

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service First Sunday of Christmas

Dec. 28, 2025

Pre-Service Music: *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child* Rodney Abriol

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *Go Tell It on the Mountain* Mark Hayes

Song of Welcome: #152: What Star is This with Beams So Bright v. 3

Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day

We gather to worship the Word made flesh,
who fled from the wrath of human powers into Egypt.

The God we worship was a refugee.

Prayer of the Day

**Loving Parent God, Jesus shared our flesh and blood,
and we share closeness with you. We thank you for making us
your children, a divine chosen family. Make visible to us the
ties that bind us to each other, to all creatures, and to you.
Move us to guard each other's well-being and to treat each
other's struggles as our own, that we may live into the perfect
kinship already ours through Jesus our brother, woven
together by his Spirit. Amen.**

Opening Hymn #129 *Lo, How a Rose* (stand)

Call to Confession

Even in a season of celebration and joy, there is grief and pain.
Even as we celebrate God's goodness, we know that we have not
always lived it.

Even in all of this, Christ comes.

Prayer of Confession

Ever-present God, you became our Savior in all our distress. In all the ways we hurt, and all the ways we hurt others, in all the ways we feel neglected and all the ways we neglect others, in all the ways we cry out and all the ways we cause others to cry, you are with us, comforting us and holding us to account. In your love, redeem us once again. Lift us up and grant us your mercy, as you have throughout the generations. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Christ came into this world for us: imperfect humans, perpetual sinners, trying, learning, striving. He came to be tested, so that he might help us as we are tested, to forgive us all our sins.

Praise be to our merciful and faithful high priest!

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Glory to God #113 “Gloria” refrain from *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Special Music: *Welcome, Dear Redeemer* Cesar Franck
Mary Kwantes

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our 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

Prayer for Illumination:

Gracious God, by the gift of your Holy Spirit show us the Word made flesh—good news of great joy for all—so that we may sing with the angels: glory in the highest and peace on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day:

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 63:7-9.

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 2:10 - 18.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:13 - 23

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Thanks be to God. *John 1:14*

Sermon: *Visions Anew* Tony De La Rosa, Ruling Elder

Affirmation of Faith (Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.27)

The one sufficient revelation of God is Jesus Christ, the Word of God incarnate, to whom the Holy Spirit bears unique and authoritative witness through the Holy Scriptures, which are received and obeyed as the word of God written.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering #708: *We Give Thee but Thine Own* vs 1 & 2

Prayer of Dedication:

For gifts abundant and for grace abounding, we give you thanks, generous God. Bless the gifts we bring today. Use these gifts and our lives to be your gift of grace to others. Amen.

Sending Hymn #545: *Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace* (stand)

Charge and Benediction: (remain standing)

The loving kindness of the Lord our God,
the grace of Jesus Christ our Savior,
and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. **Alleluia!**

Titus 3:4-7

Go and tell this good news of great joy:
to us a Savior is born.

Luke 2:10-11

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord!**

Postlude: *Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow* David Schwoebel

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