

**Morning Worship**

**December 11, 2016—The Third Sunday of Advent**

Please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it to your neighbor. \*Please stand if able. It is our custom to sing, "Amen," after hymns.

**PRELUDE** "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" arr. K. D. Varner

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE** The Parris and Beale Families

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, and we will light the Candle of Love. Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Peace. We light it and the Candle of Hope again as we remember Jesus, born in Bethlehem, our hope and our peace. *(The Candles of Hope & Peace are lit)*

Today we light the Third Candle of Advent, the Candle of Love. In their old age God gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth a son called John. John spoke to the people bravely in the desert, denying his own comforts and prepared to die for what he believed. John taught that we should share what we have with others, treat each other kindly and show God's love. He did this because he cared for people and wanted them to repent and find God's forgiveness. *(The Third Candle is lit, the Candle of Love)*

Love is like a candle shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the love we have in Christ.

**Let us pray:** Lord God, your witness, John the Baptist, grew up strong in spirit and prepared people for the coming of the Lord. He loved your people and baptized them in the River Jordan to wash away their sins. Help us to have the same sharing spirit John had and to spread the good news of your love. As Christmas draws closer day by day, help us to be ready to welcome Christ, for whom John prepared the way. In Christ's name we pray. Amen

**RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

**LEADER:** Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.

**PEOPLE:** *The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; He has become my salvation.*

**LEADER:** With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. In that day you will say:

**PEOPLE:** *Give praise to the Lord, proclaim His name; make known among the nations what He has done, and proclaim that His name is exalted.*

**LEADER:** Sing to the Lord, for He has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

**PEOPLE:** *Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.*

**\*HYMN OF WORSHIP 2** "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Almighty and everlasting God, You are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and more wont to give than either we desire or deserve; pour down upon us the abundance of Thy mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and grant us that newness of life that will lead us to praise You with a clean heart and right spirit. Hear our prayer as we continue in silence.

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

**Leader:** In Christ there is no east or west, in Him no south or north.

**People:** *But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.*

**Leader:** Friends, believe in the good news. In Christ we are reconciled and made one.

**People:** *By God's great mercy we are a new creation, a new people, a community of forgiveness and love. Thanks be to God!*

**Gloria Patri (579)** GREATOREX, 1851  
*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.*

**DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS:**

Offering in Music: "What Child Is This?" arr. Marilyn Ham

Doxology 591 OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

Prayer of Dedication

**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES** Erin Parris

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP** Whitney Clarke

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.*

**ANTHEM:** "Christmas Grace" Ruth Elaine Schram

**UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:**

*Guide us, O God, by your word and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**LESSON** (page 688/725) Matthew 11:2-11

**SERMON** "Put the Pieces Together" Rev. Thompson

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Hymnal Pg. 14) The Apostles' Creed  
*I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen*

**\*HYMN OF WORSHIP 11** "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?"

**BENEDICTION**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel! Amen."

**POSTLUDE** "Carols of Joy and Wonder" arr. Steven Scott

<b>Praise God for Last Sunday:</b>	Sunday School Attendance	
	Worship Attendance	Not Recorded
	Tithes & Offerings	\$6,768.00

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We provide **nursery care** from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM and **Sunday School** for grades K-5 after Time for Young Disciples.

**PASTORAL CONCERNS**—Kevin Bailey, Anne Banks, Chuck Bolt, Pat Bolt, Alice & Randy Bradshaw, Beth Brown, Bill Brown, Claire Campbell, Nelson R. Clark, Ruby Crowell, Maude Dalton, Rev. Cecil Eanes, R. L. Clifton, Clarence Edmunds, Bill Erwin, Sarah Fisher (Sally Clark's Mother), Betty Fitzgerald, Anne Grier, Fred Gunn, Lois Hayes, Christina Hermetz (Kelsey Thompson's sister), Tim Hooker, Kathy Huggins, Kay Huggins (son-in-law of Thomas and Alice Saunders), Conner Jones, Jana Keen and family, Angela Langford, Ruth Lawton, Malcolm Mallery, Larry Mann, Carol Ingram McGee, Thelma Meadors, Carolyn Miles, Larry Miller, A. B. Motley, Debbie Perrin Neal, Lee Norman, Greg Nunley, Ken Obye, Ella Ryan, Ethel Sakellaris, Alice Saunders, Lynn Saunders, Linda Terriberly, Hampton Wilkins, Nultie Wiseman.

Our condolences to Barbara Newnam on the passing of her brother.

Our condolences to the family and many friends of Alex Mitchell, who passed away on Sunday, December 4. A Memorial Service will be held Thursday, December 15 at 11 a.m. at Church of the Epiphany.

**ON THE MEND**—(Praise & Gratitude for improved condition) Ann Banks, Kelvin Gunn, Paul Johnson, Grace Litzenberg, Thomas Peyton Mahaffey, Mary Ann Shelton, Russell Vandiver, Jean White

There will be a **congregational meeting** after worship **TODAY** for the purpose of electing officers for Class of 2019.

**The Angel Tree Party** will be held **Saturday, Dec. 17** from 2-4 in the fellowship hall. We would love your presence and help! Contact **Marie-Louise Crane** for more information.



The flowers that enhance our worship are given in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Kirk by the family.



**Family Night Supper** will be held **Wednesday, Dec. 14.**  
Team 3 will host.  
Menu: Baked Ham, Macaroni and Cheese, Yams, Green Vegetable, Rolls, Salad, Assorted Desserts  
**Christmas Carol Sing-along**

**Christmas Eve Services:**  
**5 p.m. and 11 p.m.**  
**Christmas Day Service:**  
**10:30 a.m.**



<b>Serving Today</b>	
Nursery/Sunday School	Ava Barrett
Children's Sunday School	Kathy Dolianitis
	Lisa and Lia Argyrakis
Elders at Front Door	Gary Wimer
Friendship Period	Mike Reynolds, David Swann, Dave Clark
Deacon to Receive Offering	David Swann
Officers to Count Offering	Beale/Meadema
Church School Superintendent	Gail Davis
Liturgist	Gene Hayes
Time for Young Disciples	Erin Parris
Sound System	Fred Baker
Ushers	Team 2
Flower Ministry	Elders
Saturday Lunch Ministry Dec. 17	John Parris & Joan Reynolds

*THE COLUMNS OF THE*  
**First Presbyterian**  
**Church**



*937 Main Street, Danville, Virginia*

*434-792-7822*

*To know Christ and make Him known*

<b><u>THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN</u></b>	
<b><u>MONDAY, December 12</u></b>	<b><u>FRIDAY, December 16</u></b>
9 a.m. Day School	All Day Church Office Closed
9:15 a.m. Prayer Group	<b><u>SATURDAY, December 17</u></b>
10 a.m. Staff Meeting	8 a.m. Men's Breakfast
<b><u>TUESDAY, December 13</u></b>	10:45 a.m. Lunch Min. Bible Study
9 a.m. Day School	11:15 a.m. Lunch Ministry
6:15 p.m. Handbells	2 p.m. Angel Tree Party
7 p.m. Session	<b><u>SUNDAY, December 18</u></b>
<b><u>WEDNESDAY, December 14</u></b>	9 a.m. Missions Committee
9 a.m. Day School	9:45 a.m. Sunday School:
12:15 p.m. Mid-Week Chapel Service	Mid & High School, Rm 112
6 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper Youth	Outlook Class, Rm 322
<b><u>THURSDAY, December 15</u></b>	Seekers, Rm 109
9 a.m. Day School	10:45 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	Mid-worship K-2/3-5 SS