

Anthem *“The Work of Christmas”*

***Doxology**

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer (debt/debtors)

Scripture: Nehemiah 1-13

Sermon *“Nehemiah: Holy Discontent”*

***Hymn** *“We Come As Guests Invited”* **GTG#504**

Communion of God’s People **See Insert**

Postlude *“Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts”* Saint-Saens/Bish

Benediction

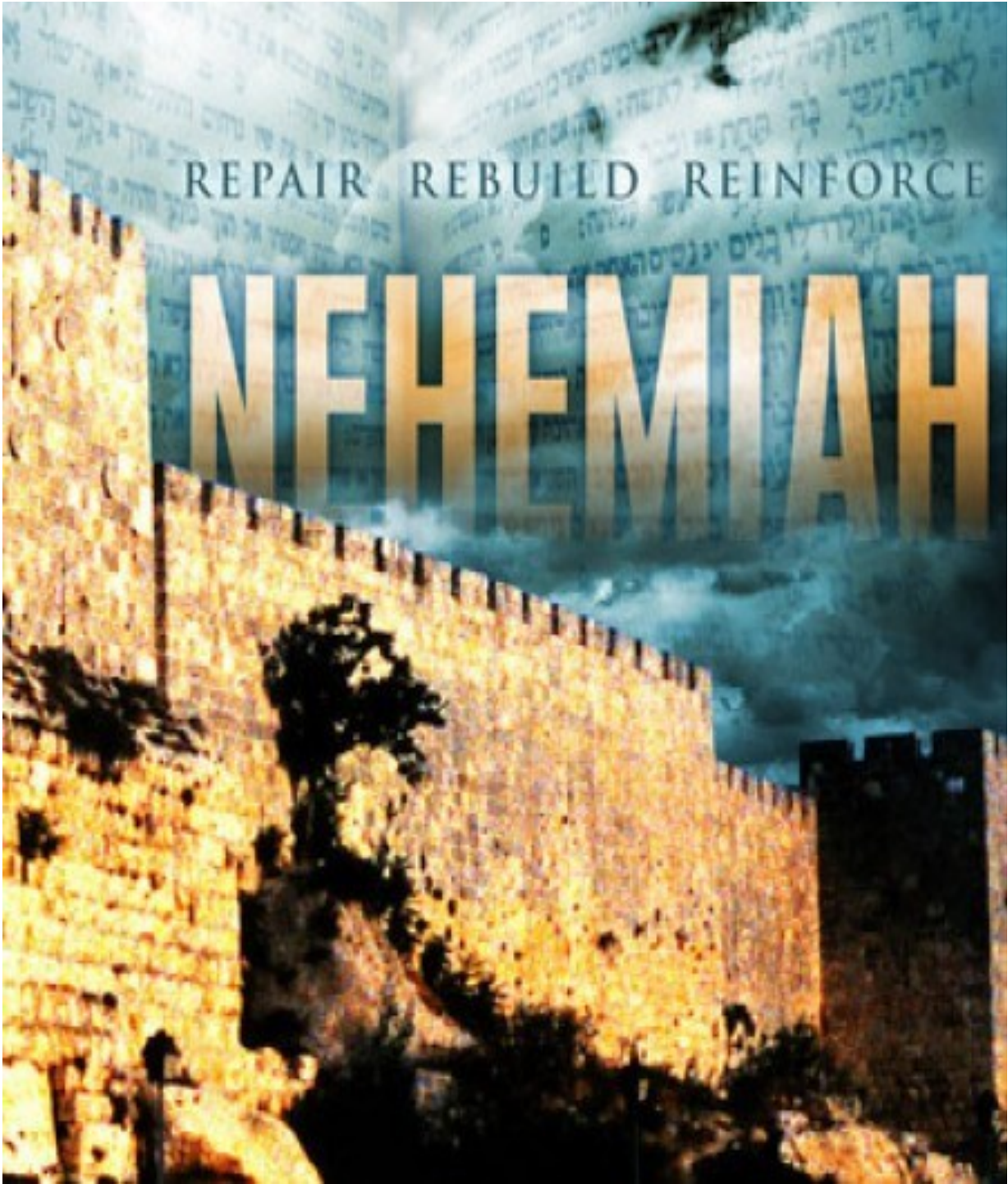
Go forth, celebrating faith.
Go forth, celebrating hope.
Go forth, celebrating love.
Go forth to be the transformed people that God calls us to be.
Go forth to transform the world— in times of prosperity, but most especially, in times of disbelief, hostility, fear, and rejection.
Go forth with the knowledge that you are always surrounded by the presence of our steadfast, loving God, our rock and our redeemer.

