

EVENING WORSHIP  
6 o'clock

"It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name,  
O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night." Psalm 92:1-2

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**Prelude** Ed Limon

**Reading from God's Holy Word** Luke 2:22-40, *ESV*

**Opening Hymn\*** № 133  
*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN

**The Belgic Confession (1561)** Article 18  
Of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ

*We confess, therefore, that God did fulfill the promise, which he made to the fathers, by the mouth of his holy prophets, when he sent into the world, at the time appointed by him, his own, only-begotten and eternal Son, who took upon him the form of a servant, and became like unto man, really assuming the true human nature, with all its infirmities, sin excepted, being conceived in the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary, by the power of the Holy Ghost, without the means of man, and did not only assume human nature as to the body, but also a true human soul, that he might be a real man. For since the soul was lost as well as the body, it was necessary that he should take both upon him, to save both. Therefore we confess (in opposition to the heresy of the Anabaptists, who deny that Christ assumed human flesh of his mother) that Christ is become a partaker of the flesh and blood of the children; that he is a fruit of the loins of David after the flesh; made of the seed of David according to the flesh; a fruit of the womb of the Virgin Mary, made of a woman, a branch of David; a shoot of the root of Jesse; sprung from the tribe of Judah; descended from the Jews according to the flesh; of the seed of Abraham, since he took on him the seed of Abraham, and became like unto his brethren in all things, sin excepted, so that in truth he is our Immanuel, that is to say, God with us.*

**Prayers of the Congregation**

Adoration ~ Confession ~ Thanksgiving ~ Supplication

**The Psalms** Psalm 59 Rev. Bryan Crotts

**Prayer**

**Closing Hymn\*** № 128  
*It Came upon the Midnight Clear* CAROL

SESSION

**Moderator:** Rev. Bryan Crotts  
**Vice Moderator:** Jay Snow  
**Clerk:** John Robinson  
2017: Bill Haynes  
2018: John Robinson & Jay Snow  
2019: Ferald Mann  
**Elders Emeritus:** Jim Knox & Gene Parks

DIACONATE

**Chairman:** Glenn Owens, 2018  
**Vice Chairman:** Larry Isley, 2019  
**Secretary:** Stephen Robinson, 2017

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

**Trustees:** Steve Kyaw, Jim Knox,  
Ferald Mann, Gene Parks  
**Treasurer:** Laurene Howington  
**Secretary:** John Robinson  
**Chairman:** James Constable

CHURCH STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Bryan Crotts  
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FACEBOOK:

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SERMON AUDIO:

[www.sermonaudio.com](http://www.sermonaudio.com) First ARP Church, Burlington



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“Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ,  
for the sake of the faith of God's elect  
and their knowledge of the truth,  
which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life.”  
Titus 1:1-2, *ESV*

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THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, December 31, 2017

MORNING WORSHIP  
11 o'clock

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*The prelude is a sacred curtain dropped between the world and the sanctuary.  
The music is a signal for the congregation to observe silence.  
During this time, be prayerful and reverent in preparation  
for the worship of our holy God in His sanctuary.*

*(Please silence all phones and electronic devices.)*

**Greeting of the Saints** The Congregation & Visitors

**Prelude** Ed Limon

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Voluntary for Silent Prayer**

“Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken,  
and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship,  
with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.”  
Hebrews 12:28-29, *ESV*

**Salutation** Revelation 1:4-5, *ESV*

**Call to Worship\*** Psalm 98, *ESV*

**Hymn of Adoration\*** №145  
*O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELES

**Prayer of Adoration and Invocation\***

**Affirmation of Faith** Hebrews 1 and Philipians 2

*I believe that in the past, God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word.*

*I believe that Jesus Christ, who, being in very nature God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross! After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.*

Unison: *Thanks be to God!*

**Song of Praise\*** № 623  
*Gloria Patri* GREATOREX

**Corporate Confession of Sin**

*Holy Lord, I have sinned times without number. I have been guilty of pride and unbelief, of failure to find your mind in your Word, and of neglect to seek you in my daily life. My transgressions and shortcomings present me with a list of accusations, but I bless you that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ. Subdue my corruptions and grant me grace to live above them. Let not the passions of the flesh nor lustings of the mind bring my spirit into subjection, but do rule over me in liberty and power. No trial is as hard to bear as a sense of sin. If you should give me a choice to live in pleasure and keep my sins, or to have them burnt away with trial, give me sanctified affliction. Deliver me from every evil habit, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in me, everything that prevents me taking delight in you. Then I shall bless you, God of my righteousness, for helping me to be upright. We pray this in Christ's blessed Name. Amen*

**Silent Prayers of Personal Confession**

**The Scriptural Assurance of Pardon** John 10:27-29, *ESV*

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ”

**Hymn of Redemption\*** № 125  
*Joy to the World* ANTIOCH

**Reading of the Old Testament** Proverbs 1, *ESV*

**Pastoral Prayer and 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, 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.*

**The Lord's Tithes and Our Offerings**

**Offertory** Julie Snow

**Hymn of Praise\*** № 625  
*Doxology* OLD HUNDREDTH

**Offertory Prayer**

**Reading of the New Testament** Titus 1:1-3, *ESV*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Preaching of God's Holy Word** Rev. Bryan Crotts  
*A Sacred Trust*

**Prayer to Seal God's Word**

**Hymn of Commitment\*** *Facing a Task Unfinished* AURELIA

*Facing a task unfinished  
That drives us to our knees  
A need that, undiminished  
Rebukes our slothful ease  
We, who rejoice to know Thee  
Renew before Thy throne  
The solemn pledge we owe Thee  
To go and make Thee known*

*Where other lords beside Thee  
Hold their unhindered sway  
Where forces that defied Thee  
Defy Thee still today  
With none to heed their crying  
For life, and love, and light  
Unnumbered souls are dying  
And pass into the night*

*We bear the torch that flaming  
Fell from the hands of those  
Who gave their lives proclaiming  
That Jesus died and rose  
Ours is the same commission  
The same glad message ours  
Fired by the same ambition  
To Thee we yield our powers*

*O Father who sustained them  
O Spirit who inspired  
Saviour, whose love constrained them  
To toil with zeal untired  
From cowardice defend us  
From lethargy awake!  
Forth on Thine errands send us  
To labour for Thy sake*

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**Benediction\***

**Postlude**  

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Sermon Notes

\*Congregation Standing