



1st Sunday after Christmas Day

December 27, 2015

Thoughts for Individual Meditation

*"We now have this light shining in our hearts,
but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure.
This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves."*

2 Corinthians 4:7 (NLT)

*More light than we can learn,
More wealth than we can treasure,
More love than we can earn,
More peace than we can measure,
Because one child is born.*

Christopher Fry

Fort Street Presbyterian Church

631 W. Fort Street

Detroit, MI 48226

Phone (313) 961-4533

www.fortstreet.org

www.facebook.com/fortstreet

Gathering the Community

PRELUDE

Ray Staroscik
Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hedi Mulford

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hedi Mulford

Leader: Arise, shine for your light has come!

Congregation: Who has come? Who is the light?

Leader: The light comes from the baby Jesus in a small stable.

Congregation: What is this light?

Leader: The light and love of God who wonderfully made you, who graciously redeemed you, and who calls you each by name. Come let us worship our God!

*HYMN # 119

"Hark ! The Herald Angels Sing"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND INVOCATION *(from Canticle of Light and Darkness)*

Hedi Mulford

**We look for light but find darkness,
For brightness, but walk in gloom.**

**We grope like those who have no eyes;
We stumble at noon as in the twilight.**

**Blessed be your name, O God, for ever.
You reveal deep and mysterious things;
You are light and in you is no darkness.**

**Our darkness is passing away
and already the true light is shining.**

Please open our eyes and hearts, O God. Amen.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*SHARING THE PEACE

Hedi Mulford

The Peace of the Living Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE WORD

SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (John Suter)

Send, O God, into the darkness of this troubled world, the light of your Son. Let the star of our hope touch the minds of all people with the bright beams of mercy and truth; and so direct our steps that we may ever walk in the way revealed to us. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 40:1-5
(p.627 in pew Bibles)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

MUSIC

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:

John 1:1-14
(p. 86 in pew Bibles)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Our Only Light”

Dr. John L. Mishler

THE RESPONSE

*HYMN # 145

“What Child Is This”

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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; 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.

OFFERING OF THE PLEDGES AND GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE # 607 *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

**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

Hedi Mulford

*HYMN # 134

“Joy to the World”

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

(If you wish to do so, we invite you to sit quietly and enjoy the postlude as part of your worship.)

+ + +

**Please rise in body, mind, or spirit.*

Thank you for gathering with us for worship this morning. Following worship, there will be a coffee hour in the small dining area. Please join us!

Organist	Ray Staroscik
Liturgist	Hedi Mulford
Sound Technician	Twiler French
Videographer	Randy Commissaris
Worship Coordinator	Kate Callas
Deacon on Duty	Kevin Pearson
Open Door Representative	Elizabeth Kershaw

Church Holiday Hours

The church offices will be closed January 1-4, 2016. The church offices will return to its regular schedule on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, 8:00am to 4:00pm.

Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:

- 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!

- * Visit the information and display tables in the narthex.
- * During the worship service, child care is provided for children through age 4. Ushers can provide directions. Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in Sunday School, which follows the Children's Message. A Christian Education staff member will lead the children downstairs. Parents may pick them up after worship. For additional information about our Sunday School program, please contact Judith Sheldon at firstcircleinc@sbcglobal.net. or Nancy Jackson at nancymottershawjackson@gmail.com.
- * A tape recording and CDs of today's service and/or previous services may be ordered in the Reception Office after worship @ \$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. The church office will contact you for your floral dedication.

Prayer List for the month of January 2015

Gabrielle Abrego, Shari Anderson, Don and Lois Bardwell, Lynne Bieniek, Derek and Maxine Bloodworth, Bettie Burton, Lorraine and Harrison Coleman, Geraldine Adams Jones, Valerie Kimbrough, Virginia Lorimer, Karen Marcil, Marilyn Moore, Cheryl Myers, Kathy Payne and family, Richard and Suellen Sale, Nancy Woodkee, and Raquel Villaluz.

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; Major Katy Spicer USMC; Alexander Szelestey USMC; Lt. Mark Webster USAF.

FORT STREET STAFF:

Alison Grosch, Operations Manager, Judith Sheldon, Director of Christian Education; Ben Ogden, Director of Open Door; Edward Kingins, Director of Music; Ray Staroscik, Organist; Lola JF Davidson, Secretary; Loretta Stanton, Wedding Coordinator; Jerry Johnson, Building Engineer; Donna Bryant, Damien Hines, Greg Howell, Parking Security; Marilyn Moore, Karen Wright, Donlin Center Staff; Stacey Kershaw and Elizabeth Kershaw, Open Door Staff.

