



December 8, 2019

PASTOR ALAN ADAMS

*In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea,
wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking,
“Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?
For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.”*

(Matthew 2:1-2)

PRELUDE: *Once He Came Among Us*

Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT: *Spirit of the Living God*

Dan Iverson

SERVICE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

A TIME FOR PEACE

Introduction

Reading -- *John 14:27*

Reflection on Peace as the Peace candle is lit

Concluding Prayer

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Psalm 67*

Remington Jones

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,

**that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

Let the people praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.

**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the people with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**

Let the people praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

***SONG OF PRAISE:** *Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates*

No. 176

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Unison)

**You have been patient with us, Loving God,
for we have blended in with our surroundings
and denied your claim on us.**

**We revel in the things we have made for ourselves,
forgetting that you have supplied the resource
and granted us the ability to create.**

We have failed to embrace your way of peace

**and have become prisoners of our own self-seeking ways.
Forgive us, O God, that we may partake of your grace
and manifest the fruits of righteousness and peace. Amen.**
(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

***RESPONDING WITH PRAISE:** *Song of Zechariah*

*Blest be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free; Who visits and redeems us,
who grants us liberty. The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill that promise and bring the people peace.*

A MOMENT WITH OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES

ANTHEM: *Come, Thou Long Expected, Jesus* (arr.) Don Tyler

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: *Matthew 3:1-12 // Exodus 3:1-6*

SERMON: *Take of your shoes, for you are standing on Holy Ground!* Pastor Alan

***AFFIRMING OUR FAITH TOGETHER:** *The Apostles' Creed* insert

***HYMN:** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* **No. 68**

CALL TO OFFERING - COLLECTION

OFFERTORY MUSIC: *To My Heart, Lord Jesus* (arr.) Fred Boch

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION** **No. 34**

PREPARATION FOR PRAYER: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying **No. 489**
*Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord send your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

THE PEOPLE PRAY AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN:** *Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus* **No. 153**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION with CHORAL RESPONSE:**

Please join us after the Postlude in the breezeway for lemonade and cookies.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Pastor
Clerk of Session
Music Director
Organist
Treasurer
Sound Technicians
Office Manager

Alan Adams
Elder Dave Bremer
Genie Martin
Charles Dirr
Elder Edward Maassen
Elders Tyler Maassen & Skip West
Karen Cassels

Pastor Alan Cell is 724-601-7686

Church Office Hours 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday

Office: 863-494-4434
E-Mail: office@firstpc.church
www.firstpc.church

CHURCH PRAYER LIST

FPC MEMBERS

Jean Borsmann, Jackie Combs and Candy Reid

FPC—FAMILY/FRIENDS

George Adams (Pastor Alans' father), Colton Brantley (Edith's friend), David (Gallant's friend), Debi Collins (Jan LoPortos' friend), Victoria Cross, Rick & Pam Dodd, Carrie Evans, Roger Evans, Jane Hayward, Hanna Joy Lepianka (Rich & Jean Borsmanns' granddaughter, Lorena Mee, Cary Mercer, Karen Mercer, Bobby O'Neal (Edith's friend), Linda R. (Carlas' friend), and Linda Summers

MILITARY PRAYER LIST

Julian Davis, Sean Davis, Curtis Johnson, Ryan Maassen, Brent Mayo, Cole Overcash and Wilda Smith. If you have a military family member and would like to add them to our list, please call the church office at 494-4434.

Session

2019	2020	2021
Donnie Knoche	Dave Bremer	Beth Lyszak
Jill Maassen	Johnny Maassen	Mitzie McGavic
Carol Treadwell	Mac Martin	Judie Neeley
Judy Kirkpatrick	MaryAnn Treadwell	Skip West

ELDERS EMERITI

Margaret Way

David Holloman

OUR CHURCH AT WORK

Welcome to our worship service! We invite you to sign the friendship pads so we can stay connected with everyone. **Visitors**, please be sure to include your **email address** so that we can add you to our weekly newsletter.

