

---

# First Presbyterian Church

Clarksburg, West Virginia

Rev. John F. Koerner

Broadcast live on WPDJ radio, 104.9 FM & 750 AM

Live stream at [www.facebook.com/fpcclarksburg](http://www.facebook.com/fpcclarksburg)

---

December 5, 2021

Ten Forty-Five



Second Sunday in Advent

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Organ Prelude

“Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall Come”

*by Denton*

Welcome

The Peace (John 20:19,21,26)

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Announcements

Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day

Church, prepare to worship! Emmanuel is with us!

**A child is coming, a child of wisdom and strength and beauty.**

The authority of God will rest upon his shoulders.

**He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God.**

He will be called the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

**He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.**

Jesus is his name!

**His is the name before whom every knee will bow.**

Every song of praise will be cast as crowns before him.

For Jesus Christ is Emmanuel, God with us. Let us worship!

\* Christmas Carol Medley (insert)

Lighting of Advent Wreath (Woodburn 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.**

Children of the Church and placing of Nativity figures

*Woodburn family*

Special Music

“Mary, Did You Know”

*Megan Strange*

\* 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

—Adapted from Rev. Mindi, rev-o-lution.org.

**We confess to you, O God, that we have fallen asleep. We often go through the motions and live our daily lives without much thought outside of ourselves. Forgive us for our shortsightedness. Forgive us for not being awake to the wonders and signs that you are doing something new in our world and in our lives. Help us to seek you in the face of others. Call us into your ways of love and justice, so that we might be fully awake, watching and waiting for your return in our world and in our lives in a new way. Amen.**

\*Declaration of Pardon

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. As we wait for Christmas, we know that Christ has already come into our world and lives, has already been born in us. We are renewed and restored. Go and share the good news of God’s love and restoration.

**Amen.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

Let us pray together.

**Eternal Spirit, you flow through the ages from the pages of Scripture, transforming hearts with your challenge, moving those who hear to new acts of faith, courage and mission. Bless our hearts and minds in the reading of the Word, so that we might know your presence and power more fully. We pray in the name of the Living Word. Amen.**

**Help us, O Lord, for without your help, we cannot please you. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, for without your Spirit, we cannot hear and understand you. As your word is read and proclaimed, transform us as only you can do. In Jesus’ name. Amen**

First Scripture Lesson

Malachi 3:1-4

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Second Scripture Lesson

Luke 3:3-11

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*I am a child of God. I believe in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.*

*I believe he has the power to change my life and your life.*

Sermon

“O God, Help!”

*Rev. John F. Koerner*

Piano Interlude - *Silent prayer and reflection*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\* The Apostle’s Creed

\*Hymn # 442

“The Church’s One Foundation”

*Aurelia*

Prayers of the People

Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

Gathering - electronic gifts may be made through our website [www.clarksburgfpc.org](http://www.clarksburgfpc.org)

Offertory “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” *Arr by Hayes*

\* The Doxology

\* Prayer of Dedication

SEALING THE WORD: THE HOLY MEAL

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, . . .

. . . Therefore, in joy, with prophets, apostles, martyrs, and saints of every time and place, we join in giving you praise.

**Holy, Holy, Holy. Lord, God of Power and Might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

God of glory, in thanks we remember how Jesus broke bread and gave the cup . . .

. . . Believing Christ’s promise of eternal life, we live in him and declare:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Loving Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, . . .

. . . And now as our Savior Jesus Christ taught us, we are bold to pray. . .

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,**

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

**God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.**

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\* Hymn #53

“What Child Is This?”

*Greensleeves*

\* Benediction

\* Congregational Response “First Song of Isaiah” (chorus only) 2x

**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

“Preparation for the King”

*Arr by Mansfield*

1. Communion liturgy written by Rev. Amy S.W. Parker. Used with permission.

---

Liturgists.....	The Congregation of First Presbyterian Church
Officiant and Preacher.....	Rev. John F. Koerner
Worship Leader.....	Bryon Delawder
Minister of Music.....	Jeanne Harris
Organist.....	Dr. Mary Kay Devono
Acolytes.....	Hannah Burnett & Noelle Woodburn
Parish Associate.....	Rev. Charla Waters Koerner
Parish Associate.....	Rev. James A. Harris

---

**Broadcast live on WPDx radio, 104.9 FM & 750 AM**

**Live stream at [www.facebook.com/fpcclarksborg](http://www.facebook.com/fpcclarksborg)**

**<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/5517202769> Pw3046226831**

Attendance for November 21<sup>st</sup> was 45 in person, 8 Facebook Live

Attendance for November 28<sup>th</sup> was 58 in person, 5 Facebook Live

## Church News and Announcements

December 5, 2021

Deacon Greeter: Amy Strange

Ushers: Lance Kuhens, Denver Atkinson

## December



Masks or face shields are required for all those attending worship except for very small children. The Pastor, worship leaders, and special music singers may take their masks off while they are speaking or singing, but then are to put them back on for the rest of the time. The session regrets that this step is necessary but we believe that this is the responsible thing to do in order to keep everyone as safe as possible. Your cooperation and help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

### December 5 – Second Sunday of Advent: Read Luke 3:1-6

As John the Baptist was sent to prepare the way for Jesus, so must we prepare ourselves for Jesus. This is a time of hope and preparation. During Advent, reflect on what preparations you are making in your life and in your heart for the coming of Jesus. The way must be prepared in your heart for Jesus' coming; only then will you see the true salvation of God.

**Please pray for** Carole Wilburn, who has been at Ruby with heart valve problems and pneumonia. Please also pray for Doris Orr, friend of Sally Gray who passed away and joined the church triumphant.

**Special Concerns-** Please let us know if anyone needs to be added or removed from the Special Concerns / Prayer List. The prayer chain operates every day. Let Pastor John or Harriett Northey know if there is a concern.

**We will continue** to collect items for the Giving Tree. Men's underwear is needed as are warm items such as gloves, scarves and warm socks. They also need personal hygiene items such as deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste/toothbrushes, and bar soap. I pray you will

be led to fill the "Giving Box" in the sanctuary next to the new Christmas tree, or you may leave your items in the church office at your convenience.

**New giving envelopes** are available in Westminster Hall. Please sign your name and the number packet that you've chosen.

### First Presbyterian Families:

RINEHART, Dottie; SABO, James & Kim; SAUNDERS, Susie; SCHULTE, Terry; SHERLOCK, Lynn; SHIFFRA, Donna & Nick "Everett"; SIMMERMAN, Frank & Jane, Rebecca; SIMMERMAN, Trey & Miranda; SIGMON, Chad, Heather, & Lily; SMITH, Jeff, Jennifer, & Izabella; STRANGE, Jeff, Amy; Megan, & Matthew

### For Churches in our Presbytery:

Summersville Presbyterian Church  
First Presbyterian Church, Nitro  
First Presbyterian Church, Williamstown

**Special Care Facilities:** Amy Garrett, Peggy Clark,  
Mark Freeman, & Gary Mitchell

Flowers - I have openings for flowers for the reredos for December 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>.

### Tuesday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>

Prayer Group 10 AM  
Zoom and in person  
Budget Committee @ 5:30

### Friday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>

AA Meeting at noon



### Wednesday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>

Bible Study 3:30 PM  
Zoom and in person

### Sunday Dec. 12

Third Sunday of Advent  
C.E., Worship, & Music after worship