



**The First Sunday After Christmas Day  
December 28, 2014**

**Meditation before Worship**

*For People of Any Age*

Thank you, God,  
for people of any age  
whose faith is not eroded by doubt,  
broken by adversity,  
or soured by cynicism.

Thank you, God,  
for everyone  
whose faith revives our spirits,  
warms our hearts,  
and renews our hopes  
in Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Fort Street Presbyterian Church***

***631 W. Fort Street***

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***[www.fortstreet.org](http://www.fortstreet.org)***

***[www.facebook.com/fortstreet](http://www.facebook.com/fortstreet)***



# Gathering the Community

PRELUDE Ray Staroscik  
Organist

WELCOME Beth Brown

INTROIT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Beth Brown

One: Light of the world, shine in our lives this day.

**All: As we hear your word and worship, help us grow in the strength and wisdom of your love.**

One: Send the Spirit of Christ into our hearts,

**All: that we might truly know that we are your children**

One: and that you are our God.

**All: Let us worship God.**

\*HYMN # 27 (PH) *"Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison) Beth Brown

**Lord, when Simeon told Mary that many people would speak against your Son we wonder if he had people like us in mind. We have not spoken ill of you, but we confess that our actions have not always supported you or your message of love. We have failed to always serve as positive role models, as Christ always did for us. Forgive us, we pray, where we have fallen short, and help us always to be true to you not only in word but also in deed.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS *(in silence)*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Dr. Provost

\*SHARING THE PEACE Dr. Provost

The Peace of the Living Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Beth Brown  
Galatians 4:4-7  
*(p. 178 in pew Bibles)*

God's Word for us. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Dr. Provost

SECOND GOSPEL READING Dr. Provost  
Luke 2:22-40  
*(p. 55 in pew Bibles)*

God's Word for us. **Thanks be to God**

ANTHEM

Ray Staroscik  
Organist

SERMON

**“On Being Chosen”**

Dr. Provost

\*HYMN # 30 (PH)

*“Born in the Night, Mary’s Child”*

## **THE RESPONSE**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand)*

Dr. Provost

**Christ Jesus,  
Child of Mary, God with us,  
King and Suffering Servant,  
High Priest and Lamb of God,  
Teacher and Word,  
living, suffering, dying and rising again,  
you challenge, redeem and restore us.**

**Holy Spirit,  
Breath of life,  
Counsellor and Comforter,  
Fire of God,  
you inspire, sustain, and purify us.**

**Forming us in the nature of Christ,  
transforming us with your gifts,  
you bind us together in one body, your church.  
God of all creation,  
made known to us in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit,  
your boundless love exposes our rebellion and greed.**

**A mother who will not abandon her child,  
a father who welcomes the prodigal home,  
you forgive, accept and embrace us  
and call us into loving communion forever.  
In life and death we belong to you,  
everlasting God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Dr. Provost

THE LORD’S PRAYER

OUR OFFERING TO GOD

OFFERTORY

Ray Staroscik

\*DOXOLOGY # 591

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Beth Brown

\*HYMN # 29 (PH)

*“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Dr. Provost

*(Please sit quietly enjoying the postlude as part of your worship experience)*

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Ray Staroscik  
Organist

+ + +

\*You are invited to rise in body or spirit at your discretion

Liturgist

Beth Brown

Sound Technician

Valerie Edwards

Videographer

Randy Commissaris

Worship Coordinator

Craig McLean

Reception Coordinator

The Petrie family

**Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:**

Large Print Hymnals  
Hearing Assist System  
Wheelchair Access Ramp  
Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary  
Handicap Restroom--using elevator to second floor

**We are delighted that you are here!**

- \* Join others for refreshments in the Great Hall after the worship service.
- \* Visit the information and display tables in the narthex.
- \* Large print bulletins and hymnals are available.
- \* Capable and loving nursery attendants are ready to care for little ones through age 4 during the service. Ask an usher to direct you.
- \* CDs of today's service and/or previous services may be ordered thru the church secretary @ \$3.00 each.
- \* You may add to the beauty of our weekly worship by contributing a floral donation. Flowers are usually given in memory of or in honor of persons or events. Contact Pam Sharrow at [Sharrow13@gmail.com](mailto:Sharrow13@gmail.com). The church office will contact you for your floral dedication.

**FORT STREET STAFF:**

Judith Sheldon, Director of Christian Education; Ben Ogden, Director of Open Door; Edward Kingins, Music Director; Lola JF Davidson, Secretary; LaMonica Harris, Temp. Bookkeeper, Kenneth McCoy, Building Engineer; Donna Bryant, Bob Haynes, Parking Security; Marilyn Moore, Karen Wright, Donlin Center Staff; Stacey Kershaw, Johnnie Hester, Cheryl Glidden, Open Door Staff.

**Pastor Emeritus:** The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Crilley

**Web Page:** [www.fortstreet.org](http://www.fortstreet.org)  
[www.facebook.com/fortstreet](http://www.facebook.com/fortstreet)

### **Prayer List for the month of December 2014**

Don/Lois Bardwell, Lynne Bieniek, The Claire family, Lorraine/Harrison Coleman family, Dombrowski family, Bobbie Edwards/family, FSPC, David Ferrato, Rose Grosscup, Shannon Howard, Maria Hughley, Marion Jenkins/family, Mary Etta Johnson, Geraldine Adams Jones, Valerie Kimbrough, Lemus family, Lewis family, Don/Virginia Lorimer, Karen Marcil, Dr. Mook/family, Dan Muench, Cheryl Myers, Jerry Naragon, Claudia Novitzsky, Derrick Parker/family, Kathy Payne/family, Richard Petrie, Easter Ponder, Jennie/David Poole, Robinson family, Richard/Suellen Sale family, Joan Szwed family, Cathy Topping.

### **Prayers for Military loved ones.**

CPL Christopher Whittaker-Bonner USMC, Lt. Harrison L Coleman USN, Jonathan Heyler USN, SSGT Shanell Howard USAF, Sgt. Christopher King, Maj. Michael Kurtti, USAF, Lt. Theo Moran USAF, Alta Morrison, Lt. Jon Palmer USA, Lt. Marty Palmer USA, Charles Andrew Parsons II USN, Major Michelle Ruehl AF, Capt. Katy Spicer Hess, USMC, Alexander Szelestey, USMC, Lt. Mark Webster.