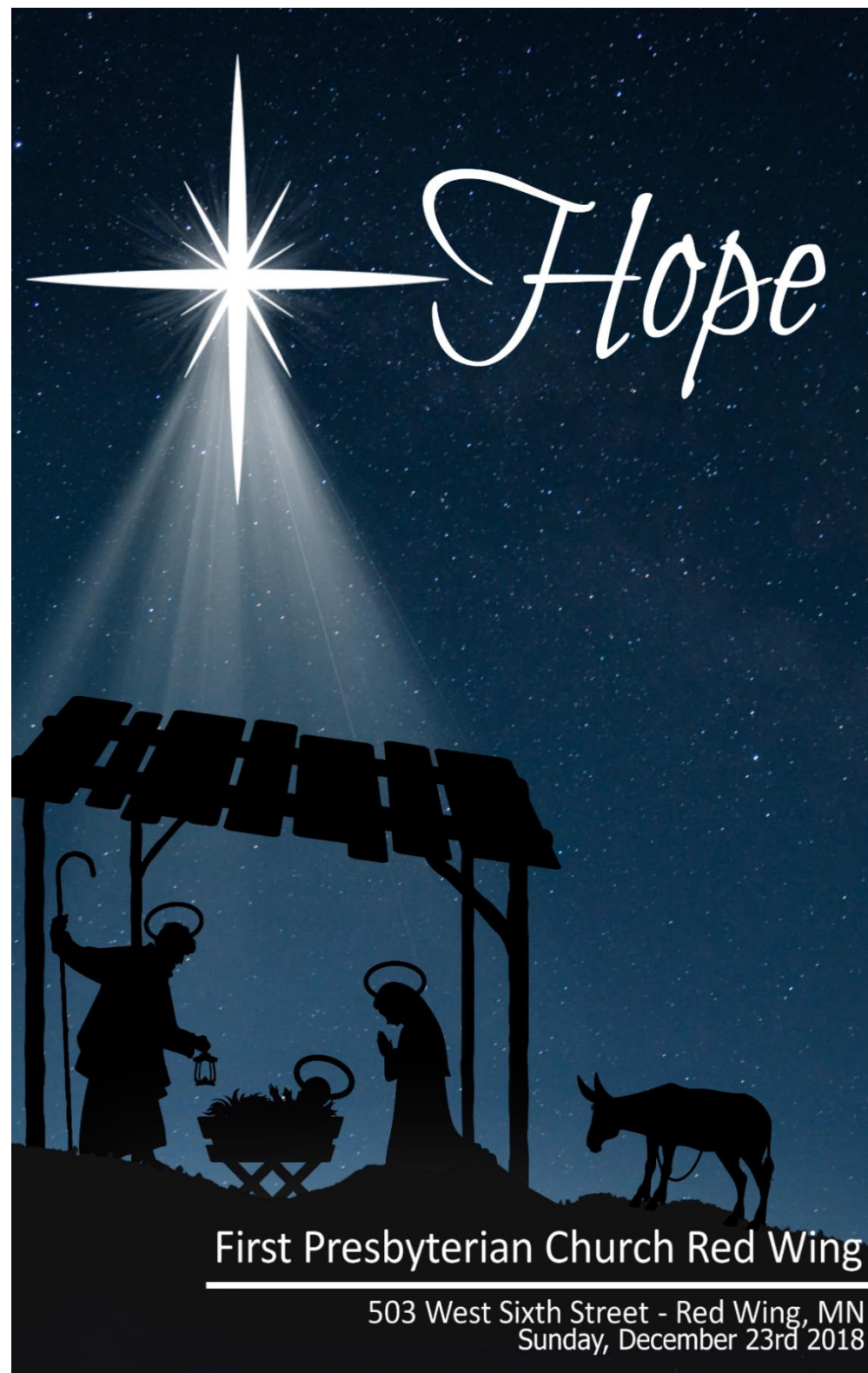
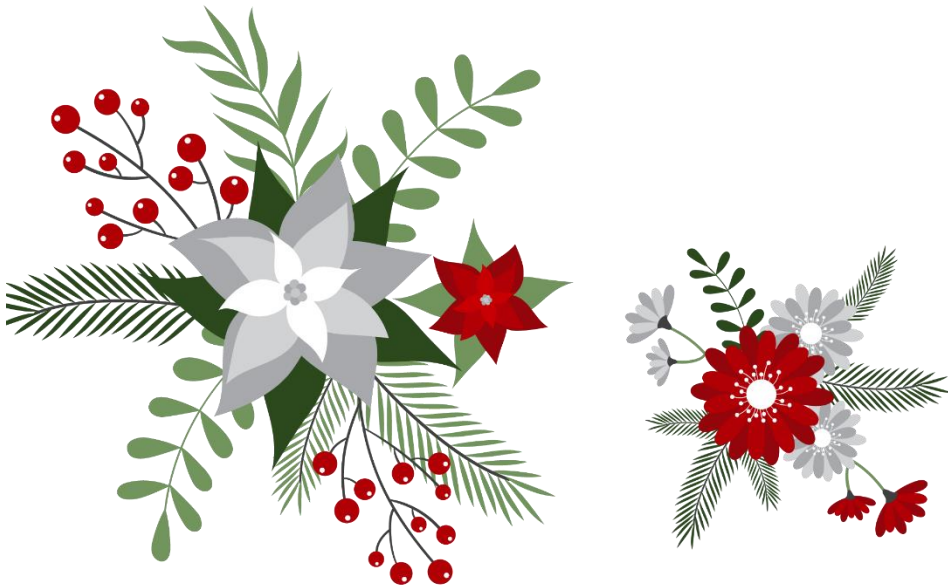


Come Join Us

9:15 a.m.
Christian Education
(ages 3-Adult)

10:30 a.m.
Worship

11:30 a.m.
Fellowship



The Congregation's Mission

"First Presbyterian Church of Red Wing is a congregation that seeks to grow in the love of Jesus Christ and to share that love with the community and the world."

