



Advent 2022

EXPERIENCING A
SACRED
CHRISTMAS



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN**
celebrating & inspiring

1215 Virginia Episcopal School Road
(434) 384-6231 · www.fpclly.org · e-mail: info@fpclly.org
<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresoflynchburg/>
LIVE Video Streaming on www.fpclly.org at 9:30 a.m.
LIVE Radio Broadcast on WLNI 105.9 FM at 9:30 a.m.

Worship... Christmas Eve

December 24, 2022

4:00 p.m.

**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

What Child is This

Greensleeves

Rose Baker, Violin

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Ethan, Brittany, and Asher Silver

Welcome

Prayer for Christmas

Great God, as you came at night when all was still, so enter our lives this night. Illumine our paths with the light of Christ's presence, that we may clearly see the way, the truth, and the life. Give us such love and wonder that with shepherds and magi, and pilgrims unknown, we may come to adore the holy child, the promised king; and with our gifts worship him, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

***Medley of Christmas Carols:** *(see last page)*

Children's Moment

Following the children's moment, all children are encouraged to return to their seats with family to participate in the remainder of worship together. Worship carts with learning resources for children of all ages are available in the Narthex. Please help yourself.

New Testament Reading: John 1:1-18

(pew Bible NT, p.91-92)

"Blinded by the Light"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

All those who trust and believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior are invited to come forward to receive the bread of life and cup of salvation. Children are welcome too as God's love envelopes them and claims them even before they profess their faith.

As you come forward to receive the bread of life and cup of salvation, you are invited and encouraged to bring your offerings to God and God's church and place them in the offering plates on the table.

Communion Music

O Holy Night
Rose Baker, violin

Arr. W. Fritchie

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE

Litany for Christmas

Leader: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.
All: Glory to God in the highest!
Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
All: Glory to God in the highest!
Leader: For a child has been born for us, a Son has been given to us.
All: Glory to God in the highest!
Leader: To us is born in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.
All: Glory to God in the highest!
Leader: And the Word became flesh and lived among us.
All: Glory to God in the highest!
Leader: Jesus Christ, the light of the world!
The light shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it.

Lighting the Christ Candle: Isaiah 9:2-7 Martin, Kelly, William, and Margaret Knight

Sharing the Light of Christ

In honor of Christ's light in the world, everyone should have received a candle upon entering the Sanctuary. Once the Christ Candle is lit, the light will be passed to each individual throughout the Sanctuary. Once the light has been shared with all, we will sing "Silent Night, Holy Night" together. All candles may be extinguished following the benediction.

***Hymn #60: Silent Night, Holy Night**

Stille Nacht

Verses 1 and 4 only

***Benediction**

Please return your candles by placing them in the bins at the doors as you exit the Sanctuary.

Stewardship: God wants to partner with YOU!

2023 Pledge Cards and Narrative Budgets are available. If you have not yet completed your commitment to partner with God and God's church here at FPCLY in 2023, we encourage you to do so as soon as you are able. We look forward to partnering with you!

Education Classes Resume - Sunday, January 8 @ 11:00 a.m.

Get ready for Sunday and weekday education opportunities to return! On Sunday, January 8, all classes for adults, youth, and children will be back up and running. We look forward to hallways and classrooms filled with life, laughter, and love as we discover, learn, and grow together! More information is coming soon!

Malawi Trip

Planning has started for a trip to Malawi in mid to late June 2023 to visit with and learn from our partnering churches and organizations there. If you are interested in learning more about what that trip will look like reach out to Alex Collier (alex@fpcly.org) or Bill Perkins (wwbillperkins@gmail.com).

Year-End Reminders from the Business Office

- **2022 Contributions.** All contributions *received in the office by close of business December 29* (due to office closure on 12/30) *or postmarked by December 31* will be posted to contribution statements for the 2022 tax year. Contact Lori Wright with any questions about your *2022 Annual Pledge* or your *Rooted and Reaching* capital campaign pledge.
- **Electronic Contributions (credit card or draft from your checking account).** You can make your credit card contributions now using the QR code to the right or your online bill pay system. Should you need assistance with either, contact Lori by **December 27** to ensure everything clears for the 2022 tax year.
- **Stock Gift Transfers.** If you plan to transfer stock for your contribution, *please complete those right away*. It takes time for the gifts to be transferred to our accounts & clear by the end of the year.
- **Expense Reimbursements.** Please submit requests for reimbursement for any 2022 expenses by **December 28**. Any checks written after December 31 will be charged to the 2023 budget.
- **Annual Pledge 2023.** If you have not completed your pledge for 2023, please contact Lori Wright.



Contact Lori Wright (lori@fpcly.org), FPCLY Business Director, with questions about any of the above.

**** Please view the calendar at www.fpclly.org or call the church office for more information. ****

Church offices will be closed December 26, 27, 30, and January 2.

Pastors on Call: Rev. Dr. Peter Thompson (336) 269-7270, Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson (804) 399-9545

Members Helping Members for December: Elinor Ann Clark 434-386-3889 or 434-841-7778,
Gail Kowalski 434-384-6058 or 434-942-1465

Call To Respond

2022 has been a rather curious year for all of us in many ways and that is true for the church as well. Whereas 2022 expenses are actually below budget, our financial projections for 2022 look to show the church with a revenue shortfall of almost \$100,000. Therefore, we would like to make an appeal to all of you in the Congregation, as the Holidays and year-end approach, to make one extra Christmas gift for First Presbyterian. For those of you who regularly make a late year gift, please consider adding a little. If you fulfill your annual pledge on a monthly basis, please think about adding something to your December contribution. If you have already completed your 2022 Pledge, please add a little "Love Gift" to the Church in your plans. This really is a situation where, if we all help, the work will get done. Thank you for your consideration. Your Finance Committee: Bill Paxton, Chal Nunn, Kathryn Pumphrey, Frank Whitehouse, Dennis Howard, Dave Tate, Randy Nexsen, and Kirk Todd.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him,
Born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord!

3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord!

Away in a Manger

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His
sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down
where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to
stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender
care,
And fit us for Heaven to live with Thee
there.

Angels We Have Heard on High

1. Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo;
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo;
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Once in Royal David's City

1. Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

4. And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Joy to the World!

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven, and nature
sing.

4. He rules the world with truth and
grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.



