



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.

***Gloria**

Hymn #23

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

***Affirmation of Faith: Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39**

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment

Catherine Adams

After the Choral Anthem, children preschool - 2nd graders are invited to participate in a combined Worship Workshop experience in Room 101 to learn more about the practices and purpose of worship.

Choral Anthem

Sing Now with Great Rejoicing

J. S. Bach

To earth for our salvation! Sing now the great rejoicing!

Awaits the earth, Messiah's birth: The King of all creation! Sing now, O sing: Alleluia!

Oh, hasten, Infant Jesus, To earth be born and save us; And send Thy tender mercy To us, O Holy Jesus: Awaits the earth Messiah's birth; O Prince of Peace, now gladly We sing to Thee: Alleluia

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Readings:

Matthew 24:36-44

(pew Bible NT, p.27-28)

Romans 13:11-14

(pew Bible NT, p.162)

"Experiencing a Sacred Christmas: Preparing"

Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Call to Offering

Organ Offertory

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

R. A. Hobby

***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**

Postlude

People, Look East!

K. Langlois

We encourage all to share the love, joy, and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ with one another. All are also encouraged to join in the Narthex for lemonade and cookies before participating in one of the many spiritual growth opportunities available for all ages.

Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Anne Haile Burks Turpin Farmer who went to be with her Lord and Savior on October 12, 2022. She is remembered by many including her daughter Rebekah Trexler and her husband Michael, as well as, her son William Turpin and his wife Ann.

Stewardship: God wants to partner with YOU!

Next Sunday, December 4, the Session will be meeting and one of the main focuses of that meeting will be the 2023 proposed operating budget. At this time, the congregation represents pledge amounts totaling \$420,352 for 2023. Thank you to all who have made your 2023 commitment and pledge to partner with God and God's church in 2023. The stark reality of fewer and lower pledging can have major implications on the operations and ministries First Presbyterian Church is able to faithfully attend. To meet and support the goals and needs outlined in the narrative budget, a tremendous amount of faith and commitment is still encouraged for all involved in the life and ministries of First Presbyterian Church. If you have not yet completed your 2023 pledge, please do so as soon as you are able. We look forward to partnering with you!

Worship, Grow, Love, Serve

Order a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone this Christmas!

We invite you to purchase a poinsettia "in honor" or "in memory" of someone to help decorate the Sanctuary for worship. The cost is \$18 per poinsettia (pot is 6"). Place your order with payment on the sheet in the front entry by today, November 27. You may take yours home (or to a neighbor) after worship on December 18.

Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed – November 28th-30th @ Boonsboro Kroger

Thanks to all those that have signed up! Contact Sally Leslie (cicver@msn.com or (434) 942-4859) if you have any questions, or would like to inquire about signing up for other available days!

“Come and Be Fed” Potluck Dinner – THIS Wednesday, November 30th @ 5:30 p.m.

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship and good food! Everybody's welcome and encouraged to bring a favorite dish (entrée, side, or dessert) to share! Contact Alex for more information.

Jericho Baptist Missionary Chapel 45th Annual Toy Barrel – through Friday, December 16th

All NEW toys/games/books are welcomed and can be placed in the red barrel in the Narthex. These toys will be distributed to families facing financial difficulties this holiday season. Contact Alex with any questions.

Interested in Joining the Members Helping Members or Bereavement Teams?

The Care & Nurture Committee is looking for folks to join these wonderful opportunities to serve members of our congregation. *Members Helping Members* entails being “on call” for half of one month for rides to appointments, meal deliveries, or visiting with folks, while *Bereavement* helps with receptions after funerals. Contact Alex Collier or Jackie Hill (665-6552) for more information or to join!

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

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

Members Helping Members for November: Treena Koroneos 434-944-9014, Katy Nunn 434-229-5289

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 an interesting and, in some ways, a difficult year. For all of us, and equally for our Church. With about six weeks left in the year, our financial projections for 2022 look to show us with a revenue shortfall of almost \$100,000. 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 considerations. Your Finance Committee: Bill Paxton, Chal Nunn, Kathryn Pumphrey, Frank Whitehouse, Dennis Howard, Dave Tate, Randy Nexsen, and Kirk Todd.