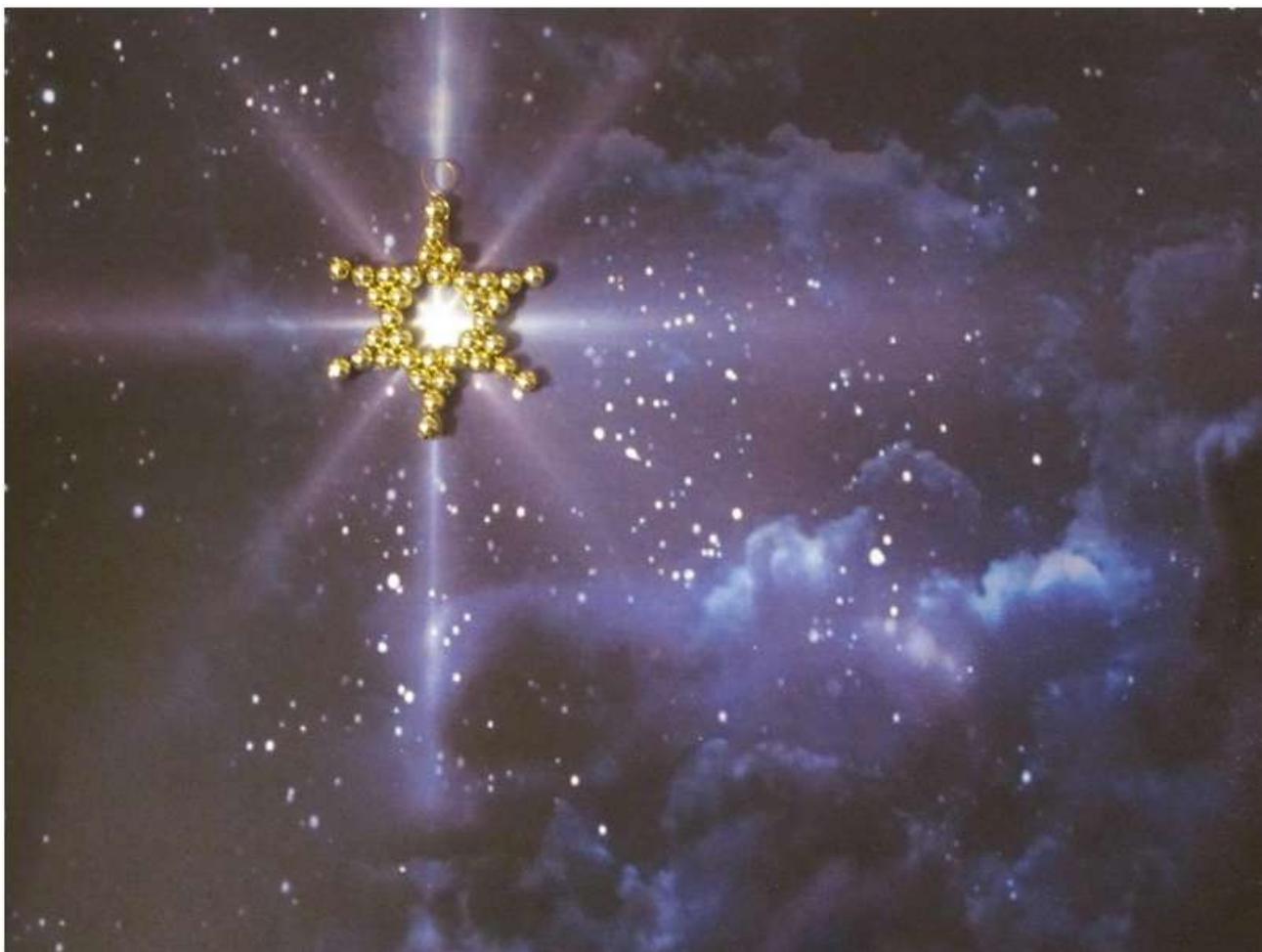


**Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 24, 2017
“The Power of Light”**



Delta Presbyterian Church

Strengthening Christ in us
Sharing Christ among us
Showing Christ around us

www.deltapresby.org

Order of Worship
Sunday, December 24, 2017
4th Sunday in Advent

Prelude

Frederick Isaac, Pianist

Tolling of the Bells

Gathering for Worship

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Joe Frick, Lay Leader

The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God's Son. ³⁶ Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled 'unable to conceive' is now six months pregnant. ³⁷ Nothing is impossible for God." Luke 1:35-37

The advent wreath marks our time of waiting through this season, as we live in expectation of Christ's promised return and the celebration of his birth.

