# The Presbyterian Church of Okemos January 1, 2023 Christmastide



#### **COVID-19 Safety Recommendations**

- Masking is now optional during the service (including while singing).
- *Remember that young children may not have been vaccinated.*

Prelude

*Noël Huron* Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist Denis Bédard

#### Invitation to our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Call to Worship

- One: Like Mary, we believe in cherishing good news.
- All: Like the angels, we believe in singing God's praise.
- One: Like the shepherds, we believe that God's presence in our life is something worth talking about.
- All: Like generations before, we believe that God dwells with us.
- One: Like the generations to come, we believe that God dwells with us.
- All: God is here. God is love. We believe. Thanks be to God!

* <b>Hymn</b> #143	Angels, from the Realms of Glory, vs. 1-4
	[Regent Square]

## **Prayer of Confession**

- One: The prayer of confession is an invitation. It's an opportunity to say, "This is who I've been, and this is who I long to be." Let us be truth tellers. Let us hold our heads high and speak honestly before God and one another. This is easy to do when we are surrounded by a God who delights in us. Friends, let us pray:
- All: God of Grace, we surrender our words and our silent thoughts to you. They are broken and whole, senseless and meaningful, profane and sacred, painful and joyful, confessional and prophetic. We are not called to stand silently in the face of injustice, yet sometimes we swallow words of love. We are not called to speak lies and half-truths, yet sometimes we distort words of love. We are not called to strike out with our words, yet sometimes we violate words of love. Forgive us and we surrender to you now, wordless, silent, still...(Silent reflection). Amen.

## **Promise of the Gospel**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

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One: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God, and the Word was Love.

rasioi Lisa Sciliou

Kent Workman, Liturgist

# All: We came into being by this Word of Love, and the Word calls us to wholeness, welcoming us again and again; forgiving us again and again.

#### **Passing of the Peace**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

- One: As a forgiven people, let us greet each other, sharing the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.
- All: And also with you. Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.

* Act of Praise #583	Gloria, Gloria	Jacques Berthier
	[Gloria]	
	Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!	
	Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!	

#### **Prayer of Illumination**

God of manger straw and swaddle cloth, God of silent nights and joyfully-chaotic mornings, we long to know you. Quiet our minds. Help us to sink deeply into this day. Help us to pause here, to linger here as we hear your good news spoken over us. God, we long to know you, so speak to us now. With grateful hearts, we pray. With grateful hearts, we listen. Amen.

Scripture	John 1:1-14	Pastor Rebekah Anderson
Sermon	From Generation to Generation: God Dwe	lls With Us
	Pastor Rebekah Anderson	
Affirmation of Faith	The Nicene Creed	
	We believe in one God, the Father, the A	lmighty,
	maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen	and unseen.
,	We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only	y Son of God,
eter	nally begotten of the Father, God from God, I	Light from Light,
	true God from true God, begotten, not	made,
of	one Being with the Father; through him all thi	ings were made.
	For us and for our salvation he came down fr	rom heaven,
was incarr	nate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary an	id became truly human.
	For our sake he was crucified under Ponti	us Pilate;
	he suffered death and was buried	
On	the third day he rose again in accordance with	h the Scriptures;
he as	cended into heaven and is seated at the right h	and of the Father.
H	Ie will come again in glory to judge the living	g and the dead,
	and his kingdom will have no end	1.
	We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the	giver of life,
	who proceeds from the Father and the	e Son,
who with the Father	and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who	

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Special Music	O Little Town of Bethlehem	L.H. Render
	Laurie Harkema, pianist	arr: D. Whitman
Offering		Pastor Lisa Schrott
Invitation		
Offertory	The Old Year Has Passed Away	Wilber Held
		based on Das Alte Jahr
* <b>Doxology</b> #606 * <b>Prayer of Dedicatio</b>	n	
Prayers of the People		Kent Workman,, Liturgist
One: Lord in your	mercy	-
All: Hear our pra	iyer.	
The Lord's Prayer "fe	orgive us our debts as we forgive our debto	rs"
* <b>Hymn</b> #146	Gentle Mary Laid Her Child, vs. 1-3	
	[Tempest Adest Floridum]	
4 <b>D 1</b> (1		
* Benediction		Pastor Rebekah Anderson
	From generation to generation,	
	God keeps drawing near.	
	From generation to generation, a light has shone in the darkness.	
	From generation to generation,	
God's love has mo	ved through the world like our connection mo	ved through this room
	So may we celebrate that.	ved through this room.
	May we rest in the joy of this day,	
	and may we allow it to change us.	
	Merry Christmas!	
C	So in peace. God is with you every step of the	way.
Postlude	Angels from the Realms of Glory	Robert Hobby
	Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist	based on Regent Square

\* Please rise in body or spirit

Education Time: There will be no Children, Youth or Adult Education time today.

Next Week's Education Time: Join us in Fellowship Hall for a Kenyan Tea with Andrea Kaitany.

Andrea will review Simbolei Academy's first year of operation and discuss possibilities for a mission trip to Kenya in June.

# Next Week's Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to the Schabergs for preparing coffee this morning.

The Call to Worship is adapted from work by the Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed. The Prayer of Confession and Promise of the Gospel are adapted from The Word was Love by Lisa Ann Pierce in *Together in Worship* <u>https://togetherinworship.net/ResourceView/82/22770</u>. Graphic design by the Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman. A Sanctified Art LLC - *From Generation to Generation*. sanctifiedart.org.

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https://facebook.com/OkemosPresbyterian Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott, Pastor/Head of Staff Rev. Rebekah Anderson, Associate Pastor Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director Colleen Chester, Choir Director Edward Ennen, Sexton Anna Thiel, Office Manager