

THE POSTLUDE

Wachet Auf

arr. Ferguson

***Indicates where the congregation is asked to stand, if able.**

CARE FOR CHILDREN

A nursery for infants – 2 years is available during the 10:00 AM service.

Sunday School for children ages 3 through 5th grade.

Pilgrim Fellowship Youth Group for grades 6 through 12.

Worship Preview for Sunday, December 18 10:00 AM

We celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent with a Festival of Lessons and Carols.

Dick Buchman will lead the worship service.

Lee Jacobi directs the Choir of First Church.

Thomas Gregory is the organist.



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAUWATOSA
GATHERED IN 1842**

Our Covenant

As followers of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to share in the worship and service of God, to grow in the knowledge and expression of our faith, to reach out with compassion to those in need, to treat each other with love and understanding, and to return to God a portion of God's gifts.

December 11, 2011
MORNING WORSHIP 10:00 AM
Third Sunday of Advent

*Please silence your cell phones. Pass and sign the red pew pads now.
If you are a guest this Sunday, we would love to greet you following the service.*

Everyone is invited to Coffee Fellowship in the Social Hall following the Service.

THE PRELUDE

Veni Emmanuel

arr. Ferguson

CHIMES AND TOWER BELLS

*HYMN 123

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

*THE GREETING OF PEACE *God's people share greetings and peace with those around them.*

[Please remain standing until after the Gloria Patri.]

*INVOCATION

Pastor: The Lord is with you. Pastor Barry W. Szymanski

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray together:

Merrick Wells

Everlasting God, time after time you have restored and rescued us. You have done great things for us and we are glad. You have filled us with laughter; we come before you with great shouts of joy. Receive our praises to your great Name. Amen.

*THE GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 558)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Burns Family

The lighting of the first candle symbolizes Hope, the second is the candle of Peace, and the third, which is the rose candle, symbolizes Joy – the joy that the expectation of the birth of our Savior is near.

After lighting the candles, the Candle Lighter leads the Prayer:

Let us pray:

Loving God, we thank You for the joy that You bring to us, for we have found joy through Your Son in living as your children. We pray that you help us to prepare our hearts for the gift of your Son, Jesus. We ask all this in the Holy Name of the one born in Bethlehem.

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.

THE CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

4K & 5K

[Children age 3 through 12th grade are invited to go to Sunday School and PF.]

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Bible, page 678
Children’s Bible, page 1052

PSALMODY [*unison*]

Psalms 126

In Babilone

When the LORD brought home our treasure,
All delights were like a dream;
In defeat, a shout of vict’ry;
In the sand, a flowing stream.
Mouths that once were parched with anguish
Now with shouts of joy are filled;
Laughter now displaces sadness
For the goodness God has willed.

Bring us back to former glory,
Lost through years of exile’s pain;
Generations long forgotten
Seek God’s favor to regain.
Those who plant their seeds with grieving,
Wetting soil with falling tears,
Shall rejoice in time of harvest,
Reaping hope for all their years.

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Bible, page 1077
Children’s Bible, page 1686

COMMENTARY ON THE GOSPEL

THE GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Bible, page 966
Children’s Bible, page 1511

MESSAGE

John – Sent by God

Dr. Szymanski

THE ANTHEM

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Lovelace

THE CALL TO PRAYER and TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

THE OFFERTORY

THE ANTHEM

Nativity Carol

Rutter

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 563)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 85

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

*THE CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*A CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go Now in Peace

Besig

**Go now in peace,
Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev’ry day.**

**Go now in love,
And show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.**

**Go now in faith,
Steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.**

**God will be there
Watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**