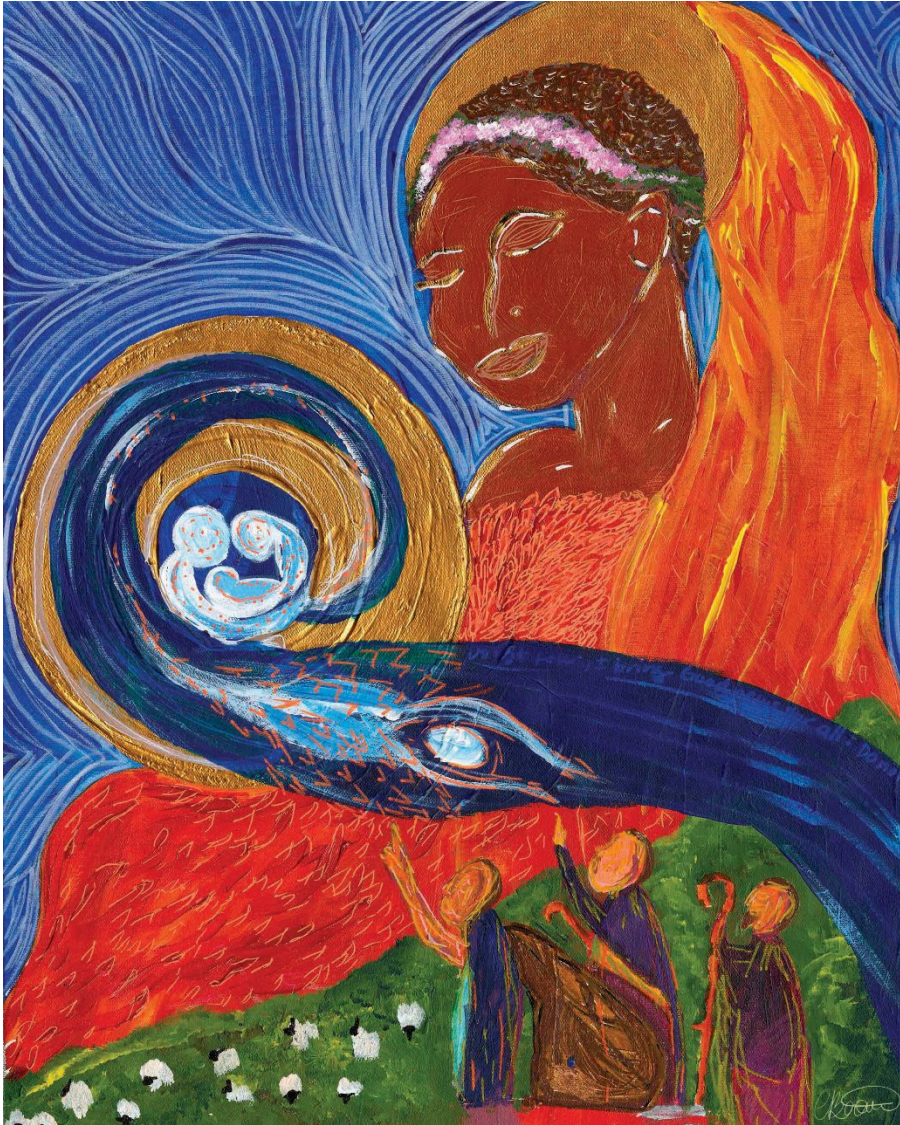


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORT HURON



"Good, New" by Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Christmas Eve Worship – The Nativity of Our Lord

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 5:00 p.m.

Reverend Kathy Tessin

*** indicates when to stand, as you are able**

WELCOME

Welcome to all of you, whether it is your first time visiting with us or this is your spiritual home! Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad in your pew so that we can get to know you. **To all, new or seasoned, we believe God called you to worship in this space today!**

PRELUDE

Musician Price Smith

(During the Prelude, please quietly take time to prepare your heart and mind for God's presence in worship.)

***OPENING HYMN:** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (verses 1 and 3) #9

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Kathy Tessin

On this holy night, we come,
dazzled and awe-struck, ready to sing alongside the angels.
On this holy night, we come,
eager and hopeful, ready to journey alongside the shepherds.
On this holy night, we come,
quietly and tenderly, ready to worship alongside Mary.
On this holy night, we come,
singing, trusting, believing, proclaiming:
good news is louder than fear!
Let us worship our good news, God-with-us!

