

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."

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024 @ 9:45 AM

Assemble In God's Name

PRELUDE “*Once in Royal David's City*” IRBY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

INTROIT “*No Crown, No Throne*” Gilbert M Martin

~ Offered by **Suzanne Parmly** ~

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE FOR JOY . Andy & Nancy Bowe

***HYMN #143 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”** (Vs .1 - 3) REGENT
SQUARE

A POETIC LITANY (Responsive) from “*Christmas Comes*” by Ann
Weems

*Leader: Christmas Comes. Christmas comes every time we see God in
other persons.*

**People: The human and the holy meet in Bethlehem, or in our city
square.**

*Leader: For Christmas comes like a golden storm on its way to Jerusalem
– determinedly, inevitably...*

**People: Even now it comes in the face of anger and warring – no
atrocities too terrible to stop it.**

*Leader: No Herod strong enough, no hurt deep enough, no disaster
shattering enough -*

**People: For someone on earth will see the star. Someone will hear the
angels voices.**

*Leader: Someone will run to Bethlehem. Someone will know peace and
goodwill; the Christ will be born!*

**People: O Lord, our God, be at work in our lives that we might be
those Someones!**

All: May we be Encouragers of Christmas Hope, Ambassadors for Christmas Peace, Rejoicers in Christmas Joy, and Sharers of Christmas Love, inspired by the example and spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

***THE PEACE**

Listen for God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 11:1-9 (pg. 784 OT)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 1:18-25 (pg. 1 NT)

SERMON “*The Harmonic Convergence Happened*” Rev. E. Nicholas Van Gombos

***HYMN #121 “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*” (Vs .1, 2 & 4) ST. LOUIS**

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 “*Advent Cry*” Joseph M. Martin

***THE DOXOLOGY (#607)**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit ever more;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

Amen.

Go in God's Name

***HYMN #132 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”** IN DULCI JUBILO

***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.

POSTLUDE “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” REGENT SQUARE

**Please stand as you are able.*

Indicates song in Glory to God (The Presbyterian Hymnal)

Rumson Presbyterian Church

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