

First Presbyterian Church of Rumson, NJ



Our Mission Statement - "We, the First Presbyterian Church of Rumson, are called by God to be a spiritual and visible presence by living out our faith and sharing our gifts among God's people."

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024 @ 9:45 AM

Assemble In God's Name

PRELUDE “*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*” . From the 'Kölner Gesanbuch'
(1599), translated by Theodore Baker

~ Offered by **Vince Mottern** ~

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

INTROIT “*Love Came Down at Christmas*” Gilbert M. Martin

~ Offered by **Suzanne Parmly** ~

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE FOR LOVE Marcie Shrewsbury-
Lopez

***HYMN #93 “*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*”** TRURO

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive)

*Leader: O God, if we live in darkness, ignoring the power of your Light in
the world,*

People: Lord, have mercy.

*Leader: If we move in ignorance, failing to follow the Wisdom of your
Word,*

People: Christ, have mercy.

*Leader: If we settle for turmoil, shunning the peace that passes all
understanding,*

People: Lord, have mercy.

*Leader: May Christ, who came long ago, come anew to enlighten our
hearts, guide our steps and grant us true wisdom and peace.*

People: May it be so, in your name, O Lord.

TIME OF SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***REFRAIN FROM “Angels We Have Heard on High”**

***THE PEACE**

Listen for God's Word

MEDITATION “*The Best Messiah in Town*” Rev. E Nicholas Van Gombos
OVERTURE TO MESSIAH G. F. Handel

The Prophet Proclaims the Coming of God

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 40:1-5 (pg. 816 OT)
CHORUS “*And the Glory of the Lord*” G. F. Handel

The Prophet Proclaims Good News

SCRIPTURE LESSON Zephaniah 3:14-20 (pg. 1073 OT)
CHORUS “*O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion*” G. F. Handel

The Prophet Proclaims the Coming of Messiah

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7 (pg. 780 OT)
CHORUS “*For Unto Us a Child is Born*” G. F. Handel

The Apostle John Proclaims the Victory of Christ

SCRIPTURE LESSON Revelation 1:1,3-4 (pg. 297 NT)
***HYMN #119 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (Vs. 1 & 2) MENDELSSOHN**

Respond to God

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
SHARING OUR LIVES IN PRAYER**

“The Lord’s Prayer” Spoken

WE GIVE OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “*He Shall Feed His Flock*” .. from G. F. Handel's
Messiah

~ Offered by **Carly McIlvaine-York** and **Adrienne Foutz** ~

***THE DOXOLOGY (#607)**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Holy Spirit ever more;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.
Amen.**

Go in God's Name

***CHARGE AND BLESSING (Responsive)**

Leader: May the Gladness of Christmas, which is Hope,

People: The Spirit of Christmas, which is Peace,

Leader: The Heart of Christmas, which is Love.

People: The Gift of Christmas, which is Joy

Leader: Be born anew in each of us this year.

***HALLELUJAH CHORUS** G. F. Handel

POSTLUDE “*God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*” Traditional, Anon.

~ Offered by **Vince Mottern** ~

Many thanks to the choir and guests!

**Please stand as you are able.*

Indicates song in Glory to God (The Presbyterian Hymnal)

Rumson Presbyterian Church

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