

Concerns of the Church

Prayer Concerns

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

Friends and family of FPC: Mary Black, the family of Charles (Chuck) Burton (Kip's brother), Jackson Hetzel (Valerie Lucas' grandson), Sheila Kessler (Danette's sister), Laura Holt McCann, Keith Morgan (friend of Lyn Burton)

, the family of Wren Rubis (Lori Turner's Aunt and Pat Roberts's sister), the family of Frank Rizzo (relative of Jim and Sue Porter), the family of Greg Vail.



Fincastle Presbyterian Church

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

Service for the Christmas Eve

December 24, 2024 — 7:00 pm (In Person & Live Streaming)

Gathering Music Back Street Ringers
"Noel Nouvelet" (Sing We Now of Christmas)
"The First Noel"

Chiming of the Hour
Prelude

Back Street Ringers
"Silent Night, Holy Night"
Franz Gruber/ Arr. F. Callahan

Welcome and Announcements
Call to Worship: (Luke 2:10-11)

One: Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

Many: **Say to those who are of a fearful heart,**

All: **"Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. . . . He will
come and save you!"**

Lighting of the Christ Candle Patsy and David Dickerson

Prayer of Invocation
* Hymn: #173 (vs 1,4)
Back Street Ringers

"O Come All Ye Faithful"
Franz Gruber/ Arr. F. Callahan

Call to Confession: (unison)

All: **Trusting in God's promised mercies revealed in the birth of
our Savior, and in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus
Christ, let us confess our sins.**

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Almighty God.

**You sent a star to guide all people to the holy child Jesus. We
confess that we have not followed the light of your word. We
have not searched for your love in the world, or trusted your good
news to be good. We have failed to praise your Son's birth, and
refused his peace on earth. We have expected little, and hoped
for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew in us all fine desires, so we
may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Sav-
ior, Jesus Christ the Lord.**

Silent Confession: **Amen**

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

Assurance of Pardon: (a prayer of Thanksgiving)

One: Great God of power: we praise you for Jesus Christ, who
came to save us from our sins. We thank you for the
prophet's hope, the angel's song, for the birth in Bethlehem.

Many: **We thank you that in Jesus you joined us, sharing human
hurts and pleasures. Glory to you for your wonderful love.
Glory to you, eternal God;**

All: **through Jesus Christ, Lord of lords, and King of kings, in
whom our sins are forgiven! 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 and the Lord's Prayer



Offering - Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands (PCCH)

Offertory Anthem "O Holy Night"
Solo: Lynne Bolton Dwight/Adam 19th C.

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

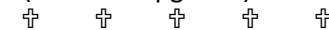
Prayer of Dedication



Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Reading : (Pew bible pg. 593) Isaiah 9:2-7
Hymns: (1, 2 vs of each) #147 "Away in a Manger"
(congregation remain seated) #152 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

New Testament Reading: (Pew bible pg. 889) Luke 2:1-20



Sermon "A Christmas Eve Meditation"

Moment for Meditation "In the Bleak Midwinter / What Child Is This?"
Cranham/Trad. English Melody

A Candle Lighting Service:

A Reading: John 1:1-5, 10-18 Rev. Dr. David Dickerson
Silent Night (by candlelight)
Benediction
"Joy to the World (vs 1) (chorus 2x)

#173 “O Come All Ye Faithful”

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

[Refrain:]

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; (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.

#152 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

1 Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echo back their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say, what may the tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song? [Refrain]

#164 “Silent Night”

1 Silent night! holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and Child,
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

2 Silent night! holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

3 Silent night! holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light,
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

#164 “Joy to the World”

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

....and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.

³ Thou hast multiplied the nation,
thou hast increased its joy;
they rejoice before thee
as with joy at the harvest,
as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
thou hast broken as on the day of Mid'ian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government will be upon his shoulder,
and his name will be called
"Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom,
to establish it, and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and for evermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

New Testament Reading

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. ² This was the first enrollment, when Quirin'i-us was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. ⁷ And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; ¹¹ for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.