

* Profession of Faith: #14

Apostles' Creed

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

One: Christ came to us proclaiming peace: peace to all those who are near, peace to all those who are far away. In Christ's body we are made one. The Lord be with us all.

One: O Lord, lift up our hearts.

Many: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Sentence of Institution

Partaking of the Bread and Cup *"Let Us Break Bread Together"*

Prayer

Hymn: #147

"Away in a Manger"

Charge

Sung Response: (#162 vs. 1) *"O Come, Let Us, Adore Him"*

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Blessing

Postlude:

"I Saw the Light"

H. Williams

Prayer Concerns

Members: Nick and Becky Deschamps, Nathalie Givens, Meg and Bob Omer, Jim Tenser

Friends and family of FPC: Mary Black, Joyce Bolton Turbyfill (Lynne Bolton's Aunt), the family of Charles ((Chuck) Burton (Kip's brother), Jackson Hetzel (Valerie Lucas' grandson), Melodye Hollingsworth (friend of Lyn Burton), Sheila Kessler (Danette's sister), Laura Holt McCann, Keith Morgan (friend of Lyn Burton) the family of Janelle Purcella (friend and family of Danette Heinlein), Steve Richards (friend of Sandy Gates), the family of Frank Rizzo (relative of Jim and Sue Porter), John Stump (a friend of the Heinlein's), the family of Greg Vail.

Service for the Lord's Day

1st Sunday of Advent & Communion Sunday

December 1, 2024—10:30 am In Person & (Live Streaming—10:20 am)

Gathering Music

"In the Garden" - C. Austin Miles
"Peace in the Valley" - T.A. Dorsey

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude: *"Beautiful Star of Bethlehem"*
A. Pace/R. Boyce

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: (Isaiah 40:9-11, adapted)

One: Let us worship God. Through Isaiah, God calls to us:
Many: "Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

One: See, the Lord God comes with might ...
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
He will gather the lambs in his arms,

Many: And carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

One: Praise the Lord!
Many: The Lord's name be praised.

Prayer of Invocation

Lighting of the First Advent Candle—Hope Bill and Teri Walker

* Hymn: #170 *"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"*
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Call to Confession: (responsive)

One: Let us confess our sins before God and neighbor.

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Eternal God,
In you we live and move and have our being; and yet, your face is hidden from us by our sins, and we forget our mercy in the blindness of our hearts.
Cleanse us from our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires. Grant to us reverent and humble

* Please stand if you are able

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hearts that we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength. Through Jesus Christ your son we pray.

Silent Confession:

Amen

Kyrie: Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us. #823

Assurance of Pardon: (responsive)

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to all who repent in the name of Christ: You are forgiven!

Many: May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen!

* Gloria Patri: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen. #805

Prayers of the People

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Offering:

Offertory Anthem *"Silent Night"*
J.Mohr/F. Gruber

* Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; #808
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

* Prayer of Dedication

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Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Reading: (Pew bible pg. 683) Jeremiah 33:14-16

Hymn: #133 vs. 1-4 (remain seated) *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

New Testament Reading:(Pew bible pg. 915 & 916) Luke 21:25-36

Sermon *"When Promises Fail, And We Must Face "The Bleak Midwinter" "*

Moment for Meditation *"In The Bleak Midwinter"*
C. Rossetti, c. 1872/ G. T. Holst, 1906

* Please stand if you are able

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Calendar of Events

Planned office hours for week of December 1

Monday, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Wednesday 11:00 to 4:00
Thursday 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Friday 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

Sunday, Dec. 1	1st Sunday of Advent—Hope Communion Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 am Sunday School: 9:30 am, Logan Room Duty Elders: Jim Porter, P. Dickerson Fellowship: _____ Music by Lori & Trey Saunders Back Street Ringers, 12:00 noon, Bell Room
Wed., Dec. 4	Joyful Singers, 4:00 pm, Sanctuary
Thurs., Dec. 5	Session, 7:00 pm, Fellowship
Sunday, Dec. 8	2nd Sunday of Advent— Peace Worship Service: 10:30 am Sunday School: 9:30 am, Logan Room Duty Elders: Lyn Burton & Cathy Goad Fellowship: Covered Dish
Tues., Dec. 10	Women’s Bible Study, Burton home, 2:00 pm
Wed., Dec. 11	Joyful Singers, 4:00 pm. Sanctuary
Sat., Dec 14	Men’s Breakfast, Greenwood, 9:00 am Naysmith Christmas Concert, Sanctuary, 7:00 pm
Sunday, Dec. 15	2nd Sunday of Advent— Joy Worship Service: 10:30 am Sunday School: 9:30 am, Logan Room Duty Elders: Lynne Burton Fellowship: Kincaid
Mon., Dec. 16	HFI, 6:00, Fellowship
Wed., Dec. 11	Joyful Singers, 3:30 pm. Sanctuary Wholeness and Healing Service 5:00, Sanctuary Light Supper, after Service, Fellowship Hall

