First Presbyterian Church
Rev. Robert Malsack, Interim Pastor

1ST SUNDAY IN CHRISTMAS   DECEMBER 28, 2025

Preservice Music   Boyd Thomas

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Announcements

Prayer of the Day

Prelude   Crystal Hogan

*Praise Medley   No. 247, 248, 249

Prayer of Confession:
Most merciful God, as we hear in the gospel lesson today, of an insecure king and of his wicked behavior out of that insecurity which makes a vain attempt to thwart God's plan of salvation,
forgive us our own insecurities that stem from lack of trust in Your faithfulness and, at times, undermine Your will for us and others.

Gracious God, as we hear of Mary and Joseph being obedient to Your call to protect the holy child,
forgive us when we fail to be protective of those most dear to us.

Loving Lord, as we hear how You called Mary and Joseph out of Egypt and they obeyed,
forgive us for any hesitancy in obeying Your call given for the good of all.

(silence for personal reflection and confession)

Response: *Away in a Manger*
   Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay.
   Close by me forever, and love me I pray.
   Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
   And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

Assurance of Pardon:
Dearly beloved, hear and believe the Good News of the gospel,
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen. Alleluia!

*Gloria in Excelsis Deo**:**
   Glo - - - - ri-a in excelsis de-o
   Glo - - - - ri-a in excelsis de-o

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Time with Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination: *Once in Royal David's City*
                                              No. 286, vs. 1,4
                                              Susan Strang
Scripture Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9   Pg. 622, Pew Bible
Responsive Reading: Psalm 148   Pg. 526, Pew Bible

Sermon Text: Matthew 2:13-23   Pg. 808, Pew Bible
Sermon: *When Christmas Got Messy*

Special Music: *Hallelujah!* (L. Cohen)   Christian Leonard

Serenity Prayer
"God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardship as the pathway to peace; taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will; that I may be reasonably happy in this life, and supremely happy with Him forever in the next. Amen."

INTERCESSIONS / PRAYER CONCERNS:
Jon LaCourt, Bob Werner, Dean Wright, Nora Lundy, Charlie Novara, Floyd Kucharski, Chris Hanley, Geri Anderson, Scott Doda, Phil Peterson, Kathy Eavenson, Bonnie Hyde, Anne Starr, Joy Palzewic, Mary Rushford; the PNC; missionaries, Sam and Cayla

The 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 lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.

The Offering

  Offertory

  *Doxology: **Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**
Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye
heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

  *Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn: *Joy Medley*   No. 269, 270, 271
(first and last verses of each)

*Charge and Benediction

*Response: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*   No. 271, extended ending
    Joyful now our hearts are lifted,
    Joined in wonder, love, and praise.

*Postlude

*Those who are able, please stand.

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CHURCH NOTES
Building/Office closed all week.

The Sacrament of Baptism: If you are interested in receiving
the Sacrament of Baptism, call the Church office at 774-4211 by
January 7th. All requests need to be approved by Session at their
meeting on the 8th. The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered
during worship on January 11th.

Ushers: Bob and Susan Strang, Louise Swope
      Celina Pietrzyk and Enzlee Amundson