We welcome you to First Presbyterian Church.

Our office hours are Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

We can be found on the web at www.fpcdanville.com or on Facebook.

Please call us at 434-792-7822



First Presbyterian Church

January 2, 2022

As the chimes ring in the worship hour, we invite you to enter a time of personal reflection and congregational worship.

***Please stand as you are able.**

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

Lord, into your most holy presence we now come. Calm our anxious spirits. Remove the distractions that would keep us from you here today. Break down the walls of separation that we have built to keep you from our hardened hearts. Lead us in joy and celebration of the only reality worth knowing, that you love us as we are. Free us for joyful obedience to your claim and call on our lives this day and every day. Amen.

Prelude “What Child is This?” arr. Schram

Call to Worship

We gather today to worship the One who created us,
The One who calls us,
The One who equips us,
The One who loves us without end.
With joyful hearts, let us worship God.

***Hymn** “I Come With Joy” **GTG#515**

Call to Confession

Acknowledging that in our sin we have neglected and rejected gifts that have been provided by God, let us confess our sins together.

Prayer of Confession:

Dear God, we have known you since the time you led our ancestors from bondage to freedom. We have found no fault in your promise. Yet we wander from the path that you have set and put our faith in other “gods” which lead us away from justice, compassion and hospitality. We forsake your blessing.

**Forgive our faithlessness and our arrogance.
Restore us to right relationship with you and all those in our midst.**

God is merciful and slow to anger. God seeks the lost and extends the invitation again and again.

God welcomes us when we turn to God. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel,

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

~ written by Rev. Christopher Ney

***Passing the Peace of Christ—**

Please stand, pass the peace with cupped hands and remain standing for the hymn.

***Praise and Worship** “This Is A Day of New Beginnings” **Insert**
(Children Come Forward During Last Stanza)

A Time for Young Disciples Pastor Beth

Offering Prayer/Collection

Gracious and loving God, receive our gifts of self and substance. They have belonged to you since our very beginning. We give them freely, joyfully, prayerfully. With them we praise you. With them we celebrate the great power that is love—

a love that abides always,
a love that radically transforms,
a love that makes us whole.

Communion Liturgy

Invitation:

Christ invites to this table all who are ready to move beyond the limitations of the past, all who are eager to move into the “new thing” that God is doing in our midst, all who are willing to let go of the pain that’s gone.

[sung by all] This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that’s gone...

And so this is an open invitation to come and receive the bread that will sustain us as we embark on this new calendar year.

All are invited to receive the sweetness of the cup as a sign of God’s promise of abundant possibilities.

All are invited to this meal, for all are forgiven their past regrets and invited into God’s grace-filled future!

Praise to the Living God!

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts in this new day.
We lift them up to God.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creator and Renewer of all life. Time and again you seek us out, breathing again the breath of life into the deflated places our lives. [music begins to underscore]

And so, we come to your table again to praise you and taste yet again what your steadfast love can do... [sung by all]

In faith we’ll gather round the table to taste and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new...

[piano continues to underscore]

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. He healed the sick, fed the hungry and ate with those others considered unworthy. Through him, faith and hope were born again for so many...

For by the life and death of Jesus, God’s mighty Spirit, now as then, can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again...

Words of Institution

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” [if stopped, musical underscoring begins again]

And so, as we remember these words and acts of Jesus, we offer our own lives, leaving behind what we do not need, seeking new paths full of risen life in you.

As followers of Christ, we proclaim and live out this holy mystery:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

[sung by all] **Then let us, with the Spirit’s daring, step from the past and leave behind our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find...** [piano continues to underscore]

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, so that we may be for the world the body of Christ, breaking ourselves open to your future. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever!

[sung by all] **Christ is alive, and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new!**

Serving Today

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Broschart	Minister of Word and Sacrament
Ashley Stanley-Robey	Interim Music Director
Patricia Howell	Interim Organist
David Parris	Sound
Maggie Weller	Liturgist
Pastor Beth	Time for Young Disciples
Susan Mathena	Security, Side door & Offering
David Parris	Greeter
Susan Mathena, Barry Cutright	Communion
Leigh Blount & TBA	Sunday School

Announcements

The office will be closed Monday January 3rd for the New Year’s holiday.

Worship Committee will meet January 2nd at 9:00 a.m.

Property Committee will meet January 4th at 7 p.m.

The Evening Circle will meet Monday January 10th at 7 p.m. at the church in
Dunglinson-Roberts hall. The Day Circle will also meet at the church at 12:30 p.m.
in Westminster, Monday Jan. 10th for their monthly meeting.

Session will have a leadership retreat January 8th.

CE Committee will meet Monday January 24th at 4:30 p.m.