Sunday: Dec 8th

- 9:45** Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30** Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00** Morning Worship
- 12:05** Fellowship in the breezeway

Monday: Dec 9th

- 9:00** Monday Morning Ladies (Duplex)
- 12:00** Men's Luncheon at **Beef O Brady's**

Tuesday: Dec 10th

- 2:30** Congregational Care Team Meeting (Duplex) Note date change

Wednesday: Dec 11th

- 5:30** Choir meet at church to go caroling then Chili at Genie's afterwards.
- 6:00** No family supper

Saturday: Dec 14th

- 5:00** Rehearsal for Christmas Program

Sunday: Dec 15th

- 9:45** Sunday School All Ages
- 10:30** Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00** Worship
- 12:05** Fellowship in the breezeway
- 5:00** Christmas Program

Don't forget to turn in your Poinsettia order.

Don't forget **Angel tree gifts** are due in **Sunday, Dec 15th**

Christmas Joy envelopes are in the pews if you would like to donate.



Angel Tree Mision' Peniel

**Located in the Narthex is our Angel Tree
for Mision' Peniel.**

- **Take a tag or two from the tree**
- **Buy one outfit for each tag**
- **Attach the tag to the outfit**
- **Bring the tag and outfit to the church
unwrapped in a regular bag.**

**All we have to do is supply the outfit this year.
They have several organizations that will be
supplying the toys, and etc.**

**Please bring your outfit in by December 15th. You
Can leave it in the Narthex or stop and drop it
Off at the church office. The outfits will be taken on
Monday, December 16th.**

First Presbyterian Church

2019 Holiday Activities

- Nov 3—Dec 8** Purchase Poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary
- Dec 11** Choir Caroling to Hospice House & Arcadia Oaks—Chili Party at Genie's afterward
- Dec 14** Final Rehearsal Party 5:00 p.m.
- Dec 15** Christmas Concert at 5:00 p.m.
Angel Tree outfits to be turn in
- Dec 24** Christmas Eve Service at 6:00 p.m.

Thank you for being a part of our church family. We appreciate each and every one of you.



First Presbyterian Church

209 W. Hickory St

Presents

Annual Christmas Music Program

Sunday, December 15

5:00 P.M.

EVERYONE WELCOME

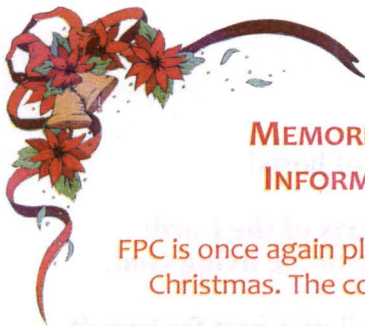
Featuring:

Adult Choir ~ Handbell Choir

Director of Music ~ Genie Martin

Organist/Pianist ~ Lew Cassels

Refreshments to follow in Pfrangle Hall



**MEMORIAL/HONOR POINSETTIA
INFORMATION & ORDER FORM**

FPC is once again placing poinsettias in the sanctuary for Christmas. The cost of the poinsettias is \$7.50 each.

The poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary on December 13 for the season and may be picked up *after* the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on December 24.

If you would like to purchase poinsettias in memory or in honor of a loved one, please complete the order form below and return with your donation to the church office **no later than December 10**. The order forms and donations may also be dropped in the offering plates on Sundays, mailed, or brought to the church office. You may still purchase a poinsettia after December 10, but your memorial/honor may not be listed until the following Sunday. **Order early!!**

**POINSETTIA ORDER FORM
PLEASE PRINT**

Your Name(s): _____

Phone Number: _____

Plant(s) to be placed in **memory** or in **honor** of (please circle one):

Number of plants @\$7.50 _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____

***Please make checks payable to the First Presbyterian Church

THANK YOU!!!