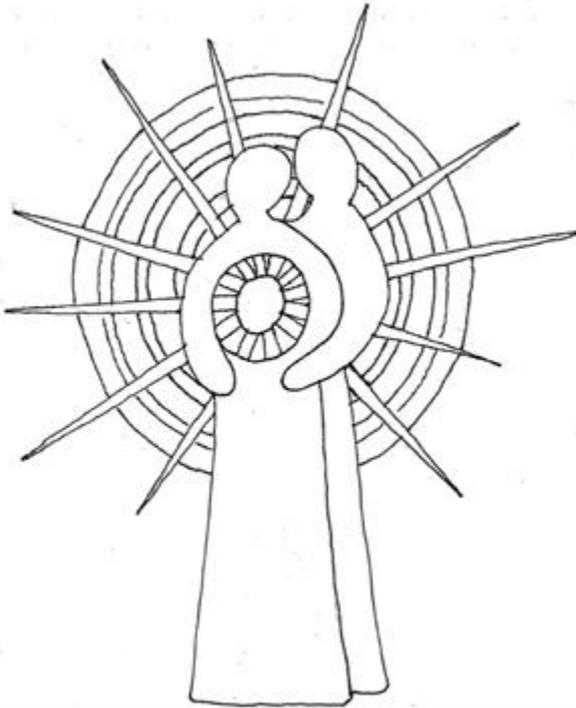


AN EVER-WIDENING CIRCLE OF GRACE



## Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church

8505 Church Street | Crystal Lake, IL 60012 | 815-459-1132  
[www.rclpc.org](http://www.rclpc.org)



**John Dillon, Pastor**  
**4th Sunday of Advent**  
**December 23, 2018 | 9:00 and 11:00**

*As a courtesy, please silence cell phones before worship.*  
*A “+” indicates all are invited to stand in either body or spirit.*

*“So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger.”* Luke 2:16

GETTING READY

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE

+EVEN SO JESUS COME

+LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: In the beginning was the Word –  
spoken and breathed, a promise made and kept.

**All: Trust the good news – God’s promise is true!**

One: The Word was in the beginning,  
and through him all things come into being.

**All: Eternal and near at hand,  
already and not yet,  
God’s promise is the foundation of all life.**

One: Trust in God!  
Wait with faith, giving voice to Christ’s love for all.

*~ candle is lit ~*

**All sing: As we light the Advent candle  
with the light of love burning bright,  
faithfully we wait for his coming;  
faithfully it shines through the night.  
In our humble hearts a fire burns as well;  
hear the prayer these flames would tell.  
O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel.**

+ADVENT PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, wrongly afraid you would smack my knuckles  
with a ruler,

**All: I kept my hands clasped behind my back.**

Pastor: Foolishly certain you were judging me  
for the mess I made,

**All: I quivered behind the door,  
hoping you would not look there.**

Pastor: With my hands clasped you could not  
fill them with grace.  
Hiding, you could not gather me up in your arms  
and wipe away my tears and fears.

**All: Lord I have been wrong and foolish.  
For now you come, not with judgement,  
but as a little baby brother  
full of love and promise. Amen.**

+AWAKE! AWAKE, AND GREET THE NEW MORN GTG 107, verse 4

+PASSING THE PEACE

One: Jesus brings the gift of peace, to make us bearers of hope,  
able to see light even in darkness.

**All: May Christ's peace empower us to reconciliation,  
healing and justice. May it sink deeply into our being,  
and may we share it with joy.**

+SUNG RESPONSE: GTG 113

**All sing: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

THE STORY: COME TO THE MANGER

HYMN 158: BORN IN THE NIGHT, MARY'S CHILD (*verses 1 & 4*)

*PART I: MARY AND JOSEPH*

MARY DID YOU KNOW

THE FRIENDLY BEASTS

*PART II: THE ANIMALS*

[11:00] JOY TO THE WORLD  
(*Audrey and Cassie Floyd*)

HYMN 119: HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING (*verse 1*)

*PART III: ANGELS*

HYMN 128: INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY

HYMN 136: GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN (*verses 1 & 3*)

PART IV: SHEPHERDS

[9:00] THE LITTLE DRUMMER BOY  
(Brendan Baser)

[11:00] THE FIRST NOEL  
(Audrey and Cassie Floyd)

HYMN 151: WE THREE KINGS

PART V: WISE PERSONS AND STAR

[11:00] (Cassie Floyd)

PART VI: CONCLUSION

HYMN 137: HE CAME DOWN

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Through joys and concerns*

*Through prayer and the Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Through our gifts and offerings*

*Offering: SOME CHILDREN SEE HIM*

+DOXOLOGY: ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY (v 4) GTG 143

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ,  
the newborn king!**

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+HYMN 100: CANTICLE OF THE TURNING

+SENDING

*We gather in grace, we grow in grace, we go in grace...  
The journey continues in an ever-widening circle of grace.*

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