

## To Our Visitors, Welcome!

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 delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning, and we invite you to join us for fellowship, coffee, and cookies after the service in the parlor.

Children are welcomed and encouraged to remain in the Worship service, however an unstaffed nursery is available for parents and children who might need a little break. Ask anyone with a nametag for directions. Denim activity bags are available in the Narthex for children to use during the service.

We hope you will include our annual  
**Candlelight Service of  
Lessons and Carols**  
as part of your family's  
Christmas celebration.  
The service will take place  
on Christmas Eve at 7:00 P.M.



## Minute for Mission

*Updates From Parish Life*

Butterfly Tree: Butterfly Tree gifts are due TODAY. Gifts will be sorted in the parlor immediately after Worship, and delivered to the Transformation Center this afternoon. If you forgot to bring your gifts, there is time while gifts are being sorted to run home for it and still make it to Al's birthday party downstairs!

Family Rescue Initiative: Over the last few weeks in the newsletter and the bulletin, you've read (and hopefully prayed) about this challenge the Rescue Mission made to Casper's churches. Thank you to those who have responded...Casper First has a team of 5 mentors already! If you are feeling led to become a mentor as well, this first team still has room for one more member. Contact any Parish Life member. Mentor training is tentatively planned for early January and we will be connected with a family by mid-January.

Lord's Warehouse: We've had A LOT of activity in the Lord's Warehouse over the last month!! EIGHT ladies have exited homelessness and "shopped" for bedding and other items to use in their new apartments! Current needs include silverware, pots and pans, twin mattresses, dressers, and lamps. Huge thanks to those of you who faithfully bring donations or notify us of available items!!

## Prayer Concerns

✠ For Matt Martin, Johnny Ussery, Justen Christensen, Bobbie Waldram, Sue Robertson, Carol Palomo, Jan Capps, Heather Milliken, Paula Gardner, Marielle Bondurant, Margarete Krans, Joanna Volker, Barbara Scifers, Jo Moreland, Janis Hall, Tom Hoffman, Anna Michenzi, Barb Matthews, June Ann McDaniel, Kathryn Clark, Dusty Pope, MH Hennagin, Fern Olsen.

✠ For our country, the President, Cabinet, government officials, and staff; for our Congressional Delegation: Senators Mike Enzi and John Barrasso, Representative Cynthia Lummis; for Judge Brian D. Christensen.

✠ For all military men and women and their families, including Brian Barksdale, and especially for those serving in dangerous positions.

✠ For the Presbytery of Wyoming; the EPC Presbytery of the West; our Elders and Deacons; Christ Reformed Presbyterian Church (EPC), Lingle; Kenya's Chogoria South Presbytery, the four churches of the Kamwangu Nendini, and Pastor Mackylas; Ali Arhab and Channel North Africa's outreach to new Christians and to Muslims; our EPC missionaries and their families

✠ For Christians suffering persecution in Libya, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan; for Christians at risk in Nigeria, Kenya, Algeria and elsewhere.

## Today's Events

Following this morning's worship service we will be celebrating Al Sanford's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. We hope you will all join us in the Social Hall from 12:00 until 2:00.

## Upcoming Events for the week of December 22-28

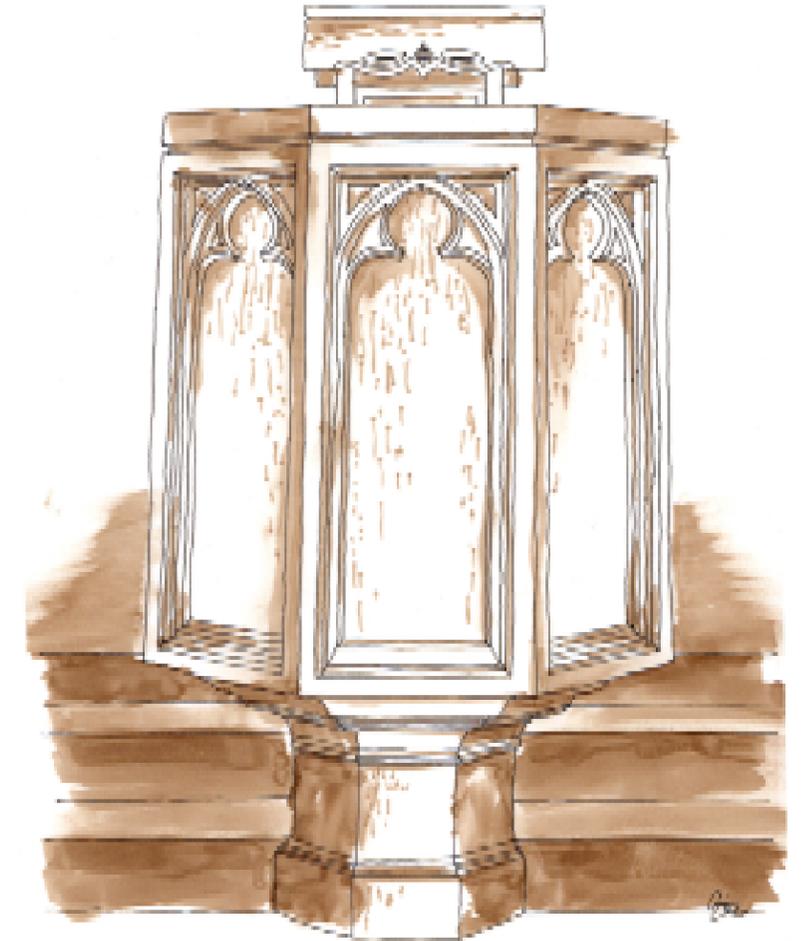
**Monday**  
8:45 A.M. Worship Committee  
5:30 P.M. Facilities

