



First Presbyterian Church

300 Market Street ☩ Warren, PA 16365-2360

*Following Christ
So All May Thrive*

Office Hours: M, 9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.; Tu-F 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

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December 24, 2018

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2018

8:00 P.M.

Thank you for silencing your electronic devices.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S GRACE

GATHERING MUSIC

Mary Had a Baby

PRELUDE

Echo Carol

Douglas Wagner

The Scotland Bell Choir

INTROIT:

Adeste Fideles

Wade

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (Responsive)

L: There is so much darkness this night – not only in the sky above us but also in our hearts within us because of doubt and fear and sadness. We are drawn to the light in this sanctuary tonight, for it is here that we celebrate the coming of the Light of the world, Jesus Christ!

P: We are reminded as we worship this night that there are people around us who will not find hope or love or peace to dispel the darkness they feel.

L: John's Gospel begins with this description of Jesus as the Word of life: "the life was the light for all people; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light."

P: As so, we will live in this Light, having waited patiently for God's promise of a Messiah to be fulfilled: Christ the Savior is born!

*HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

#33

GATHERING PRAYER (responsive) [adapted from Prayers for a Privileged People by Walter Brueggemann]:

L: Holy God, as we gather this night, we admit that we are still people in the dark.

P: The darkness looms large around us and we are troubled by fear, anxiety, brutality, violence, loss – alienations we cannot manage.

L: We could be people of your light.

P: So we pray for the light of your glorious presence; we pray for the light of your wondrous grace; we pray for your gift of newness; and we pray that we may see and know and hear and trust in your good rule.

L: We pray that we may have energy, courage, and freedom to enact that good rule all through the demands of our days!

P: As we worship, we give our days and our nights to you and to your good rule, with deep joy and renewed hope! Hear our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Titus 2:11-14

(CEB, below)

11 The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people. 12 It educates us so that we can live sensible, ethical, and godly lives right now by rejecting ungodly lives and the desires of this world. 13 At the same time we wait for the blessed hope and the glorious appearance of our great God and savior Jesus Christ. 14 He gave himself for us in order to rescue us from every kind of lawless behavior, and cleanse a special people for himself who are eager to do good actions.

ANTHEM

Mary Did You Know?

Lowry & Greene/Hayden

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20

(CEB, below)

2 In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. 2 This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. 3 Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. 4 Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. 5 He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. 6 While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. 7 She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guestroom. 8 Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. 9 The Lord's angel stood before them, the Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. 11 Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord. 12 This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was with the angel praising God. They said, 14 "Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors." 15 When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go right now to Bethlehem and see what's happened. Let's confirm what the Lord has revealed to us." 16 They went quickly and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this, they reported what they had been told about this child. 18 Everyone who heard it was amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19 Mary committed these things to memory and considered them carefully. 20 The shepherds returned home, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. Everything happened just as they had been told.

MEDITATION

Rev. Rebecca Taylor

*HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

#113

OFFERING

Offertory

In Silence He Came

Joseph Martin

Solos by Debbie Hunter and Carrie Salapek

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF FAITH

Invitation

Words from Scripture concerning the meal

(I Corinthians 11:23-26)

Receiving the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Please hold the elements until all have been served, so we can eat/drink together. The small cup in the center of the bread tray contains gluten-free bread.

ANTHEM

I Wonder as I Wander

Niles/Bettcher

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LIGHT

Isaiah 9:2-7

(CEB, below)

[a] The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned. 3 You have made the nation great; you have increased its joy. They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest, as those who divide plunder rejoice. 4 As on the day of Midian, you've shattered the yoke that burdened them, the staff on their shoulders, and the rod of their oppressor. 5 Because every boot of the thundering warriors, and every garment rolled in blood will be burned, fuel for the fire. 6 A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. 7 There will be vast authority and endless peace for David's throne and for his kingdom, establishing and sustaining it with justice and righteousness now and forever. The zeal of the Lord of heavenly forces will do this.

During the lighting of the candles, please tip the unlit candle into the flame to receive the light and then pass it on. You may extinguish your candle immediately following the benediction.

*HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night

#122

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.

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."

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.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

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*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming

M. Praetorius

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

George Lachenauer

L = Leader

P = People

*indicates that one is invited to stand in body or spirit

Hymnal: # indicates the hymn number in *Glory to God*

Bibles: NIV — *The Holy Bible: New International Version (pew racks)*; CEB — *The Common English Bible*



DONOR

Dennis Bonace, Greg, Pam, & Brendan Lyle

Dorothy Collins.....

