

As we come to the Table remembering his life, death, and resurrection, we proclaim the faith which is often mysterious to us, as well as the One in whom we set our hope saying:

**Christ had died! Christ is risen!  
Christ will come again!**

Holy Spirit, fill us with the bread of forgiveness and the cup of hope. Flow through us like living waters that we might be a river of reconciliation; grant us your peace, that we might bear it to others; set our hope on Christ, that we might bring such hope to our neighborhoods and communities.

Then send us forth, no longer broken, but made whole, no longer exiles, but citizens of the Kingdom, no longer strangers, but sisters and brothers in Christ; in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the companionship of the Holy Spirit and the steadfast love of God, now and forever. Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE BREAD AND CUP  
THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD  
UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We give thanks, O God, that you have come to us in Jesus our Christ; both in the midst of time and history in Bethlehem, and in the timeless presence of Christ's Spirit as we receive the gifts of bread and cup. During this most holy season send us out into the world, filled with hope, peace, joy and love, ready to share all that we are and all that we have for the shake of your son, Jesus, born anew within us. Amen.**

**WE GO FORTH TO SERVE THE LORD**

\*HYMN #56

"The First Nowell"

\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE— "SANCTUARY" (sing it through only once...)

(Those who are able, please join hands forming lines across the aisle, to symbolize a growing commitment to unity.)

**Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy, tried and true.  
With Thanksgiving, I'll be a living,  
Sanctuary, for you.  
CCLI#1025014**

POSTLUDE

Shannon Smith



**WELCOME VISITORS!**

We are delighted to have you in our service this morning! Every Sunday, we are privileged to have people attending our church for the first time and we want you to feel welcome among us. **Please stop by the Welcome Center right after service. We have a special gift for you.**

If you are in need of **Pastoral Care** or know someone who is, please call Rev. Pat at the church (419-475-4436) or at her home (419-841-7954).

**PLEASE SIGN THE FELLOWSHIP BOOK** found in the pews. We would like to know of your presence this morning. **PLEASE SHARE PRAYER JOYS/CONCERNS** on the Prayer card; they will be included in the Prayers of the People during the 9:15 service, and added to the Prayer Chain if submitted at the 11:30 service.

**A PERSONAL SOUND SYSTEM FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED IS AVAILABLE. WORSHIP BULLETINS FOR CHILDREN** are available. Contact an usher for assistance.

**TAPES OF THIS SUNDAY'S SERMON** are available. Contact the church office or Art Sattler.

***Fairgreen Presbyterian  
Church***

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**January 1, 2006**



PSALM 148:3



10:30 AM



Welcome to worship with the Fairgreen family! The \* symbol means, "All who are able, please stand." † indicates when latecomers may be seated.

**NEW YEARS DAY**

PRELUDE Shannon Smith  
GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS Please sign fellowship book found in pews

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

GATHERING HYMNS ~ "Joy to the World; Go, Tell It on the Mountain; What Child Is This"

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 148) Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer  
One: Praise the Lord in the heavens; praise God with the hosts on high!  
**All: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!**  
One: Praise the Lord from earth to sky, for God commanded, and all was created.  
**All: The name of the Lord alone is exalted, and God's splendor covers heaven and earth!**

\*HYMN #22 "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

\*CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Pat  
UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light or trusted the good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less.**

**Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.**

\*SILENT CONFESSION  
\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE  
\*HYMN OF ASSURANCE #44

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING **Ecclesiastes 3: 1-15 NRSV**

SPECIAL MUSIC "A La Ru" Shannon Smith

SECOND READING  
HOMILY

**Luke 2: 22-40**  
**"Joy in the Time Being"**

pg. 1591 (NT) in pew Bibles  
Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GIFTS**

THE OFFERING  
OFFERTORY "Still, Still, Still" Instrumental

\*DOXOLOGY FOR CHRISTMAS  
**Praise God whose Son was born this night. Praise Christ who came to give us light. Praise Holy Spirit, Three in One; Let praises ring, thy will be done. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION  
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts) pg. 16 in the hymnal (traditional)

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION  
THE INVITATION  
GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: May God be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**  
One: Children of God, lift up your hearts.  
**All: We lift them to the One who gathers us together.**  
One: Children of God, give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.  
**All: With gladness and joy we lift our songs of praise!**

It is our joy and our calling to praise you, Living God. Before you breathed the Word that tamed the chaos, you chose us to be your children, heirs of all the goodness you desire for us.

You sang to us in Eden's fields, inviting us to glorify you forever. But we walked into the shadows of the world, leaving our songs behind. Yet you persisted in your plan for us, knowing that where no life is anticipated, no future is seen, no hope is expected: there you gather us up and carry us into your kingdom.

Therefore, with the angel choirs of every region, with the shepherds who caroled a homeless family, with those who came home from exile singing, we lift our voices in joy and gladness saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Bearer of grace and Singer of truth. When we lost our voice in exile, you sent your Word to teach us new hymns of joy and praise.

When our ears were filled with the lies of the world, Jesus came speaking your truth; when we were marked for death, he came running to us, defeating death and sin, marking us a your own with the kiss of the Holy Spirit.