

---

# First Presbyterian Church

Clarksburg, West Virginia  
Broadcast live on WPDX radio, 104.9 FM  
Rev. John F. Koerner

---

December 9, 2018

Ten Forty-Five



LARGE-PRINT BIBLES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PEWS  
LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS AND HEARING-ASSIST DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE FROM USHERS

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Organ Prelude "In Dulci Jubilo" Arr by Pethel Kay Devono

Welcome

Introit Bells Terra Burnett and Jeff Mitchell

### The Peace of Christ

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

As a forgiven and reconciled people, let us share the peace of Christ.

Announcements and Friendship Register

please sign the friendship register found in your pew

### Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day

On this Advent journey, we are mindful of the brokenness of the world that surrounds us.

**We long for peace that surpasses all understanding.**

As we look around us, we see the hostility that exists between neighbor and nation.

**We long for peace that surpasses all understanding.**

As we look beside us, we see fractured relationships and unforgiving hearts.

**We long for peace that surpasses all understanding.**

As we look within ourselves, we confess the reconciling words we have yet to speak and restoring deeds we have yet to do.

**We long for peace that surpasses all understanding.**

### Lighting of Advent Wreath (Northey Family)

As the first purple candle is lit: Jesus Christ is our hope.

As the second purple candle is lit: Jesus Christ is our hope for peace.

This candle stands for the peace that only Christ and his way can bring to our lives.

### Advent prayer:

**O God of hope and peace, as the light of the candles burn, so let your light shine through us as a sign of hope and peace for the world. By your Holy Spirit may the fire of faith burn within us, that we may live with courage in the face of the world's darkness. Grant that we may live toward your promised future; through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace and the Hope of the World. Amen.**

\*Hymn #5 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" Picardy

### \*Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

The Lord Jesus sympathizes with us in our weakness, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Prayer of Confession

God of hope and peace, you sent your Son Jesus to reconcile the world to you and to call us to follow, preparing the way for your coming kingdom. Yet, we do so little to prepare that way. While the whole world sings, "peace on earth," our lives fail to recognize your call to work for peace. While the songs of "mercy mild" echo around us, we show little mercy to those who are not like us. Forgive us, O God, and grant us your peace and mercy; that they may take root in our lives bearing the fruit of your grace, in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Do not ignore this fact, beloved, that with God one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow in fulfilling the promise, but is forbearing toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. Count the forbearance of our God as salvation. Friends believe the good news.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

\*Congregational Response-

"Gloria Patri" #579

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Hymn #304

Jesus Loves Me (verse 1)

*Jesus Loves Me*

Children of the Church

Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

Let us pray together.

**Guide us, O God, by your Word and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover our peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

Malachi 3:1-4

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Lesson

Luke 3:1-6

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"God Came Down"

Rev. John F. Koerner

- *Silent prayer and reflection*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p.14

\*Hymn #9

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*Veni Emmanuel*

Prayers of the People

Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

Gathering

Offertory

Bell Choir

\*The Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*Hymn #37

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

*Carol CMD*

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Congregational Response

"First Song of Isaiah" (chorus only 2x)

Song of Isaiah Chorus: Surely it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my strong-hold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior

\*Organ Postlude

"Toccata Jubiloso"

Arr by Smith

Kay Devono

Please join us for Fellowship and Refreshments in Westminster Hall..

Liturgists.....The Congregation of First Presbyterian Church

Peacher.....Rev. John F. Koerner

Worship Leader.....Andrea Myerburg

Choir Director.....Jeanne Harris

Organist.....Dr. Mary Kay Devono

Acolytes.....Bradley Burnett and Quentin Harris

# CHURCH NEWS *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## SERVING YOU THIS MORNING

USHERS: David Corsini, Lance Kuhens, Hank Lawrence, Andrea Myerburg

GREETER: Karen Tyson



In Loving Memory of Michael Ann Gainer

December 28, 1943- December 1, 2017

We love and miss you forever and always, until we meet again, Hugh, Scott, Tawnie, Micah and Mattie.

**NURTURING FAITH** – In Luke 3:1-6, John, the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age, is all grown up and travels around the region of the Jordan River, “calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins” (v. 3 CEB). The purple candles of Advent are a reminder of repentance, turning back to God. As you prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus this year, what are some changes you need to make in your heart and/or life, so you are focused on God? For what do you need to ask God to forgive you? Pray and ask; God waits with grace.

**The Christmas Cantata "Touched by a Child, Touched by a King"** will be presented on December 16, 2018 during morning worship. Anyone wishing to participate in the choir, as narrator or in the live nativity during the musical, please contact Jeanne Harris (304) 669-9191 or Work (304)-624-6445. The choir practices every Sunday from 12:00 - 1:00. The following is the extra practice schedule:

**December 8th:** Dress Rehearsal 10:00 - 12:00 (We will practice with sound, children and narrators)

**December 15th:** Dress Rehearsal 10:00 - 12:00 (We will practice with sound, children and narrators)

**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER:** We will be preparing the community dinner again this year. December 23: 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. (after church) preparing the food, deboning turkeys, making gravy and bagging up cookies, and also December 25 from 9 am - ? We will be boxing up the food and delivering it.

**Christmas Dinner-** There will be a light lunch following church on December 23, so church members are able to eat before helping with the Christmas dinner.



## FOR CHURCHES IN OUR PRESBYTERY

Pickens Presbyterian Church  
Riverlawn Presbyterian Church, St. Albans  
The Staff of the Presbytery of West Virginia

### SPECIAL CARE FACILITIES:

Roberta Davis; Marj Faris; Amy Garrett; Sara Graham;  
Carrie Waters

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN FAMILIES:** Bomhoff, Paula; Byers, Lauren and Bill Compton, Harmony; Byers, Gayle; Gray, Sally; Kennedy, Larry and Tammy; McQuaid, Jim and Judy; McQuaid, Radetta; Riddle, Richard ; Atkinson, Denver and Kandy; Bryan, Juanita; Davis, Roberta; Hart, Elizabeth; Keller, Dianne; Leuliette, Charles and Connie; Saunders, Susie; Simmerman, Frank and Jane, Rebecca; Simmerman, Trey and Miranda

### FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL CONCERNS:

ADKINS, Charles

BURKHAMMER, Dottie

COX, Eddie

COX, Jeremy

FOWLER, Angie

HARDMAN, Derek

HOLT, Jack

HOOD, Robbie

KESLING, Lee

KUHENS, Eric

LINTON, Doug

MORGAN, Misty

NARDONE, Nickolas

OLDAKER, Kenneth

OLDAKER, Wilma

ORR, Susan(Carole's Sister)

PACK, Amy

ROGERS, Joey

SHIFFRA, Everett

SMITH, Bonnie

SMITH, Donna

STROMBERG, Rosemary

WETZEL, Jennifer

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

Visitation Committee  
Meeting after Church

### Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

Prayer Group 10:00 am

### Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

Deacon Meeting 5:30  
Session Meets 5:30

### Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

Bible Study 6:30

### Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

AA Group 12:00

### Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

Choir Practice 10-12