

Our Mission

To Know Christ and To Make Him Known

SERVING TODAY

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Broschart	Minister of Word and Sacrament
Ashley Stanley-Robey	Music Director
Patricia Taylor	Organist
Kelly Gilson	Message for Young Disciples
David Clark	Sound
Jackie Rochford	Liturgist
David Parris	Security, side door and offering
Joyce Perez	Greeter
Leigh Blount and Brenna Takata	Sunday School

First Presbyterian Church

December 18, 2022

11 a.m.



937 Main Street

Danville VA 24541

434-792-7822

www.fpcdanville.com

Office Hours: Tuesday—Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A Service for the Worship of God

GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

As you enter the sanctuary please end your conversations and respect those worshipers who seek quiet time for prayer and meditation. Please silence all electronic devices. If you need a hearing assistance device, please request one from the usher. Remaining seated is as worshipful a posture as standing. Please worship in a way that is comfortable for you.

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Call to Worship *“Come, True Light”*

Come, true light, come, life eternal,
Come, hidden mystery,
Come, nameless treasure, silent reality.
Come, person unfathomed,
Rejoicing without end,
Come, light that knows no ev'ning, no death.
Come, true light! Come, true light!
Come, true light! Come, true light!

Advent Lighting

First Person: This is the fourth Sunday of Advent. The light of these candles, flickering in the sanctuary, tells us of the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Second Person: And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

Third Person: From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace (John 1:16).

Fourth Person: The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. (Rev. 22:20).

***Hymn** *“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”* **GTG#81**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- TUESDAY:** Bell Choir meets at 5 p.m.
Choir joins Handbells at 5:30 p.m.
Dayschool Christmas party
- WEDNESDAY:** Youth Christmas party at 7 p.m.
- THURSDAY:** Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Choir rehearsal at 5 p.m.
- SATURDAY:** Handbell and Choir meet at 3:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols at 5.p.m.
- SUNDAY:** Christmas Day service 11.a.m.

*The flowers that enhance our worship are given in
loving memory of the deceased members of the Wiseman Family
by Paige and Frank Wiseman.*

“Come, Light of Christmas”

By Cindy Ovokaitys | Arr. By David S. Gaines

Winter seems endless as snow falls on snow.

The forests are frozen. The frosty winds blow.

Like dreams of tomorrow when tree buds will bloom,

We long for that moment when at last we'll see You!

Refrain: Come, Light of Christmas, come to our world!

Satisfy our souls! Shine down Your love, Immanuel!

Fill our lives with hope.

Beneath clouds of snowflakes, we're lost and alone.

We're cold in the shadows, a long way from home.

Descend now from heaven; brighten our days;

And melt ev'ry sorrow and worry away!

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, come and set Thy people free.

From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee!

Refrain repeats

Come, Light, come, Light of Christmas, come.

Call to Confession: We are a sinful people in need of restoration, but sometimes we are too stubborn or ignorant to even realize it. We are capable of such evil as well as such goodness. Let us confess our sins that we might be washed of evil and welcome the goodness that God intends for us.

Prayer of Confession

Give ear, merciful God, to our confession.

Restore us, O God!

Forgive us for the things we have done.

Restore us, O God!

Forgive us for the things we have left undone.

Restore us, O God!

For the people we've hurt, and the relationships we've broken.

Restore us, O God!

For the societal illnesses we ignore, and the injustices we dismiss.

Restore us, O God!

Forgive us, for we are sorry and recognize our need of your grace.

Make your face to shine upon us that we might be saved!

Make your face to shine upon us that we might be saved!

Assurance of Pardon

God has given ear to our confession and God's face has shined upon us! In the name of Jesus Christ, you and I are saved: saved from our sins, saved *to* our faithful savior, whose steadfast love is gifted to the world!

The Peace of Christ:

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Leader: Let us, the children of God, greet each other with cupped hands filled with Advent blessings.

Response

“Gloria Patri”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be

World without end, Amen. Amen.

Time for Young Disciples

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Prayer for the Offering

Loving God, as we present our tithes and offerings to you this morning for your blessing, we remember the greatest blessing the world has ever received: your precious Son, sent to redeem us, to pay the price for our sins. Thank you for showing us how to give from the heart. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Offertory & Doxology *“There’s a Song in the Air”* by K.P. Harrington, arr. Berry

Prayers of the People

HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem “Come, Light of Christmas” C. Ovokaitys

Scripture John 1:14,16

Sermon *“Transferable Grace”*

Affirmation of Faith

We believe that God has come to us;
that God brought us into being,
that this God gave us breath and purpose,
that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others,
that we have fallen short of this commandment
but that God has nevertheless loved us despite our brokenness.

We believe that God is coming to us;
that God is not happy to leave us alone,
that this God will come to us as a particular human being,
that God will be made known to us in flesh and bone like ours,
that Mary will soon give birth and Joseph will soon clap his hands in joy,
that Jesus Christ will be born and our salvation made complete.

We believe that God will come to us;
that God will have the final word and that the Word will be good,
that this God will give us the presence of the Spirit to continue our work,
that we are called to be disciples to all the corners of the earth,
that the day is coming when tears and pain will be no more,
and all will gather at the Table to sing an endless and perfect “Alleluia!”

*Permission is given for use in congregational worship. "Written by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing
- www.stephenmfearing.com"*

GO IN GOD'S NAME

We are sent, always to gather again around the means of grace—God’s Word and sacraments.

Closing Hymn *"Now the Heavens Start to Whisper"* **GTG#94**

Charge to the Congregation

Postlude *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”* arr. R.E. Schram
(Please Remain Seated)

Benediction

Be people of love.

Let love live in your heart and share the love of Christ with all you meet.

Share love by loving those you see regularly.

Start by loving your community.

Share love by loving those you do not know.

How do your actions affect the rest of God's creation?

Share love by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share love.

As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share love, joy, peace, and hope with those you meet.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
The Source of Our Being,
The Light in Our Darkness,
Spirit of Wisdom in Our Seeking,
rest upon you and remain within you, always.
Amen.