We lit the first candle as a reminder to look for God's light in the world.

Let there be light.

We lit the second candle on the Advent wreath, as a sign of our longing for God's presence in a broken world.

Let there be light.

We lit the third candle of the Advent wreath, as a reminder of our responsibility to reflect God's light in the world.

Let there be light.

Today we light the fourth candle of the Advent wreath, as a reminder of God's power at work in the world.

Let there be light.

**Hymn

Here I Am to Worship

Strengthening Christ in Us

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, we confess that we discount your ability to work through us.

We know you are powerful, but we doubt

that you would want to use us, imperfect as we are.

We forget that your power is greater than our shortcomings.

Forgive us, we pray.

Help us live the faith of Mary,

that we might be open to your work in and through us.

(time for silent confession)

Give us the faith to commit ourselves to

Strengthening Christ in us

Sharing Christ among us and

Showing Christ around us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The good news of this Advent season
is forgiveness of sin and new life.

Let us commit our lives to Christ's way of hope and peace.

Thanks be to the Advent God,

who comes among us,

setting us free to love and serve.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

****Passing of the Peace**

****Response Joy to the World (vs. 3)**

Scripture Lesson **Luke 1:26-38**

Anthem **Advent Promise**

Celebration Choir

Scripture Lesson **Luke 1:46b-55**

Children's Sermon

Hymn **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 6)**
(Children may go downstairs for Sunday School.)

Proclamation of the Word **The Power of Light**
Nothing is impossible for God Luke 1:37

Rev. Wendy S. Pratt

****Communion Hymn I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sharing Christ Among Us-- Showing Christ Around Us

Offering

(Children in 5th grade and up may go downstairs for Sunday School)

****Response Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn (vs. 1)**

Life in the Community

Prayers For Those Among & Around Us

****Closing Hymn It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (vs. 1,2,5)**

****Challenge & Blessing**

****Closing Response Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (vs. 1)**

Postlude

****Please stand if you are able to do so**

Delta's 2017 Chrismon is the Creator's Star. It is a reminder of our all-loving Creator, who made the world in six days. That is why the star has six points. It also symbolizes Jesus as the Light of the World.



At Delta Presbyterian Church, we observe open Communion. All who truly repent of their sins and seek God's forgiveness, found in Jesus Christ, are invited to participate in the Sacrament. Children who have received instruction from their parents on the meaning of communion are encouraged to participate.

As God's love came to us in Christ, so the bread and the cup will come to us today in our seats. Please hold the bread and the cup that we might partake of it together as a sign of our unity in Christ. Receive this gift as a sign of God's grace, and pray that it will awaken in you the hunger to go deeper. All the bread this morning is gluten free.



Welcome to Delta Presbyterian Church!

We are pleased to have you worshipping with us this morning. We provide this information to help you fully participate in the worship of God. Please take a moment to sign the guest book on the stand in the back of the sanctuary (worship space) to the left of the drinking fountain. We invite you to stay for our fellowship time following the service. Feel free to help yourself to the coffee and hot water (for tea) that is available in the back of the sanctuary before and after

worship.

Everything you need to participate in worship is on the screen. If you are able, you are invited to stand when the congregation stands.

Restrooms are in the back of the sanctuary on the left.

There is information on the activities at Delta on the counter in the Commitment Center. The Commitment Center is on your left as you leave the sanctuary.

We welcome the sound of children in worship. If your young child is distracting to **you**, you are welcome to do any of the following:

- Get up and move to the back. The colorful bags have small items designed to keep children busy. They are welcome to play with them on the floor in front of the Commitment Center, or you may take the bags to your seats.
- There is a nursery available downstairs. Exit the sanctuary via the door on the right and go straight down the stairs. The nursery (101) is at the foot of the steps on the right. Pagers are available to notify you if your child needs you.
- There is a cry room (202) where you can take your child. Instead of going downstairs, go down the hall and the cry room is on the right. You can view the worship service through a window. The cry room is equipped with a changing table.

Preschool through early elementary children are dismissed following the Children's Sermon. They may either return to their seats, or go downstairs to the Nursery (101 infants & toddlers), or Sunday School (Room 107) Older elementary and youth are dismissed during the offering to go down to the gathering room, except when there is a Fellowship Meal following worship. There are clipboards with worksheets for them to fill out and take downstairs with them.

Church Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Delta Presbyterian Church

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