

# HE HAS COME!



## NEW YEAR'S EVE DAY 2017

first covenant church of saint paul ~ 1280 arcade street ~ saint paul, mn 55106  
(651)774-0344 ~ [www.first-covenant.org](http://www.first-covenant.org)  
[office@first-covenant.org](mailto:office@first-covenant.org)

# New Year's Eve Sunday

**December 31, 2017**

**10:30 a.m.**

Gathering Time

Passing of the Peace

Invitation to Worship

*If you are a visitor, have a prayer request or have a change of address,  
please note this on a Connect Card found in the pew pockets. Place it in the offering plate.*

\*Opening Hymn 147

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

\*Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading

Psalm 147:1-7, Sharla Scullen  
Galatians 4:4-7, Galen Carlson

Sharing and Carols

Giving and Living Out of Our Abundance

Offertory

*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* (adapt. Johnny Marks)  
Ellen Jacobson, piano

Sharing and Carols

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*We invite all who follow Jesus as Lord to receive and celebrate  
the sacrament of Holy Communion with us.*

\*Affirmation of Faith

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

\*Closing Hymn 167

*The First Noel*

\*Sending Words  
Postlude

*Angels We Have Heard on High* (arr. M. Burkhardt)

*Prayer Time for Health and Wholeness is offered in the Prayer Chapel following Worship.*

*\*You are invited to stand if you are able.*

## TODAY

***Welcome to Worship at First Covenant Church! Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, we are glad you are here! Please join us for a cup of coffee and a treat following Worship.***

**10:30am**

**Worship**

**Nursery Care**, (birth through age 3), *Rooms 105 & 106*

**Children's Church**, there is no Children's Church today. Children are invited to stay in Worship.

**Resource Table for children and youth:** check out this table as you enter Worship for bulletins, crayons & Bibles for children, and Confirmation worship notes.

**11:30am-12:00pm**

**Fellowship Time**, *Upper Fellowship Hall*

**12:00-2:00pm**

**College and Career Gathering**

*Pastor Anne, Gordy and Curtis' home, 1108 Hyacinth Ave. E.*

Join us for food, games and connections with new and old friends.

**Today there is no Sunday School, Spiritual Growth Hour or Beauty and the Beast Rehearsal.** They will all resume next Sunday, January 7.

**Thank you** to those who provided Christmas memorial donations to purchase the beautiful Christmas decorations for our sanctuary. Please feel free to take home a poinsettia plant from the front of the sanctuary after today's service, (one per family).

**Special thanks** to Janet Cameron for the artwork on today's bulletin cover.

*If you temporarily leave the sanctuary during a worship service, please return to your seats using the rear sanctuary doors. This will minimize disruptions.  
Thank you for understanding.*

## WEATHER ADVISORY INFORMATION

It's the season of ice, snow, and cold! In case Wednesday activities or Sunday Worship needs to be cancelled due to weather, alerts will be posted on the FCC website, the office voicemail, FCC Facebook, TV Channel 4, and TV Channel 9. Cancellations will be made by 3:00pm for Wednesday activities and by 6:00am for Sunday Worship.

## OUR LIFE TOGETHER

**Year-end Giving:** Today, December 31' is the last day for a contribution to be counted on your 2017 charitable giving statement. For the new year, you may find e-Giving a most welcome way to make contributions from either your checking account or credit card. Visit the church website <http://www.first-covenant.org> and select GIVING from the upper-right corner Menu. Or pick up the Giving Options instructions at the Welcome Center. Thank you for your generosity and support, and Happy New Year!

**Giving Envelopes:** Offering envelopes will be available today at the designated table. If you currently use envelopes for your weekly or monthly giving, they will be ready for you to pick up. Also, if you need envelopes, stop by the table where Rachel Hanks will be able to help you. Questions? Contact Rachel Hanks, Financial Secretary, [rachelhanks11@gmail.com](mailto:rachelhanks11@gmail.com).