**Wednesday, Christmas Eve**  
7:00 P.M. Candlelight Service of  
Lessons and Carols

**Sunday**  
9:15 A.M. Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. Worship

# First Presbyterian Church (EPC)

December 21, 2014



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# Order for the Worship of God

December 21, 2014

## Preludes

*Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure* Arr. Michael Burkhardt  
*In the Bleak Midwinter* Arr. Allen Orton Gibbs

## Welcome and Announcements

### \*Invocation

## The Advent Wreath

**Old Testament Text** Psalm 98  
Pew Bible [Blue p. 500] [Red p. 635]

## Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace and peace to you.

**People: And also to you.**

**Introit** *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying* (verse 3) #317

### \*Call to Worship

Psalm 96:11-13+

Leader: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

**People: let the field exult, and everything in it!**

Leader: Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth.

**People: He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness. Praise the LORD!**

**\*Hymn** *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* (see insert)

## Psalter

Psalm 44  
Pew Bible [Blue p. 470] [Red p. 596]  
Reading alternate verses

## Prayer of Confession (in unison)

O LORD, our God, who sent the Savior, Jesus, according to Your promise, we thank You for Your promise that He is coming again in glory as Judge and King. We confess that we are still sinners who fail and fall, embracing worldliness and fearing to face the eternal future of Christ's Kingdom. Forgive us, we pray, for all our sin.

By Your Spirit's power help us to stand firm in faith that we may conquer in the name of Jesus. For it is in His name we pray.

~ Silent prayer ~ Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon (responsively)

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**All: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Thanks be to God!**

**\*Gloria Patri** Refrain of *Angels We Have Heard on High* #214

**Anthem** *Prepare the Way* George Brandon

## Prayer for Illumination

**New Testament Text** Romans 8:31-39  
Pew Bible [Blue p. 944] [Red p. 1201]

**Sermon** "More Than Conquerors" Pastor Paul Kuhn

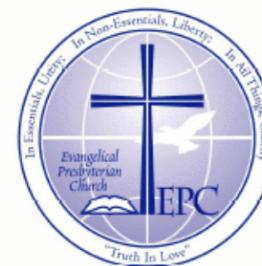
**\*Hymn** *All My Heart This Night Rejoices* (vv. 1,2,3,6,7) #217

## Prayers of the People

Thanksgiving  
Intercession

For the Church  
For the Ministry  
For the Nation  
For all People

The Lord's Prayer



## Tithes and Offerings

**Offertory** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Arr. John Ferguson

**\*Doxology** #731

## \*Confession of Faith Heidelberg Catechism Question 52

Leader: What comfort does the return of Christ "to judge the living and the dead" give you?

**All: That in all affliction and persecution I may await with head held high the very Judge from heaven who has already submitted himself to the judgment of God for me and has removed all the curse from me; that he will cast all his enemies and mine into everlasting condemnation, but he shall take me, together with all his elect, to himself into heavenly joy and glory.**

**\*Hymn** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* #529

## \*Benediction

**\*Postlude** *BEECHER* Arr. Don Hustad

**\*Please stand if you are able**

## Participants in Today's Service

Pastor	Paul R. Kuhn
Liturgist	Henry Groenenberg
Head Usher	MH Hennagin
Organist	Beverly McAmis Reese
Choirmaster	Zack Vreeman
Greeter	Mike Fankhauser

## Information

- ✚ Please call the church office (237-9509) ...
  - ✓ If you or a member of your family would like a visit when you are recuperating in the hospital or at home.
  - ✓ If you would like your name added to the Prayer Band.
  - ✓ If you would like your name in the Bulletin for prayer.
- ✚ The Session would like for each member to have a copy of the EPC Leadership Training Guide. You can pick up a free copy from the literature rack by the office door.
- ✚ Session is asking for a per capita payment of \$40.00 for 2014 (above and beyond your pledge)
- ✚ Printed copies of prior sermons are available in the magazine rack outside the church office

## Announcements

The deadline for annual reports is January 5<sup>th</sup>. If you are a church officer or chairperson of a committee or ministry area, please have your reports turned in to the office by that date.

There will be an Annual Meeting of the Congregation immediately following Worship on January 11, 2015, for the following purposes: approval of Terms of Call for Pastor, reception of annual reports, presentation of the budget, and any other business appropriate to the annual meeting.