LITURGY OF THE ADVENT WREATH: THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Domke/Peyerk Families

Leader: Where do you see the presence of God?

Congregation:

We see God's fingerprints all around us.

We see God in the beauty of the stars.

We see God in the love of this community.

We see God in the dreams we hold for a better world.

Leader: God's love is all around us.

Congregation:

Thanks be to God for a love like that! Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Liturgist Erin Peyerk

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liturgist Erin

God of angel choruses,

You hang the stars in the sky, but we do not see them.

You fill the night with angelic song, but we do not hear it.

You send shepherds to tell the good news, but we do not believe them.

You bring love into the world, but we do not seek it.

**Quiet the fear in us that works to rationalize, minimize, and distract
from the good news you put forth into the world.**

Tune our hearts back to your song.

With hope we pray; Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Liturgist Erin

**Family of faith, when the angels arrived in the field that night, the
shepherds were afraid. But the angels said: "Do not be afraid. I am
bringing you good news of great joy for *all* people."**

This good news is:

**Love freely given,
grace radically extended,
welcome always offered,
belonging never restricted.**

***HYMN** “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” (verses 1, 2, and 4) #38

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Music

Liturgist Erin
Musician Price

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Joy to the World” Benjamin Nurnberg, pianist

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist Erin

SCRIPTURE READING

First Reading Isaiah 9: 2-3,6-7(NRSVue) [Pew Bible, OT pg. 638] Liturgist Erin

Second Reading Luke 2: 1-20 (NRSVue) [Pew Bible, NT pg. 52] Rev. Tessin

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE “Good News is Louder than Fear” Rev. Tessin

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles’ Creed (Traditional)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose
again

from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the Dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Tessin

THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING (Responsively)

Rev. Tessin

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

.... you give us a new song of faith to sing:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

.... we join our voices together to pray the prayer your son taught us to pray:

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMUNION ELEMENTS

The Presbyterian Church (USA) believes as a body that the table of our Lord is open to all who confess Jesus as Lord and Savior. The cup is juice so everyone may be a part of this meal. All who feel the movement of the Holy Spirit are welcome to partake in this moment of God's grace-filled presence.

The elements will be passed down the pew rows by elders. We will first pass the bread; please wait until all are served and the minister says the words "The bread of heaven" before eating. This will be the same with the passing of the cups, as we wait until all are served and the minister says the words "The cup of salvation."

Communion Music

Musician Price

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Rev. Tessin

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

In celebration of the Light of the World coming to live amongst us with the incarnation of God in the infant Jesus, we will close this service of worship in candlelight. Battery candles are being used for the safety of all. The pastor will be walking down the center aisle with a lighted candle from the

Christmas Christ Candle. Please wait to turn your candle on until the light arrives at your pew row.

CANDLELIGHT HYMN: "Silent Night" #60
Soloist: Alex Vandawaker, Verse 1 (while candles are lighting)
Congregation: Verses 2 and 3

***SENDING and BENEDICTION** Rev. Tessin

***CLOSING HYMN** "Joy to the World" (verses 1-4) #40

POSTLUDE Musician Price

CREDIT INFO: Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org ;
Banner Design by Hannah Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH FRIENDSHIP: Please be sure to sign the Friendship Register, and provide your email so we can make you aware of other events happening in the church!

THANK YOU for sharing your gifts with us! Our liturgist tonight is Erin Peyerk, and we also thank all the children who helped with this service. The greeters are Barbara Seymore and Gail MacBeth. The Tech Team members running the sound and video board are Paige Cronce and Ken MacBeth.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: Thank you to those that generously contributed for the purchase of poinsettias to adorn our sanctuary this Advent and Christmas. Please take your plant after this service.

LARGE PRINT HYMNS AND BULLETINS: Large print hymnals and bulletins are available for use during the worship service. Please let an usher know if you would like one for the service.

UPCOMING EVENT INFORMATION

All weekday church activities are on hold for this week. The church office is closed from December 29-31, as Laura and Pastor Kathy enjoy the holidays with family.

**Families with children: Please be advised that our worship service, including the Children's Message, is streamed live online. If you would not like your child's face in view, please sit with your child in the Parlor where the service is played on the TV.*

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