

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!
Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!
Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for he commanded and they were created.

Psalm 148: 1 - 5

NRSV

B

**Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church Service
December 31, 2023**

Words of Welcome & Life of the Church

Prelude

Call to Worship:

Leader: With mighty mountains and crashing seas,

People: praise the name of the Lord.

Leader: With rolling valleys and lush forests,

People: praise the name of our God.

Leader: With tiny ants and majestic eagles,

People: praise the name of the Holy One.

Leader: With innocent children and wise elders,

Opening Prayer

***Song of Praise** (please stand): *“Joy to the World, Unspeakable Joy”*

Verse 1

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

Verse 2

Joy to the world the Savior reigns
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

Song of Praise (please stand): *“It's Christmas Medley”*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes
I love thee Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh

It's Christmas
The angels are singing
And I know the reason
The Savior is born

Chorus

Joy unspeakable joy
An overflowing well
No tongue can tell
Joy unspeakable joy
It rises in my soul
Never lets me go

Verse 3

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders wonders of His love

It's Christmas
The bells are ringing
And I feel like shouting
Joy to the world

Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray
And bless all the dear children in thy tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is
born

Scripture Lesson: Luke 2:22-40

Sermon for the Young & Young at Heart

***Hymn of Preparation** (please stand): *"I Sing the Almighty Power of God"* UMH 220

1. I sing the almighty power of God,
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad,
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day;
the moon shines full at God's command,
and all the stars obey.

2. I sing the goodness of the Lord,
who filled the earth with food,
who formed the creatures thru the Word,
and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky.

3. There's not a plant or flower below,
but makes thy glories known,
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne;
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care;
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.

Sermon

Worship God with Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem: *See Amid the Winter's Snow Born for Us on Earth Below*

***Doxology** (please stand) UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluiah, Alleluiah
Praise God the source of all our gifts;
Praise Jesus Christ whose power up-lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluiah, Alleluiah, Alleluiah

Passing the Peace of Christ

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** (please stand): *“Angels From the Realms of Glory”* UMH 220

1 Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

2 Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light: [Refrain]

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star: [Refrain]

4. Saints, before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear;
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear:
(Refrain)

Benediction

Postlude:

