

Morning Worship—December 24, 2017

4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve

*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 “Angels From the Realms of Glory” arr. E.T. Rogers
INTROIT “Let the Bright Seraphim” Susanne Singer, solo
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE “Love” The Brown Family

Leader: Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Joy. We light it, and the candle of Hope and Peace, as we remember that Jesus, born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfill all of God’s promises and bring us everlasting peace and joy. [The Candles of Joy, Hope & Peace are lit.] Today we light the fourth candle of Advent, the Candle of Love. In their old age God gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth a son called John. 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 Fourth 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. 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: Friends, God is our refuge and strength.

People: A present help in time of trouble.

Leader: God is our good Shepherd.

People: With us in the valley of the shadow of death.

Leader: God is our sure foundation.

People: Against all the storms of life.

Leader: Let us joyfully worship God.

***HYMN OF WORSHIP 9**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we know that we forget about You, we forget to love You, we forget to help our neighbors, we forget to thank You. Grant us clear minds to know You, new hearts to love You, strong hands to serve You. Help us live this day, this week, and always so that our whole life is a thanksgiving to You.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The truth about us is hard to receive,

People: but it is spoken with boundless love.

Leader: God’s judgment is just,

People: but Christ has taken our place and died for our sins.

Leader: Friends, in Christ we are forgiven.

People: Mercy abounds!

All: 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

“Ding, Dong, Merrily on High”

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

Nicole Bracey

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

arr. Hal Hopson

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, in You are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of Your word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of Your wisdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LESSON

(846/888)

Hebrews 1:1-4

SERMON

“He Has Spoken to Us”

Rev. Allen Thompson

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Hymnal Pg. 14)

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 49**

“Once in Royal David’s City”

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE 43, stanza 4

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

POSTLUDE

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!”

arr. Jan Sanborn

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— Chlodine Bittner (Jackson Weller’s grandmother), Alice Bradshaw, (Becky Meadema’s Mother), Mary Bray, Kathy Cropp, Marilyn East, Stacy Falden (Estella Falden’s granddaughter), Mrs. H. Harris (Kathleen Harris’ Mother), Maurice Katoen, Nancy Poindexter, Richard Ramey, Tom West, Samantha Williams

ON THE MEND— Dianne East, Nultie Wiseman

Our condolences to the Lorimer family in the passing of Bill, Jr. who died December 7th.

Our condolences to the family of Maude Dalton who passed away December 15.

Our condolences to the family of Munford Pritchett who passed away December 14th.

Our next Wednesday Family Dinner will be January 3rd at 6 p.m. It will be Game night ! Price is \$6 per person/ Children 10 & under free. We will have chili , cornbread, salad, delicious cake for dessert.



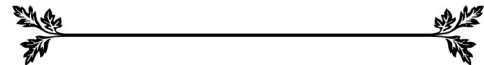
Celebrating 191 years of ministering in Danville December 31st

1826-2017



SERVING TODAY

Nursery/Sunday School	Harriet Beale
Children’s Sunday School	Rebecca Atkinson/Chris Moore Sara Weller/Jennifer Stowe
Elders at Front Door	Beale
Friendship Period	H. Beale/Barrett
Deacon to Receive Offering	ML Crane
Officers to Count Offering	Barrett/Crane
Church School Superintendent	Gail Davis
Liturgist	Gail Gunn
Time for Young Disciples	Nicole Bracey
Sound System	C.B. Strange
Ushers	Team 4
Flower Ministry	Elders
Weekend Custodian	Ron Tanner
Childcare Specialists	Lea Smith, Kelley Fochler
Saturday Lunch Ministry Dec. 30	J. Brown/Newnam
Saturday Lunch Attendance Dec. 23	52



The Staff of First Presbyterian Church
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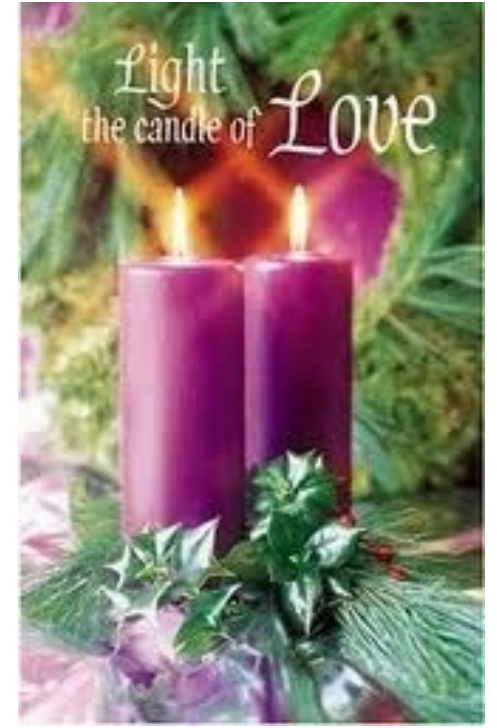
The Columns of the

**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

*937 Main St., Danville, VA
434.792.7822*

**TO KNOW CHRIST AND MAKE
HIM KNOWN**

December 24, 2017



THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

MONDAY, December 25

Office Closed

TUESDAY, December 26

Office Closed

THURSDAY, December 28

No Chancel Choir Practice

FRIDAY, December 29

All Day Church Office Closed

SATURDAY, December 30

10:45 a.m. Lunch Min. Bible Study

11:30 a.m. Lunch Ministry

SUNDAY, December 31

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Sunday School:

Mid & High School, Rm 112

Outlook Class, Rm 322

Bible Fellowship, Library

Seekers, Rm 109

11 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

Mid-worship K-2/3-5 SS