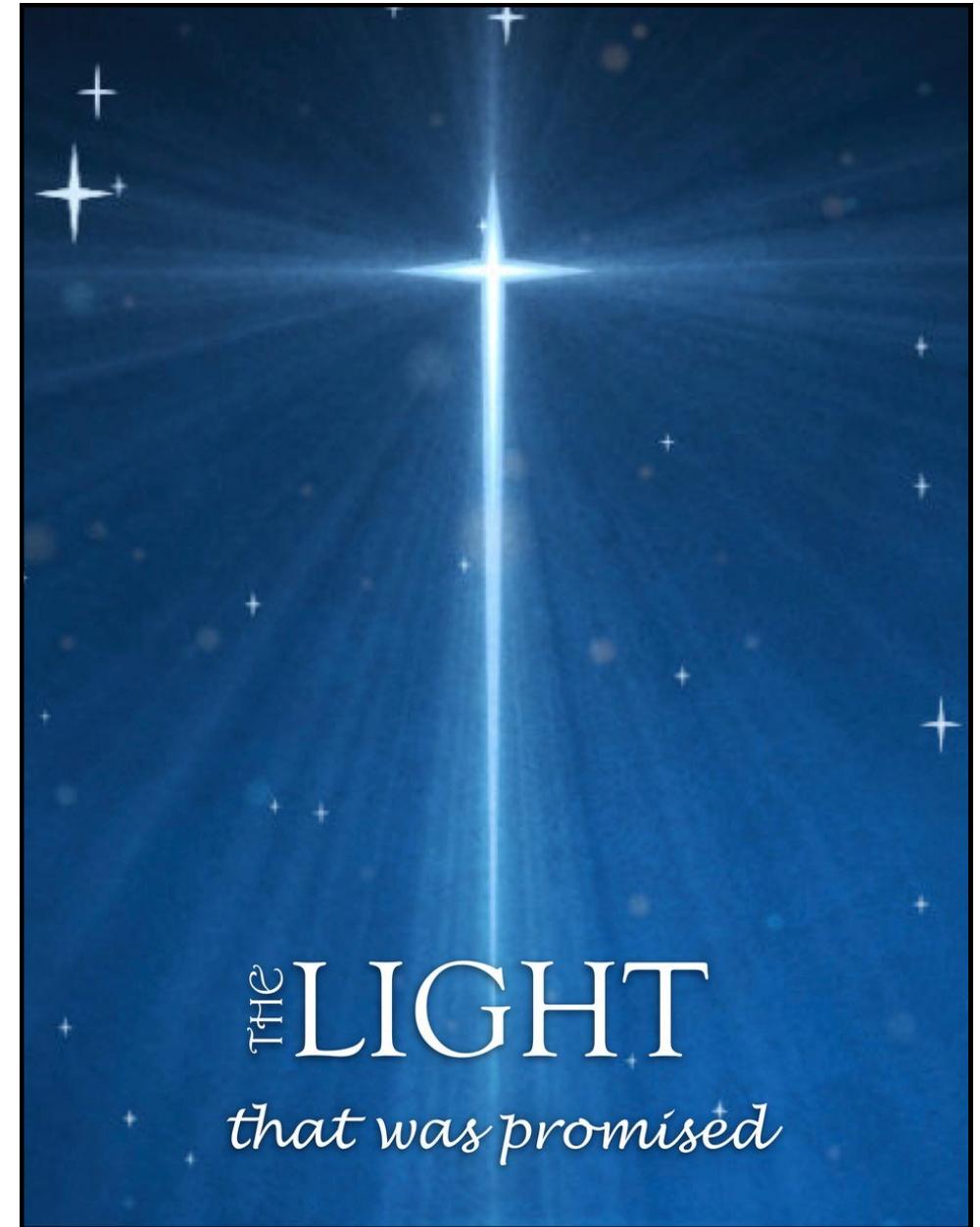




# First Presbyterian Church

410 Second Avenue | PO Box 441 | Sterling, IL 61081 | (815) 625-0452



Just a reminder that you can still access our services online! The church Facebook page will feature a link as soon as the service is posted, and the church website will also have the link. You can keep up with us by following us on Facebook and you can always find the current church newsletter and calendar on the website. If you need more information or you'd like to get the sermons via snail mail, just call the church office and leave a message: 815-631-1056

[www.firstpresbyteriansterling.org](http://www.firstpresbyteriansterling.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-Sterling-IL-105190307925/>



Pastor - Rev. Dr. Christina Berry

Ministers - All the People

November 28, 2021

## God's People Gather

### Welcome

### Threshold Moment

#### \*Call to Worship

Leader: In this season, as we await the coming of the promised light, we hear the voices of prophets, reminding us that in this child, God's light will shine.

**People: O come, Immanuel, God with us, and bring the light of God.**

Leader: We are not anxious or afraid, for God has been faithful to all generations.

**People: O come, O come, Immanuel. Come and bring us your peace.**

**All: Come, let us worship the God of peace!**

#### \*Opening Song

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

#### Prayer of Confession

**God of the Ages, your hand has guided us through bleak and difficult times, and yet, we confess that often congratulate ourselves on how well we handled such times. Your light has brightened our lives and kindled in us a desire for a deeper relationship with you, but we want it to be easy, and quick. So we seek allies who are not trustworthy; we try out solutions of our own making; we attempt to achieve peace by spending or doing or indulging more. Forgive us! Help us to be peacemakers, who carry the lamp of your loving grace out into the world. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

*Silence is kept*

#### **Assurance of Pardon** (Luke 1:78-79)

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. Know that this dawn is coming, people of God, and indeed has already come! Hear the good news and give thanks!

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

#### \*Response

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

#### \*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

#### \*Response

Dona Nobis Pacem

### God's Word is Proclaimed

### Children's Time

#### Scripture Readings

Isaiah 9:2-7

#### Sermon

### Responding to God's Word

#### Offering

#### Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

### God's People Are Sent

#### \*Closing Songs

While We Are Waiting, Come  
People Look East

#### \*Benediction

Leader: And let all God's People say...

**People: Alleluia, Amen!**

#### \*Response

God is With Us

#### Postlude