Make us ready. Now hear our silent prayers of confession. (silence)

*Congregational Response (unison) *Angels We Have Heard on High* No. 113, refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Passing of the Peace Michael Hegeman

One: The peace of our Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Children's Message Erik Khoobyarian

Children pre-K-5th Grade leave for Church School.
6th-12th Grade Youth will remain in worship with their families.
Nursery is available.

Congregational Response (unison) No. 151, refrain

O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!

Our Common Life Wes Avram

For those joining us online, you may make your donation by texting
pinnaclepres to 833-245-8445 or online at pinnaclepres.org/give-now

Offertory

Musical Offering

Sussex Carol

arr. D. Willcocks

Brady Larson, soloist • Lorraine Brugh, piano

1 On Christmas night all Christians sing,
to hear the news the angels bring;
on Christmas night all Christians sing,
to hear the news the angels bring,
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King's birth.

2 Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad;
then why should we on earth be sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?

*3 When sin departs before his grace,
then life and health come in its place;
when sin departs before his grace,
then life and health comes in its place;
heaven and earth with joy may sing,
all for to see the newborn King.*

*4 All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
all out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
“Glory to God in highest heaven;
peace on earth and goodwill. Amen!”*

*Doxology (unison)

No. 143, vs. 4

**All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king!**

*Prayer of Dedication

Wes Avram

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 3:15-16

Wes Avram

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Have a Reason for the Hope That's Within You
Joanne McDowell, Kyle Jensen, & Grant Sobek

Common Prayer, Lord's Prayer (unison)

Leah Quarles

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.

*Closing Hymn

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

No. 132

**1 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!**

**2 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!**

cont'd ►

He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

*Charge & Benediction

Erik Khoobyarian

*Sending Music

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
Lorraine Brugh, organ

J. S. Bach

*Please rise.

Scripture

1 Peter 3:15-16

15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

New Revised Standard Version Updated (NRSV)

God's Faithfulness, By Three

Joanne McDowell Jim and I joined Pinnacle Presbyterian Church almost 10 years ago in 2014. We are both originally from Michigan but didn't meet until 2002 in Scottsdale. I arrived here after 26 years in Colorado. Before we joined, I was a member of an Open Table board, and since joining I have participated in Prayer for the World, been a member of Session and Head of Nominating Committee and even part of Women's Fellowship Leadership. I really enjoy hosting events like the Christmas Tea at our home.

Kyle Jensen has been attending Pinnacle Presbyterian Church since 2021. He is the husband of Patty Jensen and the father of Zadie, Lia, and Gwendolyn Jensen. Over the past two years, he has taught several classes for the Fran Park Center and has contributed to the Courageous Conversation series. He is the director of Writing Programs and professor of English, Rhetoric, and Literacy at Arizona State University.

Grant Sobek is a sophomore at the University of San Diego double-majoring in Economics and Theology & Religious Studies and minoring in Political Science. He is originally from Scottsdale and has been a member of Pinnacle Presbyterian his whole life. He enjoys reading, golfing, and playing piano and violin. After graduation, he plans to attend graduate school for Economics.

Notes of Interest

Ushers are Jack Bender, Fred Brown, Rick Hess, and Linda & Greg Moorhead; **Head Usher** is Debbie Bender.

Hospitality team members are Carol Baker & Renee & Jed Schenck.

The Flowers are given in memory of Fran & Sue Park.

Guest Organist is Dr. Lorraine Brugh, the former Pinnacle Artist in Residence. She is Senior Research Professor of Music at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana. Prior to retirement in 2020 she served as Professor of Music, University Organist, Director of Chapel Music, held the Kruse endowed chair in church music, directed the church music program and the Kantorei, VU's chapel choir.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the following members & friends:

- For David, battling lymphoma for the 5th time;
- For Brenda, with stage 4 pancreatic cancer;
- For Chris, to recover from A-fib and pneumonia;
- For Jeremy, with tongue cancer;
- For Sally, in the hospital with Covid;
- For our healthcare workers, first responders, and local and federal government workers who are serving our communities;
- For the people of Haiti and Harmony Ministries;
- For our men and women in the military.

To add your prayer requests to the Pinnacle prayer list, please email prayer@pinnaclepres.org or call 480.585.9448.

If you would like to join our prayer request email list to receive a weekly list of people needing your prayers and monthly prayer guidelines, please send your name and email to prayer@pinnaclepres.org.