Stated Supply Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Robert Agnew
pastor@fortstreet.org

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

Web Site: www.fortstreet.org
www.facebook.com/fortstreet

Fort Street News

MISSION STATEMENT

Fort Street Presbyterian Church is an oasis in an urban environment, building a caring Christian community where diversity is celebrated and developing programs that minister to metropolitan Detroit and the world beyond. We do this in response to the grace of God through Jesus Christ, recognizing the truth of the Gospel: *There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of us are one in Christ Jesus.*

Year End Giving

As the end of the year approaches, we want to remind you that according to IRS guidelines, for charitable contributions to qualify for a 2015 deduction, they must be received in the church office on or before December 31, 2015. If you have any questions, please contact Alison in the Finance Office.

Go Paperless!

Year End Giving Statements will be sent in mid-January. If you would prefer to have your statement sent via email, please contact Alison in the Finance office and give her your e-mail address (om@fortstreet.org). Otherwise, statements will be sent in the mail. Thank you.

Meaning in a Moment

2016

Christian Adult Education

Stapleton Chapel 10 – 10:45 a.m.

Discussion Series will resume on January 17, 2016
with a focus on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Please call Nancy Jackson or Judith Sheldon for further information.

INTERESTED IN SINGING?



Detroit's historic Fort Street Chorale welcomes singers as it prepares for its Spring Concert 2016.

Rehearsals begin **Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 7:30pm.**
with registration starting @6:30pm.

Registration will be open through January 28, 2016

No audition is necessary.

Fort Street Chorale rehearses at Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort St. (corner of Fort and Third)
Free, secure parking is available in the church parking lot. For information call 313-961-4533.

Want to become a member of Fort Street?

Contact Pastor Bob at the church. 313-961-4533, ext 104 There are 3 ways to become a member: Letter of Transfer, Reaffirmation of Faith, and Profession of Faith. We would be delighted to welcome you as family.

Sacrament of Baptism

If you would like to celebrate The Sacrament of Baptism for yourself or your child, please make an appointment with Pastor Bob at pastor@fortstreet.org or 313-961-4533 ext#104.

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www.facebook.com/fortstreet

The Lord exists forever; your word is firmly fixed in heaven.
Psalm 119:89

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri 1	Sat 2
January 2016					Church Offices Closed Happy New Year!	5:30pm AA 8:00pm AI-Non
3 11:00am Worship 6:30pm NA	4 Church Offices Closed 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	5 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	6 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 2:00pm Staff mtg 7:00pm Session	7 9-11am Open Dr. 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal	8 Church Offices Closed 8:00-9:00pm AA	9 9:30-3:30pm Officer Training 6:00pm-9:00pm AA Federal Group Anniver- sary 8:00pm AI-Non
10 11:00am Worship, Communion Ordina- tion Installation of Officers 6:30pm NA	11 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	12 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	13 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 2:00pm Staff mtg 7:00 Deacons mtg	14 9-11am Open Dr. 6:30pm Chorale Registration 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal	15 Church Offices Closed 8:00-9:00pm AA	16 5:30pm AA 8:00pm AI-Non
17 10:00am Adult Ed Class 11:00am Worship 6:30pm NA	18 Church Offices Closed MLK Birthday 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	19 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	20 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 2:00pm Staff mtg TBD Fiscal Op. mtg	21 9-11am Open Dr. 6:30pm Chorale Registration 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal	22 Church Offices Closed 8:00-9:00pm AA	23 5:30pm AA 8:00pm AI-Non
24 11:00am Worship 6:30pm NA	25 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café	26 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	27 11-3pm Open Door Inspirational Café 2:00pm Staff mtg 6:30pm Personnel	28 9-11am Open Dr. 6:30pm Chorale Registration 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal	29 Church Offices Closed 8:00-9:00pm AA	30 5:30pm AA 8:00pm AI-Non
31 10:00am Adult Ed Class 11:00am Worship 6:30pm NA						



**THURSDAYS OPEN DOOR
MEAL PROGRAM
9AM-11AM**

This program is open to the public. Between 8am and 9m, woman and elderly guests may shower. They may also receive a hygiene kit and use the clothing bank once a month. Between 9 and 11am, men may shower. They may also get a hygiene kit and use the clothing bank monthly. Guest seeking clothing and hygiene kits must present valid identification. Between 9 and 11 am, a full hot meal is served. Guests may get a haircut, and consult with a social worker. Volunteers are welcome.

The deadline for next week's bulletin is Tuesday,
December 29 at 12:00 pm via email at secretary@fortstreet.org



**Attendance for:
December 20, 2015: NA
December 21, 2014: 124**

MARRIAGE ANYONE, 2016?

Thinking of getting married? Want to get married at Fort Street?
Contact the Wedding Coordinator, Loretta Stanton' s
cell phone **number, 313-549-1015.**



Flowers Reminder

Contact the Worship and Arts Committee to purchase flowers for the sanctuary in honor of birthday celebrations, anniversaries, or in memory of a loved one... the list is endless for God's grace. Pam Sharrow is the liaison, at sharrow13@gmail.com. Tell her which Sunday in the year and what you **want printed in the bulletin. You pick the color!** Write a check for \$50 and indicate worship and arts. We'll do the rest!