**Stay connected:** Weekly worship bulletins and podcasts of each week's message can be found on the church website under the Worship and Arts tab. Stop by the Welcome Center to order a CD of any Worship Service or Spiritual Growth Hour.

**FCC Winter 2018 Guidebook:** If you did not receive a guidebook on Christmas Eve, they are available in the east entry kiosk.

**Monday, January 1:** The church building and office will be closed for New Years Day.

## NEXT WEEKEND

### **Saturday, January 6:**

#### **Men's Prayer Breakfast**

**8:00-9:30am**

*Upper Fellowship Hall*

All men, young and old are invited to gather with us for our monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast. We will share a meal, study a text from the Bible, and pray. Questions? Contact Roger Carlson, [hilljumper2@gmail.com](mailto:hilljumper2@gmail.com).

#### ***Make and Deepen Disciples***

**5:30-7:30pm**

*Lower Fellowship Hall*

Join us for an inspiring and encouraging evening led by Rev. Michelle Sanchez (Executive Minister of Make and Deepen Disciples for The Evangelical Covenant Church). A light meal and childcare will be provided. **Deadline is TODAY** to sign up at the Welcome Center so we can plan for food and childcare.

### **Sunday, January 7:**

**9:30am**, Worship, Rev. Sanchez preaching, commissioning of the Bryant family to Paraguay

**11:00am**, Adult Spiritual Growth Hour, Rev. Sanchez teaching

**11:00am**, Musical Rehearsals and Sunday School will resume

**5:00pm**, Volunteers are needed to help take down the Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary.

Contact Michelle Fure if you have any questions, [mkib73@hotmail.com](mailto:mkib73@hotmail.com).

(Please see the Winter 2018 Guidebook for more details about our weekly Sunday schedule).

## LOOKING AHEAD TO WEDNESDAYS

### Wednesday, January 10:

**9:30am, Adult Bible Study**

*Upper Fellowship Hall*

This weekly gathering resumes as we enjoy coffee, fellowship, singing, and a study of the New Testament book of Romans led by Don Pelto. All are welcome!

**4:00pm and following**, our regular Wednesday evening activities start up again following Christmas break. (Please see the Winter 2018 Guidebook for more details about the weekly Wednesday schedule).

**5:45pm**, Afrizo Choir from Daystar University in Kenya, Africa, will sing during dinner and will also share stories and vibrant African music with our children, youth and adult groups throughout the evening.

### Wednesdays, January 17, 24, 31, February 7:

**6:15-7:30pm, Discovery Class, Room 201**

If you are considering making First Covenant your church home, you are invited to attend four sessions of our Discovery Class. Together, we will discuss the unique vision and mission of First Covenant, the meaning of membership, our church history and organization, and the Evangelical Covenant Church denomination. Attending Discovery Class is required to become a member of First Covenant, however, attending does not commit you to membership. Come to ask questions, meet church leaders and volunteers, make new friends, and learn about this community of faith. Come early each week at 5:45 to enjoy a free supper provided by Loaves & Fishes. Childcare and children's activities for all ages are available during Discovery Class as part of First Covenant's Wednesday programs. RSVP by Sunday, January 14 by signing up at the Welcome Center, or call or email the church office.

## MARTIN LUTHER KING JR WEEKEND

### Sunday, January 14:

**9:30am, Worship with our partner churches, Sanctuary,**

Followers of Christ Hmong Baptist Church, Haitian Christian Fellowship, LaViña, and Roots Covenant Church will join with First Covenant Church as we worship together.

**11:00am, Potluck Brunch with our partner churches, Lower Fellowship Hall**

Stay tuned for ways that you can help! (There will be no Beauty and the Beast rehearsal or Spiritual Growth Hour on this day).

### Monday, January 15:

**7:00am, MLK Jr. Community Breakfast, St. Casmir Church, (917 Jessamine Ave. E., St. Paul)**

Join in the celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., featuring keynote speaker David Oyelowo (lead actor in the 2014 movie "Selma") via satellite, at this East Side location. Tickets are \$5.00. Register at [www.mlkbreakfast.com](http://www.mlkbreakfast.com).