**Please stand if you are able*

~~~~~  
**Have A Happy & Blessed New Year!!!**

***LEADING WORSHIP – Our Pastor, Kregg Gabor***

***HELPING IN WORSHIP***

Acolyte

Liturgist

Head Usher

Ushers

Heidi Mills

Will Cass

Cheryl Cass, Linda McCluskey, Joseph Norman

***Welcome to Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church.*** We are delighted to have you worship with us today!

***We want to be your family of faith.*** We hope that you feel at home in our church family, and we encourage those interested in membership to speak with one of the ushers or contact us at 845-452-2933 or by email at [office@pokumc.org](mailto:office@pokumc.org).

## **REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS**

**Our members:** Steve Allen, Barbara Bates, Gladys Bierce, Janet Cole, Ron Cole, Dylan Coughlin, Sandra DeGuzman, Irene Feller, Veronica Gordan, Emily Griess, Betsy Grover, Tom Halloran, Doris Hammell, Jodi Hammell, Sandra Hansen, Gwen Higgins, Pat Hughes, Fred Jackson, Dick James, Donna Jonnigan, Danny Jones, Betty Longobardi, Julia Miller, Kathleen Nicodemus, Michelle Olavarria, Karla Quinlan, Arnette Schmidt, Diana Silverman, Michelle Simonis, Jeff Tryon, Kerianne Wendover, Catherine White, Sarah-Grace White, Marilyn Zier.

**Friends of our church in your prayers:** Georgia Kustas-Beurket, Cris and John Burke, Jordan Fidler, Bryan Foy, Debra Greiner, Edgar Martinez, Adonis Marzan, Hilary McAllister, Joe Pollen, Jean Slater, Wayne Surico, Robert Thompson-Gee, Ronald Tomaso, Jackie Triguero, Clifford Zier. Also all those impacted by the Coronavirus. The people in Ukraine.

**Members of the military, active and/or retired, in your prayers:** Michael Clear, Staff Sergeant in the Army, stationed in Syria; Joshua Lord, 1-69 Infantry Medical Platoon Sergeant, NYC; Randal Middleton, Naples, Italy Naval Base, Major Jason Oliver, Texas.

## **Announcements**

**2024 Pledge Update:** As of December 10th, we have received \$229,660 in pledges for the coming budget year. Thank you!!

**Giving Envelopes:** Personalized giving envelopes are available in the Narthex. If you would like personalized giving envelopes please add your name to the list in the Narthex or contact the church office (845-452-2933 or [office@pokumc.org](mailto:office@pokumc.org))

**The next Fellowship Discovery Luncheon will be on Tuesday, January 9.** Reservations are required so please let us know if you plan to attend.

**Beginning 2024, there are openings on the Board of Directors of the Harriet Tubman Academic Skills Center.** This is a wonderful community outreach mission that REALLY makes a difference. It is a “advisory board” (as opposed to a "participatory board"). The only commitment is attendance at the Board meetings, which are generally the 3rd Thursday, every-other month (for only 6-8 meetings a year). Please contact Barb Adams if you'd like to serve on the HTASC Board of Directors, or would like to know more about it: 845-505-1302, [bcadams317@gmail.com](mailto:bcadams317@gmail.com).

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE!** If you plan to make a pledge, please fill out a pledge card to support our 2024 ministries and place it in the offering plate.

**New Newsletter Editor:** Starting in January, Karyn (in the office) will be editing the Journey each month. The next deadline (for the February Journey) is January 17. Please send any submissions to [office@pokumc.org](mailto:office@pokumc.org).

**Pledged giving through November 30, 2023** was \$244,618 or 104% of our budget goal (\$235,000). Our combined Pledge and Non-Pledge giving was \$283,892 or 91.5% of our budget goal (310,000). Thank you for your strong and faithful giving!

**Altar Flower Sign Up Sheet:** There is a 2024 Altar Flower Sign-up Sheet in the Narthex, or you can contact the church office to order altar flowers.

**Pasta Dinner** – The hospitality committee will be serving a traditional pasta dinner at PUMC on Thursday, **January 11 @ 5:30 – 7:00pm.**

## ***Opportunities for You This Week***

### **SUNDAY, December 31, 2023**

8:00 am Contemplative Prayer  
10:00 Worship Service  
Sunday School  
11:15 Fellowship  
2:00 pm Parkside AA  
6:00 Youth Group

### **MONDAY, January 1, 2024**

#### **Office Closed**

6:30 pm Gamblers Anonymous

### **TUESDAY, January 2, 2024**

1:00 pm Arts & Crafts Group  
5:30 PP Alcoholics Anonymous  
6:30 Current Events & WWJD

### **WEDNESDAY, January 3, 2024**

7:30 am Morning Prayers  
1:30 pm Nancy's Bible Study  
7:00 Church Council

### **THURSDAY, January 4, 2024**

5:00 pm PP Alcoholics Anonymous  
7:00 Choir

### **FRIDAY, January 5, 2024**

10:00 am Exercise

### **SATURDAY, January 6, 2024**

8:30 am Gambler's Anonymous

### **SUNDAY, January 7, 2024**

8:00 am Contemplative Prayer  
8:45 Coffee with Jesus  
10:00 Worship Service  
Sunday School  
11:15 Fellowship  
2:00 pm Parkside AA  
6:00 Youth Group

#### **Joy to the World, Unspeakable Joy**

CCLI Song # 5607039

Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | George Frideric Handel | Isaac Watts | Matt Gilder

Rising Springs Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs; Ryan House Music; Wondrously Made Songs

For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#).

All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

CCLI License # 777703

#### **It's Christmas Medley**

Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash

© 2015 Capitol CMG Paragon; S. D. G. Publishing; Twelve Lions Music; Worship Together Music

For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved.

[www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

CCLI License # 777703

#### **I Sing the Almighty Power of God**

Public Domain

#### **Angels From the Realms of Glory**

Public Domain

