

First Presbyterian Church

101 S. Center St., Marshalltown, Iowa 50158

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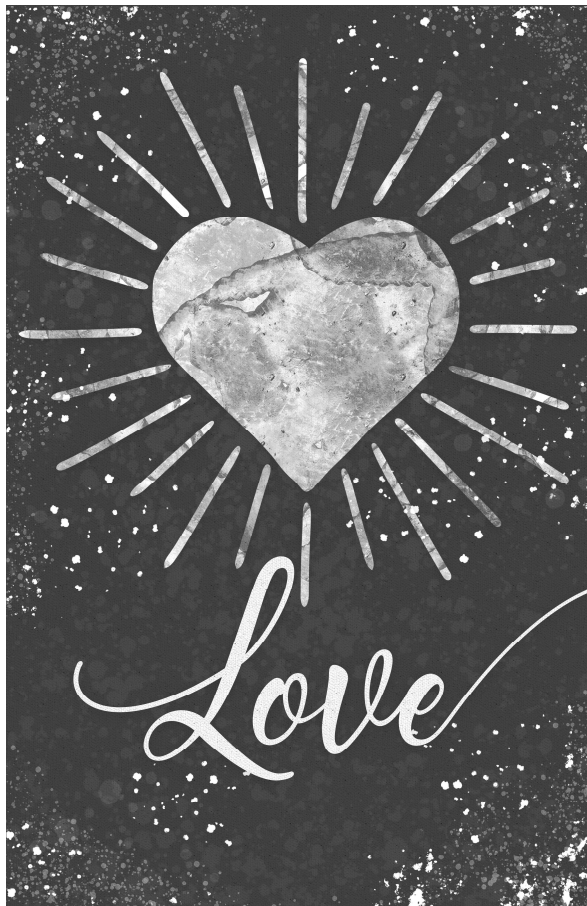
www.fpcmarshalltown.org



Phone 641-753-5929

9:00 a.m.

December 21, 2025



**A Shepherd for the
Families of the Earth**

Those who are able are invited to stand.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Luke 1:46-50)

Leader: Our souls magnify the Lord!

People: Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

The mighty One has done great things for us!

Holy is God's name!

Let us worship God.

For God is our Maker and our Redeemer; from generation to generation God gives mercy.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

#250

O Little Town of Bethlehem

(v. 1 – 2)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us, and because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

- **GREETING**
- **SONGS OF PRAISE**

Joy Has Dawned

Manger Throne

CALL TO CONFESSION

Prepare the way of the Lord! Let us make our confession to God.

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Lord Christ, we confess our willingness to be loved but also our reluctance to love. We confess our readiness to accept your forgiving love but also our refusal to forgive. We confess our eagerness to grasp your offer of redeeming love but also our resistance to follow you without question. In this Advent time, forgive us our failure to respond as we should.

Unison: Come to us anew, and by your grace, help us to receive you

with joy, as the shepherds;

with gratitude, as Simeon;

with obedience, as Mary;

with love, as you have loved us.

Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (based on Is. 52, Lk. 2)

Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. People of God, through the coming of Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate, the Lord has comforted and redeemed us too! In Christ we receive the salvation of our God. Glory to God in the highest!

HYMN

#267 I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

MORNING PRAYERS

Pastoral Prayer

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. Lead us not into

temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the

kingdom and the power and the glory forever, amen.

HYMN

#270 Joy to the World

(v. 1, 2, & 4)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Offertory

Advent Peace Canon

Johann Pachelbel

- *Doxology*
- *And Blessing* (remain standing and hold hands)

SCRIPTURE READING: Micah 5:1-4 (p. 1445)

SERMON: "A Shepherd for the Families of the Earth"
Rev. Bryan Kunz

LET US LIVE IN THE POWER OF CHRIST

SONG OF RESPONSE

#277 *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

- **BENEDICTION**
- **ORGAN RESPONSE**
- **POSTLUDE**

