

Morning Worship—December 22nd, 2019

4th 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.

As the chimes ring in the worship hour,

we invite people to enter a time of personal reflection and congregational worship.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme” by J. S. Bach

INTROIT “Carols of Western Europe” arr. Mark Hayes

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE “Love” Deacons

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.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 49 “Once in Royal David’s City”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
God of salvation, in Christ you have done great things – our hearts are filled with joy. By your power you lifted us out of the wasteland of sin and brought us with joy and laughter into your kingdom. Salvation is your gift to us. But we confess that often we try to replace your gift with our own efforts. We try to complete what is already perfect and we try to add to what has already been fulfilled. Forgive us for our foolishness. Help us to focus on your grace. Help us to live grateful lives in return. For Christ’s sake alone, we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Leader: Jesus, the long-expected Savior, was born to set us free. He releases us from our fears and sins and helps us find our rest in him. The Messiah has come so that you may know that in him your sins are forgiven.
People: Come now, long-expected Jesus, come again to rule in our hearts. Amen.

*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.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Tom Barrett
(children exit for Sunday School)

ANTHEM “Carols of Eastern Europe” arr. Mark Hayes

PSALM READING Psalm 96:1-6

GOSPEL READING Luke 1:26-38

*HYMN 11 “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?”

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER (See pew insert)

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS
Offering in Music “Masters in This Hall” arr. Lloyd Larson
*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

SPECIAL MUSIC “Carols of the British Isles” arr. Mark Hayes

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 360 “Hope of the World”
(children return from Sunday School)

*BENEDICTION
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE 10, last stanza “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

POSTLUDE “God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen” arr. E. T. Rogers



The flowers today are given in memory of our beloved Marie-Louise Crane
by the Handbell Choir, the Chancel Choir, and her church sisters.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORAL CONCERNS— Chlodine Bittner (J. Weller’s grandmother), Lisa Bolt, Amy Bracey, Whitney Bracey (N. Bracey sister-in-law), Bill Brown, Matthew Dolianitis, Betty & Bill Fitzgerald, Carroll Garrett, Kay Gillespie, Fred Gunn (W. Gunn’s brother), Flo Hall, Ray Hayes, Sister Jones (P. Brandon), Peggy Lackey, Bob Lowther, Martha McQueen, Ronnie Mathena, Patrick Martin (H. Beale), Carolyn Miles, Tony Parker (W. Barrow’s father), Dick Stoakley, Debra Bolt Thompson, Hampton Wilkins, Easton Zunker (K. Meadows)

The concerns of those who wish to remain unnamed. Our PNC Committee. Our Service Personnel & First Responders. The people of Togo.

ON THE MEND — Mrs. Helen Harris

We continue our Advent Study at 3:30 p.m. in Dunglinson–Roberts Hall, our study is on the words of Advent. This will conclude the series. We hope to have other studies in the future.

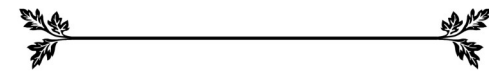
We will receive our Christmas Joy Offering today. The Christmas Joy offering supports the PC USA assistance program of the Board of Pensions. It supports current and retired church workers and their families in need. Thanks to this support families can receive financial assistance to support them through life’s challenging circumstances. Please consider giving to this cause.

Our Christmas Eve service will be at 5 p.m. Invite your neighbors and friends to this special service.

Church office will be open 1/2 day Christmas Eve and be closed the rest of the week.

We will reopen Monday Dec. 30th.

SERVING TODAY	
Nursery/Sunday School	H. Beale
Combined Sunday School	The Jones family
Elders at Front Door	J. Perez
Security & Side Door	R. Beale
Visitation	N. Bracey
Deacon to Receive Offering	K. Dolianitis
Officers to Count Offering	Barrett/ B. Wilson
Church School Superintendent	Gail Davis
Liturgist	B. Hayes
Time for Young Disciples	T. Barrett
Sound System	C. B. Strange
Ushers	Team 4
Flower Ministry	Elders
Childcare Specialists	Lea Smith, Kelley Fochler
Saturday Lunch Ministry Dec. 28th	M. Bell/J. Nostrandt
Saturday Lunch Attendance 12/14	53



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 22, 2019



THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

<u>MONDAY, December 23</u>	
9:30 a.m.	Prayer Group
10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
<u>TUESDAY, December 24</u>	
5:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
<u>WEDNESDAY, December 25</u>	
Merry Christmas	
<u>THURSDAY, December 26</u>	
All Day Church Office Closed	
<u>FRIDAY, December 27</u>	
All Day Church Office Closed	
<u>SATURDAY, December 28</u>	
11:30 a.m.	Lunch Ministry
<u>SUNDAY, December 29</u>	
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School: See below for Class information
11:00 a.m.	Worship Mid-worship K-2/3-5 SS
Noon	Fellowship

Opportunities to Study the Word every Sunday Morning

Youth & Adult Sunday School 9:45 a.m.– 10:40 a.m.

Youth (middle & high school) Rm 112 /discussion type class studying scripture lesson used in Sunday’s sermon

Bible Seekers/Rm 109/ “Feasting on the Word” / discussion type class

Bible Study Fellowship/Library/ Ligonier Ministry’s “Tabletalk Magazine” / discussion type class

Outlook/Rm 322/“The Present Word” / lecture type class

The Children’s Extended Time (mid-worship 11:15-12:00) Deep Blue Cokesbury Curriculum

K-2 /Rm304/various instructors/**Gr 3-5**/Rm 306/various instructors

Nursery care from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM & Sunday School for grades K-5 after Time for Young Disciples.