



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN**
celebrating & inspiring

1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road
(434) 384-6231 · www.fpcls.org · e-mail: info@fpcls.org
<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>
LIVE Radio Broadcast on WLNI 105.9 FM at 10:30 a.m.
LIVE Video Streaming on www.fpcls.org at 10:30 a.m.

Worship... Second Sunday in Advent with Communion

December 5, 2021

**Those who are able, please stand.*

Children are welcome and encouraged to remain in Worship. If needed, Nursery (Room 8) is available for children 3-years-old and under. Please ask an usher or greeter if you need any assistance locating the Nursery.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude **Religious Suite for Organ, Introit: Veni Emmanuel** P. A. Yon

Bell Introit **O, Come Let Us Adore Him** A. B. Sherman

Welcome, Announcements, and Lighting of Advent Wreath

***Hymn #3: Comfort, Comfort You My People** Psalm 42

*Comfort, comfort you my people,
Tell of peace, thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness
Bowed beneath oppression's load.*

*Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell them that their sins I cover,
And their warfare now is over.*

*For the herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Bidding us to make repentance
Since the kingdom now is here.*

*O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise in meeting
And the hills bow down in greeting.*

*Make ye straight what long was crooked,
Make the rougher places plain:
Let your hearts be true and humble,
As befits God's holy reign,
For the glory of the Lord
Now o'er earth is shed abroad;
And all flesh shall see the token
That God's word is never broken.*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of peace, it is Advent. It is the season in which we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ, who is the bringer of all peace. We confess to you the ways in which we block the peace of Christ in our lives: the rushing and scurrying to get things done; the worry about the little details; the financial burdens we put on ourselves; the impatience and irritability we feel and take out on one another; the bickering and quarreling we get into because we are too busy. Though we make ourselves less than peaceful at this time of the year, your peace is always there for us: when we feel overwhelmed; when we are filled with worry; when we become irritable; when the guilt of our ways threatens to overcome us. God of peace, may we remember that in Christ we are forgiven. May the peace we have in Christ help us to make choices that brings us closer to you and spread Christ's peace to others.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose coming we announce in this season, is our righteousness.

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are made right with God. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Gloria

Hymn #23

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*Affirmation of Faith: Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Kathleen Lifsey

Bell Anthem

Jubilant Fanfare

K. McChesney

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Luke 3:1-6

(pew Bible NT, p. 60)

"Make Room"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Carol of the Advent

P. R. Dietterich

*People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.*

*Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.*

*Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the bird, is on the way.*

*Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.*

*Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.*

*Doxology

Hymn #592

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

*Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE

*Hymn #13: Prepare the Way

Bereden Vag For Herran

*Prepare the way O Zion
Your Christ is drawing near
Let every hill and valley
A level way appear
Great One who comes in glory
Foretold in sacred story*

*Refrain: On blest is Christ that came
In God's most holy name*

*Christ bring God's rule O Zion
He comes from heaven above
His rule is peace and freedom
And justice truth and love
Lift high your praise resounding
For grace and joy abounding (Refrain)*

*Fling wide your gates, O Zion
Your Savior's rule embrace
And tidings of salvation
Proclaim in every place
All lands will bow rejoicing
Their adoration voicing (Refrain)*

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction

Threefold Amen

Danish

Postlude

Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates

W. Held

Share the Love, Joy, and Peace of Christ

Worship Leader: Bianca Childress

Interested in growing closer to God and others? How about learning more about FPCLY?

We believe as the body of Christ, we are here to worship joyfully, grow spiritually, love boldly, and serve faithfully. We welcome any opportunities to build relationships with one another and would love to walk alongside you in God's gift of life. Conversations, coffee, and/or church tours can be arranged by calling or emailing Peter at the church office (434-384-6231, peter@fpcly.org).

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ADVENT

Worship, Grow, Love, Serve

No 8:30 a.m. Outside Parking Lot Services in December
will resume Sunday, January 2, 2022 (weather-permitting)

“In Memory of” or “In Honor of” Christmas Poinsettias

To order, use sign-up sheet and envelope just off the foyer or at fpclly.org “Giving” page
\$15 per plant, to be picked up after worship, December 19
Deadline to order is December 13

Jolly Jamboree! TODAY and NEXT SUNDAY, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Adult-friendly *and* kid-friendly event—fun for all ages! Opportunities to worship, grow, love, and serve all in one event
in the company of family and friends! *(There just might be a special visitor as well...)*

FPC Weekday School Polar Express: Wednesday, December 8, 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Contact the Weekday School for tickets and more information (FPCLY rear parking lot)

Called Congregational Meeting: December 12, following 10:30 a.m. worship (Sanctuary)
Nominating Committee presents Matt Foster, Elsie Howerton, and Gary Williams as Elders’ Elect
Class of 2024 and Personnel Committee presents 2022 Terms of Call for The Rev. Dr. Peter A. Thompson

Service of Lessons and Carols – Sunday, December 19, 10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)
featuring strings and the FPCLY Chancel Choir

Christmas Eve Carols and Communion: December 24, 4:00 p.m. (Front Circle, Outside)

Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight: December 24, 11:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Pastor on Call: Peter Thompson (336) 269-7270

Members Helping Members for December: Elinor Ann Clark (434) 386-3889 and Gail Kowalski (434) 384-6058

Prayer Chain, Prayer Shawls, Cards of Encouragement: Email peter@fpclly.org or stroudiane@comcast.net

DON'T FORGET! GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY BEFORE THEY SELL OUT!