THIS WEEK’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ We welcome **Trey Saunders** as he joins Lori this morning in leading our musical worship. Trey is a singer, songwriter, and guitarist. He is currently a sophomore at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee, majoring in Bluegrass, old-Time, and Country music with a concentration in music business. Trey recently performed at the Fincastle Festival in September.
- ◆ **Check the Fellowship Calendar in the Fellowship Hall. We still have Sunday December 29, open!**
- ◆ The **Angel Tree** donations this year will be divided equally between the Social Services fuel assistance program and the Botetourt food pantry. Donation checks can be made out to the Church with Angel Tree in the comments. We will also have a special option on our E-giving that allows a donation to go to Angel Tree. We will start taking these donations immediately, through Sunday, December 15.
- ◆ If you or your organization needs to use **any space at the church**, please let Danette know so she can make sure the calendar is clear!
- ◆ **Christmas Poinsettias:** Last day to sign up for poinsettia’s!!! Check the table in the hallway by the side entrance. Checks payable to FBP with flowers in the memo.
- ◆ Sunday December 8 will be a **True Potluck!** Fellowship Committee will be providing paper goods and drinks! Mark your calendar.
- ◆ The next **Women’s Bible Study** will be December 12, 2:00 pm, at Lyn Burton’s home. We will be using the devotional “*Jesus Calling For Christmas*”, by Sara Young for that Christmas meeting.
- ◆ Don’t miss the Men’s breakfast at Greenwood on Saturday morning December 14. Gather together in fellowship to start your day!
- ◆ The NaySmith Christmas Concert will be held in our Sanctuary on Saturday December 14 at 7:00 pm. Come and hear a wonderful variety of beautiful professional musicians!
- ◆ Mark your calendar’s now for the December Wholeness and Healing Prayer Service on Wednesday, December 11, with a Light Supper following immediately.
- ◆ Our Annual Lessons and Carols special service will be on Sunday, December 22 this year!
- ◆ **QR Code for an E-Giving option:**



Fincastle Presbyterian Church

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The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, D. Min.

Mission Statement:

Striving to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, growing in God through uplifting and inspiring spiritual experiences, and serving the community in love.

Clerk of Session: John Kilby

Class of 2024: Cathy Goad, Paul Phillippe, Bo Trumbo

Class of 2025: Fred Coots, Lynne Bolton, Jim Porter

Class of 2026: Lyn Burton, Hal Bailey, Patsy Dickerson

The Trustees

Bob Omer, Garland Jones, Peggy Davis

The Church Staff

Interim Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson

Treasurer: Hal Bailey

Music Director: Lori Turner

Secretary/Bookkeeper: Danette Heinlein

In the Bleak Midwinter

1 In the bleak midwinter
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone:
snow had fallen,
snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter,
long ago.

2 Our God, heaven cannot hold
him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

3 Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim
thronged the air,
but only his mother,
in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the Beloved
with a kiss.

4 What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb,
if I were a wise man
I would do my part,
yet what I can I give him,
give my heart.



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The Worshiping Church Hymnal: 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Carol Stream, IL —
Service Music: # 823 Kyrie, #805 Gloria Patri, #809 Doxology.

Hymns: #170 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"; #133 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel", #147 "Away in a Manger", 147 "Away in a Manger"

Gathering Music: "In the Garden" - C. Austin Miles, public domain; "Peace in the Valley" - T.A. Dorsey, public domain.

Service Music: "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem" - A. Pace/R. Boyce—Public domain; "Silent Night"- J. Mohr/F. Gruber © Desc. 1990 Hope Publishing Company; "In The Bleak Midwinter" -Rossetti, c. 1872/G. T. Holst, 1906; "Let Us Break Bread Together" - Afro-American Spiritual/arr. Carlton R. Young, 1964, "The Worshiping Church Hymnal" [Ibid.] (776); "I Saw the Light" - Musicnotes.com © 1947 Sony/ATV Acuff Rose Music.

Old Testament Reading:

Jeremiah 33: 14-16

¹⁴ “Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring forth for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

New Testament Reading:

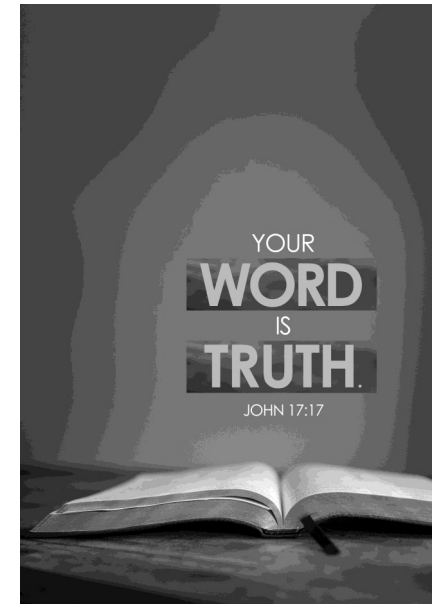
Luke 21: 25-36

²⁵ “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶ men fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ And then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they come out in leaf,

you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away till all has taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “But take heed to yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a snare; ³⁵ for it will come upon all who dwell upon the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ But watch at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of man.”



Hymns:

#170 *"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"*

1 It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all gracious King":
the world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

2 Still through the cloven skies they come,
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

3 For lo, the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when, with the ever-circling years,
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

#133 *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

[Refrain:]
Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save
and give them victory o'er the grave. (Refrain)

3 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer

our spirits by thine advent here;
and drive away the shades of night,
and pierce the clouds and bring us light! (Refrain)

4 O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. (Refrain)

#147 *"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 sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

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.

