

***Confession of Faith** – Westminster Confession 3.5

Before the creation of the world, according to his eternal, unchangeable plan and the hidden purpose and good pleasure of his will, God has chosen in Christ those of mankind who are predestined to life and to everlasting glory. He has done this solely out of his own mercy and love and completely to the praise of his wonderful grace. This choice was completely independent of his foreknowledge of how his created beings would be or act. Neither their faith nor good works nor perseverance had any part in influencing his selection.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE

***Closing Hymn**

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

#342

***Benediction**

Postlude

Leading Today's Service

| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Pastor | Mark Tippin |
| Accompanist | Veronica Turner |
| Liturgist | Brad Ward |
| Head Usher | Carol McClure |
| Nursery | Susan Jacobson |
| | Judy Schenk |

First Presbyterian Church is Reformed congregation and a member of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. For more information about First Presbyterian and the EPC denomination, visit our website and Facebook page.

If you have any questions, prayer requests, or are ready and excited to join our mission to reach all of Casper for Christ, contact the church office or Pastor Mark.

Website: www.firstprescasper.com
Pastor Mark: tippim1@yahoo.com
Office: firstpc@qwestoffice.net
Phone: 307-237-9509

Welcome to our Visitors

To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are idle and look for service; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whosoever will come -- this church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of Jesus her Lord.

We are glad you are here to worship with us this morning! The pamphlet in the pew pocket will help you get to know our church better, and please fill out and return the visitor form also so that we can get to know you. We have fellowship and refreshments after the service in the parlor, which is through the doors at the front of the sanctuary.

Children are welcomed and encouraged to remain in the worship service, however a nursery is available for infants and preschool-aged children. Ask anyone around you for directions. Activity bags are also available in the rear of the sanctuary for children to use during the service.



804 S. Wolcott St. Casper, WY | www.firstprescasper.com | firstpc@qwestoffice.net | 307-237-9509 | Pastor Mark Tippin

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017
SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

**Please stand if you are able*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Wreath

Henry Groenenberg

GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE FOR WORSHIP

***Call to Worship** From Isaiah 40:9-10

Leader: Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news;

People: lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news

Leader: lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

People: Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him;

Leader: behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

People: Let us worship the Lord with expectation.

***Opening Hymn**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

#198

***Invocation**

***Singing of Psalm 89:17-37** (To the tune of *Ode to Joy*)

Verse 1

Lord, our boast is in Your power;
You exalt us in Your love.
For our king is GOD's, and Israel's
Holy One our sovereign owns.
You revealed Your word in vision
To Your faithful ones of old:
"I've giv'n pow-er to a strong one;
Raised one chosen from My folk.

Verse 2

"I have found My servant David;
With My oil anointed him.
My hand will be ever with him,
And My pow'r will make him strong.
None to tribute will subject him,
Nor will wicked ones oppress.
I will crush his foes before him;
Those who hate him I'll strike down.

Verse 5

"I'll maintain My faithful promise.
I'll not break My covenant,
Nor take back the words I've uttered.
This I've pledged in holiness;
And I'll not be false to David.
Like the sun his line will last;
Like the moon his throne before Me;
Heaven's witness faithful stands."

GOD HEARS OUR CONFESSION

Summary of the Law (in unison)

Summary of the Law (Matthew 22:35-40) Pew Bible [Blue] p. 939, [Red] p. 1052

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Almighty God of the prophets, you have called us to glorify your name through our love for you and for one another. We confess that our praise is more on our lips than with our lives. We profess repentance while we resist change; we sing of love, but we curse our enemies; we pray your will be done, but insist on our own way. Have mercy upon us, Father, and cleanse and forgive our selfish ways. We ask this in the name of the one who is and was and is yet to come, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (Silent Confession) Amen!

Verse 3

"My strong love and truth is with him;
I will raise his head up high;
To the sea his rule extending,
And to rivers in the east.
He will cry: 'You are my Father;
You're my God, my savior, rock.'
I'll appoint him as My firstborn,
Highest of the kings of earth.

Verse 4

"I'll keep love for him forever,
My oath to him will not fail.
I'll his line establish always,
And his throne for evermore.
If his sons forsake My teaching,
Break My laws, commands and rules,
I'll their sins severely punish,
But not take My love from him.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Brothers and sisters, hear, believe and receive the good news of the Gospel – in Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God for his grace!

Passing of the Peace

Leader: Peace be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Gloria Patri

#735

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

(inside front hymnal cover)

Anthem

GOD BRINGS US HIS WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Scripture

Isaiah 40:1-11, Pew Bible [Blue] p. 599, [Red] p. 762

New Testament Scripture

Luke 21:29-38, Pew Bible [Blue] p. 881, [Red] p. 1120

Sermon

Mark Tippin

OUR RESPONSE TO HIS WORD

***Hymn of Response**

To God Be the Glory

#55

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology**

#731