First Pres Presents: “The King’s Singers” – February 25, 2022

TICKETS AVAILABLE @ WWW.FPCLY.ORG/GIVING

Year-End Reminders from the Business Office

2021 Contribution Deadlines

Contributions *received in the office by close of business December 31* or **postmarked by December 31** will be posted to contribution statements for the 2021 tax year.

Electronic Contributions Gifts by credit card or draft of your checking account need to be given to Lori Wright by **December 22**, for credit to the 2021 Tax Year.

Make your **stock gift transfers right away**. This will allow time for the gifts to be transferred to our accounts and for proceeds to be received by year end.

Annual Pledges Please contact Lori Wright if you have not completed your **2022 pledge card** or have any questions about the balance outstanding.

Rooted & Reaching Campaign If you have not completed your annual portion of your pledge commitment, please also submit before December 31.

Expense Reimbursements

Please submit any requests for reimbursement of 2021 budget year expenses by **December 29**. Any checks written after December 31 will be charged to the 2022 budget.

VISIT WWW.FPCLY.ORG FOR CALENDAR AND MORE

Advent at First Pres

Advent is a season of waiting and preparing for God's greatest gift to us—Jesus!

Sunday Worship

Let us come together for one worship service as we await Christ's coming!

10:30am, Sanctuary, livestream, & radio

November 28: Service of Praise and Singing
featuring music by Whitney and Robert O'Brian & seasonal songs

December 5: Advent Service, Make Room
featuring FPCLY Chancel Ringers

December 12: Advent Service, Make Room

December 19: Service of Lessons and Carols
featuring music by our Chancel choir and a string quartet

Advent Activities

December 4 @ 4pm, Sanctuary

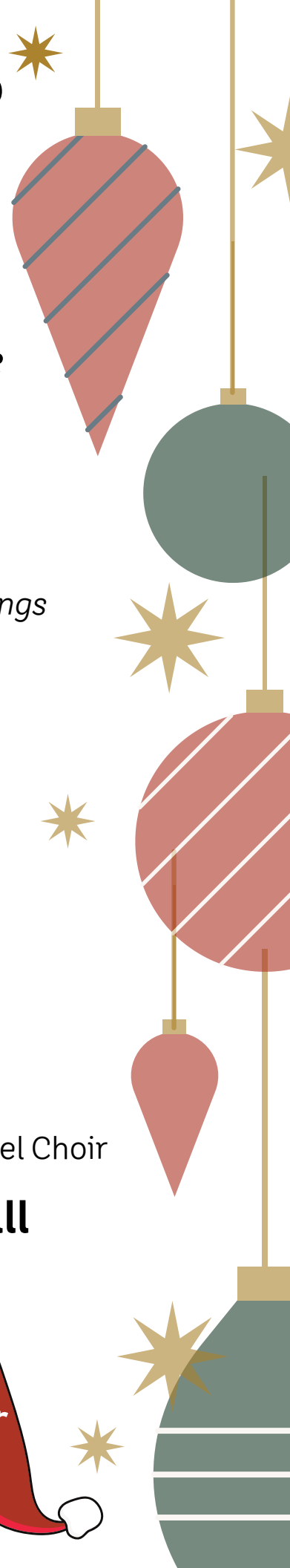
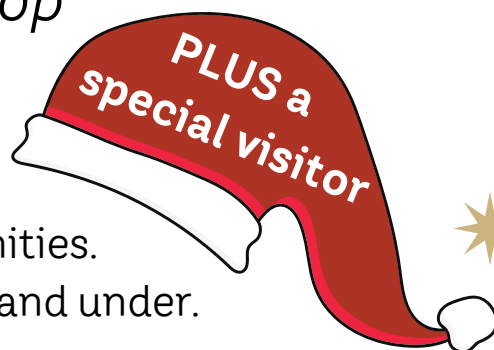
Songs of Good Cheer Advent Concert

featuring John Rutter's Gloria performed by the FPCLY Chancel Choir

December 5 & 12, 4:30–6pm, Fellowship Hall

Jolly Jamboree: Advent Workshop

- cookie & ornament decorating,
- advent wreath lighting & carols,
- "It's a Wonderful Life" study, and
- outreach & alternative giving opportunities.
- Nursery will be available for children 3 and under.



The culmination of Advent is the season of Christmas celebrating the arrival of Christ as Emmanuel - God with us. Christ comes bearing gifts of light, love, hope, joy, and peace for all!

Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24

4:00pm

Carols and Communion
outside, in the front circle
family-friendly
festive attire encouraged! (pajamas included!)

11:00pm

Carols, Communion, & Candlelight
Sanctuary

Sunday Worship

December 26

10:30am

One Service Only



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