GATHERING

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"The shepherds, like the wise ones from the East, stand at the manger not as converted sinners, but simply because they have been drawn to the manger just as they are."

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

ORGAN PRELUDE

"Canticle of the Turning" setting C. Young

"Irby" setting P. Young

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" sett R. Rowland-Raybold

"For Unto Us" arr. by J. Innes

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

(Sung)

Silent Night, Holy Night

**Dear people all around the world. Let us unite and we will show
How hope can change us, how hope can help us grow.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: As we continue our commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the debut of "Silent Night, Holy Night," let's speak the fourth verse together.

Many: **Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing, "Alleluia" to our King: "Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born."**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Becky Norton and Kingsley Alsop

Many: Fill us with your hope and light, make the world so calm and bright.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymn #144 "In the Bleak Midwinter"

*Please rise in body or spirit

PARTICIPANTS

In Ministry

Choir Director

Pianist

Organist

Pastor

Pastor

Liturgist

The Congregation

Peter Dulak

Lynn Dulak

JoAnne McNamara

The Rev. Heidi Bolt

The Rev. Greg Bolt

Scott Halverson

GREETER

Bonnie Lohmann

USHER:

John Plehal

FELLOWSHIP

Missy Phillips & Ernestine Houston

FLOWERS

Missy Phillips – In memory of Harvey & Ruth Exner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, 12/23,	9:15 a.m.	Christian Education
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	11:30 a.m.	Fellowship
Mon, 12/24,	10:00 a.m.	Coffee at Mandy's Cafe
	5:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
Tues, 12/25,	6:55 p.m.	JuBELLation Ringers
Wed, 12/26,	6:30 a.m.	Men's Book Study
Thurs, 12/27,	7:30 a.m.	Women's Book Study

December

Food Shelf Goal

50 boxes of Dry Pasta





Child of Peace

by Mary McDonald

Child of peace, hear our cry on this silent, holy night.

Hearts are broken. Come to stay, Child of peace, we pray.

Child of peace, we're on our knees. Bid our warring hearts to cease.

Heal our darkness; end our strife. Come, and bring us life.

Dona nobis pacem, pacem (Grant us peace)

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright

Round yon virgin mother and Child! Holy Infant so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

Child of peace, this our prayer: bring Your light; heal our despair.

Open eyes; come here to dwell, Immanuel.

Dona nobis pacem, pacem (Grant us peace)

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light.

With the angels, let us sing "Alleluia" to our King!

Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ Child, those who dropped all that they were doing, and traveled to worship the coming of God's love into this world. We would like to be those who cared for God in infant vulnerability; who tickled and cuddled and comforted the growing child, that he might know love and safety. And yet, merciful God, we must recognize all the times we are more like Herod. Whenever we, in our actions or in our inactions, find our own need for control more compelling than the needs of others for health and safety. Whenever we cling to the security of our privilege, rather than standing up for the rights of the oppressed.

Whenever we are complicit in the harming of innocents for the sake of profit, or power, or because we fear to know, and to change, the injustices of this world. Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name, without counting the cost. In the name of Christ, the one who showed us the way, we pray. Amen.

*SILENT PRAYER

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God's light is present in this world. Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness. Present in the star, in all that guides us to love.

Many: **God's light is in the world, and the darkness did not overcome it. God's grace is in the world, and our mis-steps will not overcome it. We are loved, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: You are invited to greet those around you with a sign of God's hope, saying, "Hope is never lost!"

Many: **Hope is never lost!**

(Please greet your neighbors with a handshake, a hug, or another sign of peace saying, "Hope is never lost!")

*PRAYER RESPONSE

#113 Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

THE WORD

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES v.1 #121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Oh little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:6

CHOIR ANTHEM Child of Peace by Mary McDonald (page 5)

SECOND LESSON Matthew 2: 1-12

One: The Word of the Lord.

Many: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON Rev. Greg Bolt

RESPONDING

***HYMN OF HOPE**

Hymn #145 "What Child is This"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe that God has come to us as a little child, making our weakness God's strength, securing our salvation by becoming one of us, blessing us with a steadfast savior, filling our hearts with joy to be shared with one another. We believe that God has birthed righteousness and justice into the world, giving us a law that will be written upon our hearts, making the cause of the oppressed the highest priority, declaring an everlasting reign of peace, defeating the power of pain and suffering. We believe that God calls us to participate in this reality of love, inviting us to proclaim Christ's resurrection at the Table, transforming us as disciples to go out into the world, sending us forth to announce God's kingdom of peace and comfort, challenging us to see everyone as nothing less than beloved children. This we believe. This we preach. This we seek to embody in word and deed.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Petitions

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer Hymnal p. 11

Response

WORSHIP THROUGH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory "Carol of the Drum" by M. Sue

***Doxology** Hymn #606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit Evermore;
Praise triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

One: Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Many: **Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom. Amen.**

SENDING

***HYMN OF TRUST**

Hymn #100 "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

(Spoken)

**Go with God into this day. May the Spirit guide your way
Offer hope to all you greet. Like Christ, see God in all you meet.**

(Sung)

**We need a silent night in here. We need your presence to be near.
Give us the hope we need and the peace we seek.
We need a silent night in here.
Give us the hope we need and the peace we seek.
We need a silent night, we need a silent night, we need a silent night in here.**

***POSTLUDE** "Hallelujah Chorus from 'MESSIAH' arr. R. Lloyd