

## 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 in fellowship in the parlor following the service, where coffee and cookies are served. Come and get to know our members and begin to learn more about us.

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.

## Announcements

In the Communion Service today, you may choose either **wine or grape juice**. The **wine** is red and is located around the **outside** of the tray. The **juice** is white and is located in the **inner part** of the tray.

- ❖ The deadline for annual reports is tomorrow, January 5<sup>th</sup>. If you are a church officer or chairperson of a committee or ministry area and have not yet done so, please have your reports turned in to the office by then.
- ❖ There will be an Annual Meeting of the Congregation immediately following Worship next Sunday, 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.
- ❖ There will be a **Card Shower** following the Congregational Meeting next Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> to say good-bye and best wishes to Pastor Paul and Deb. Please join us in the parlor for cake!

## Upcoming Events for the week of January 5-11

### Monday

2:00 Parish Life

### Tuesday

4:15 P.M., 6:15 P.M.  
Companions in Christ

### Wednesday

7:00 P.M. Choir  
8:00 P.M. Bells

### Sunday

9:15 A.M. Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. Worship  
12:00 P.M. Annual Congregational Meeting  
12:30 Card Shower for Pastor Paul

## Participants in Today's Service

Pastor	Paul R. Kuhn
Liturgist	Brad Ward
Head Usher	Patti Christensen
Organist	Beverly McAmis Reese
Soloist	Eva Vreeman
Greeter	MH Hennagin
Communion Servers	Phyllis Karns, Henry Groenenberg, Kim Brattis, Leith Culver

## Minute for Missions

### *Central WY Rescue Mission Family Rescue Initiative*

We have a First Pres Mentoring Team of five and we're up to the challenge! Check out last month's newsletter if you missed the challenge the Central Wyoming Rescue Mission has given to Casper churches. Team members have their volunteer paperwork, mentor training will take place in early January, and a homeless family will be introduced to our team and our church by mid-January. There is one more space on our first team. We once again ask you to ask yourself these three questions:

\*Do I desire to teach, inspire, and empower someone else?

\*Do I long to be a living expression of God's kindness to those less fortunate?

\*Do I have gifts waiting to be unearthed through acts of service?

If God leads you to answer YES to any of these, let any member of Parish Life know your decision ASAP!

## Information

- ✠ Please call the church office (237-9509) ...
  - ✓ If you or a member of your family would like a visit while 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 Sunday Bulletin for prayer.
- ✠ The Session is asking for a per capita payment of \$40.00 for 2014 (above and beyond your pledge).

# First Presbyterian Church

January 4, 2015



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Order for the Worship of God  
January 4, 2015  
Communion

**Prelude** *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* Arr. Wilbur Held

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Invocation**

**Passing of the Peace**

Leader: Grace and peace to you.

**People: And also to you.**

**\*Introit** *As with Gladness Men of Old* (vv 1, 2) #226

**\*Call to Worship** (responsively) Psalm 100

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

**People: Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him, bless his name!

**People: For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.**

**\*Hymn** *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* #30

**Prayer of Confession** (in unison)

LORD God, eternal and everlasting Father; we acknowledge before Thy holy majesty that we are sinners, conceived and born in guilt and corruption, unable of ourselves to do any good; who by reason of our depravity transgress without end Thy holy commandments. Therefore, we have drawn upon ourselves by just sentence condemnation and death. But, O LORD, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and deplore our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, with true penitence beseeching Thee that Thy grace may relieve our distress.

Be pleased then to have compassion on us, O most gracious God, Father of all mercies, for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. And in removing our guilt, grant us the daily increase of Thy Holy Spirit; that acknowledging from our inmost hearts our own unrighteousness, we may be touched with sorrow that we shall work true repentance; and that Thy Spirit, mortifying all sin within us, may produce the fruits of holiness and righteousness well pleasing in Thy sight. Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

~ 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** #735

**Anthem** *Only Trust Him* John Stockton

**Old Testament Text** Isaiah 45:20-25  
Pew Bible [Blue p. 606] [Red p. 771]

**New Testament Text** Galatians 4:1-7  
Pew Bible [Blue p. 974] [Red p. 1238]

**Sermon** *Why Was Jesus Born in 4 B.C.?* Pastor Paul Kuhn

**\*Hymn** *Christians, Awake, Salute the Happy Morn* #209

**Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

Invitation  
Prayer of Thanksgiving  
For the Creation  
For the Incarnation  
For the Passion  
For the Resurrection  
For the Gift of the Spirit  
The Lord's Prayer  
The Words of Institution  
The Giving of the Bread and Wine

**The Prayer of Praise** (in unison)

Heavenly Father, we give Thee immortal thanks and praise that upon us Thou hast conferred so great a benefit as to bring us into the communion of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; whom having been delivered up to death for us, Thou has given for our food and nourishment unto eternal life.

Now grant us grace that we may never be unmindful of these things, but rather shall carry them engraven upon our hearts, that we may advance and grow in that faith which is effectual unto every good work. Thus may the rest of our lives be ordered and followed out to Thy glory and to the edification of our neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with Thee, O Father, and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth in unity, one God, world without end. Amen

**Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory** *In Thee Is Gladness* J.S. Bach

**\*Doxology** #729

**\*Hymn** *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* (see insert)

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude** *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*  
Arr. Michael Burkhardt

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

**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, Bev Hutchins, Anna Michenzi, Barb Matthews, June Ann McDaniel, Kathryn Clark, Dusty Pope, MH Hennagin.

✠ 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 Kamwangu Nendini and Pastor Mackylas; Ali Arhab, Channel North Africa's outreach to new Christians and to Muslims

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

**Please update the office about those you have added to these Prayer Concerns.**



Communion will be served to shut-ins this afternoon.