Louise Crozier.....

Carmen Culbertson

Barry, Heather, & Natalie Dietsch.....

Caroline & David Dorn

Martha Goodman.....

John & Carol Hanna.....

Jim & Anne Higgins

Hishman Family.....

Matt & Tina Huey.....

The Matt Huey & Lyle families.....

The Hunter family

Jacqueline L. Johnson.....

Nick & Casey Johnson

Mrs. Robert (Kay) Jones

Rev. Harold & Gretchen Kelley.....

Her family.....

John & Gloria Lasher

IN MEMORY OF

Marilyn Lyke Bonace
Brenda Bonace Martin

Plummer Collins

George Crozier

My dear husband, Glenn Culbertson

Bob & Donna Dietsch
Pete and Birdie Martin
David Kasper, Lois Conrad, Jim
Bartholomew, Bob Dietsch, Paul Cree, Rich
Bonafede, George Crozier, & Carole Blasco

My dear father, Glenn Culbertson

Friends & family who are no longer with us

Our parents

Our fathers, Franklin Higgins & Bill Lundahl

Paul F. Hishman
Sarah Nicole Hishman

Dr. & Mrs. John Huey

Nancy Babcock Biekarck

Bob, Donna, & Adam Dietsch
Gail & Janet Hunter

Robert "Spinner" Johnson
John & Rosalia Lyke

Eleanor Johnson

Gail Jones family

The saints of First Presbyterian Church

Penny Krespan

John W. Lasher,
George & Mary Sennett
Georgiann Calafrancesco
Amy Haworth





DONOR

Their family
Mark, Barb, & Aaron
Susie Pirillo
Jen & Randy Rossey
Jackie Rhodes
Bob & Lynn Sears
Lynda Slocum, Norm Perschke, & families
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Stroup
Richard Swanson
Sara Swanson
Rebecca Taylor
Carol, Mark, Christopher, & Ashley Torrance

IN MEMORY OF

Bill & Anna Jane Nicodemus
Fred & Eunice Martin
Joseph & Elizabeth Phillips
David Pirillo
The Pirillo & Christensen families
Loved ones
My parents, John & Zelma Colvin
Carla Gay
Alan & MaryAnn Buerkle
MacBain & Anne Sears
Our loved ones
Parents & Grandparents
Barbara Wiley Swanson
Bob, Tristan, Jo & Stephanie Eckl
Larry Taylor
Doris & Winfred Lundberg
Audrey & James Torrance
Johnathan Torrance



DONOR

Louise Crozier
Caroline & David Dorn
John & Carol Hanna.....
Matt & Tina Huey
The Hunter family
Jacqueline L. Johnson.....

IN HONOR OF

My children
My loving mother, Carmen Culbertson
Our children & grandchildren
Our wonderful children
Kayla, Julian, & Chrissy
Barry, Heather, & Natalie Dietsch
Dennis L. Bonace





DONOR

IN HONOR OF

Rev. Harold & Gretchen Kelley.....	The saints of First Presbyterian Church
Larry, Kathy, & Drew Lang.....	Robert & Sally Metzgar
John & Gloria Lasher	Jesse, Joanna, & Jensen Elletson
	Marguerite Lasher
Martha Leathers.....	Kimmie & Jesus
	Steve & Natassja
Jen & Randy Rossey	Matt & Addie
	Bette Lou
Don & Jan Scott.....	Church officers
Grandma & Papa Sears	Owen, Liam, & Noah Baldensperger
Lynda Slocum, Norm Perschke, & families	Our loved ones
Rebecca Taylor	Margaret Taylor
	This faithful congregation
Bernie & Dottie Wingert	Our family



THE ROSES IN THE CHANCEL are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of all the leaders of First Church who have joined the church triumphant.

WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE to join us as we share our traditional service of Lessons and Carols with our neighbors at First Lutheran Church at 10:00 A.M. Sunday, December 30.

OUR STAFF

Rev. Rebecca Taylor, Pastor
 Barry Dietsch, Director of Music
 Heather Dietsch, Organist
 John Lasher, Percussion

Marilyn Dunkle, Office Manager
 Betsy Griffin, Financial Secretary
 Kyle Brecht, Property Manager
 Ben Check, Night Custodian
 Jen Neall, Worship Child Care
 Terri Shaw, Worship Infant Care