

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church
Please join us for fellowship and refreshments at “Coffee Hour” in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.
(✚ Latecomers may be seated.)

AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2009 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE *“Une vierge pucelle” and “Puer nobis nascitur”* Nicolas Lebegue
Organ

INTROIT *“Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel”* Donovan Klotzbeacher
(Ps. 80) The Chorale

CALL TO WORSHIP Fifth and Sixth Grade Sunday School Classes
For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.
Love came down at Christmas.

HYMN #31 (Hymnal)* *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)* The Rev. Rosanna Anderson
Great God, we behold the gift of your Son again, yet we are mindful of how we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story of Christmas points us to your glory, yet we struggle daily to join in the angels’ song. We are distracted and confused, so focused on things that matter little that we have overlooked the good news of great joy. Tell us again that the Savior is born. Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell us again that life can be abundant in faith and hope and love, not because of who we are, but because of all that you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

HYMN #579 (Hymnal)* *“Gloria Patri”*

THE PEACE* ✚

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FELLOWSHIP (Please sign the red “friendship pads” found at the end of each pew by the center aisle. Note the names of those worshipping around you as you pass the pad back. We encourage you to greet each other after the service.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-7

Pew Bible pg. 58

“In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in band of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.”

Leader: Joy to the world!

People: This then, is the culmination of our years of waiting.

Leader: We have lit the candles of hope, of peace, and of love. In the glow of their light we feel the warmth of deep and quiet joy.

People: Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns.

Leader: Let us our songs employ.

People: Let us sing to the glory of God.

Leader: Let us sing in the name of Christ who offers us hope in the prison of despair,

People: Peace in the chaos of life,

Leader: God’s love--graciously, silently, and vulnerably offered.

People: And heaven, and heaven and nature sing!

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF HOPE, PEACE, LOVE, AND JOY

HYMN #40 (Hymnal)

“Joy to the World!”

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2: 8-14

Marie Perrine
Pew Bible pg. 58

ANTHEM

*“The Happy Christmas Comes Once More”***Danish, arr. Balle-Klotzbeacher**
The Chorale

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 2: 5-11

Pew Bible pg. 197

SERMON

“Jesus is Lord”

Dr. Louis Mitchell

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #38 (Hymnal)*

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Anderson

OFFERINGS AND CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Offertory

Noel en Musette

Louis Claude D'Aquin
Organ

Hymn #592 (Hymnal)*

"Doxology"

Prayer of Dedication*

Rev. Anderson

HYMN #29 (Hymnal)*

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

BENEDICTION*

RESPONSE*

Fourfold Amen

Donovan Klotzbecher
The Chorale

POSTLUDE*

Voluntary

Maurice Greene
Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

Christmas Eve Worship Services

December 24, 2009

- 5:00 PM** **Children's Service** - Please remember to have your child bring his or her own bell!
- 8:00 PM** **Family Service** - featuring beautiful Christmas music.
- 11:00 PM** **Candlelight Communion Service** - a Cranbury tradition. In this candlelight service, we celebrate the Lord's Supper and conclude by lighting individual candles for the Christ child while singing "Silent Night."

Visitors! We hope that you will find a warm welcome here. We invite you to consider membership in our church family. Please speak to one of the greeters or pastors after worship for more information.

Childcare is provided during worship. Children from birth to age 2 may be taken to the infant room, and children age 3 through Kindergarten are welcome in the toddler room. Childcare providers for the infant nursery are Linda Protinick and Taylor Panconi. The toddler nursery is staffed by Bob and David Mills. Laurie Davis is the Nursery Coordinator (MusicMomNJ@comcast.net).

Our congregation is very happy to have children participate in worship with their family as part of our church family! "Worship bags" containing quiet faith activities are available in the narthex for children to enjoy during worship.

We thank those who are serving today in these ways:

The Flowers in the chancel today are the beautiful Christmas poinsettias. They have been given to the glory of God, in memory, in honor or as a gift of gratitude by many wonderful people.

Head Ushers are Bill and Sheree Dunnett and Brian and Gina Moore.

After Service Greeters are Jennie Lindbloom and Cassi Waciega.

Coffee Hour today is hosted by the First and Second Grade Sunday School Classes.

PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request, or if you would like to become part of the "chain" of church members who pray daily with and for people with a particular need, please contact the church office at 395-0897.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church members with special needs: Marge and John Bloom; Liz Callaway; Jim Cox; Martha Davis; Ruth Davison; Kim Hafner; Helen Myer; Esta Schulte; Diane Smith; Elsie Sutton; Jim Walcott and Mildred Watts.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Phyllis Dyke's sister, Joyce Lepore & brother, Lou Scirrotto; Paul & Janet Furchak's daughter, Christine Massaro; Gail Geijer's son, Dan; Jane Hovland's son-in-law, Michael Dolci; Carolyn Lee's husband, John; Leah Moy's cousin, Dan Ogden; and Cathy Vogen's father-in-law, Don Vogen.

We pray for all the people who are in need in our wider community.

Prayer Requests in the Bulletin: In order to keep the prayer request list up to date we will print the names of friends and family of church members who have prayer requests for one month. After that time you may call the church office to have a name reappear on the prayer list.

Please remember family & friends in our nation's service: Colonel John Bartolotto (US Army), Elsie & Russell Sutton's son-in-law; Lt. Nick Brunetti (USMC), Tracey Yeager Brunetti's husband and Jeff & Diane Yeager's son-in-law; Adam Frick (US Army), Cathy & Michael Vogen's cousin; Sgt. Robert Hansson (75th Ranger Regiment), Janet & Paul Furchak's son; Colonel Martha Lenhart (US Army), Jim & Barbara Cox's daughter-in-law; Greg McAvoy (US Navy), Lewis & Ruth Blackmer's grandson; Michael McSurdy (US Army Specialist), Dr. Mitchell's son-in-law; Thomas Mentes (9th Cavalry Troop), Pat & Bill Leonard's son-in-law; Major Douglas Miller (US Air Force), George & Audrey Smith's nephew and Anna Wahler's grandson; Tony Paschall, Ann and Ted Zimmerman's step-grandson and Colonel Daniel Shanahan (US Army), Leslie Vandenberg's cousin.

- Please be sure to sign the "**Pipeline to Session**" cards found in the pews if you have any questions/concerns for the Session. This is a great way to give "kudos" as well!

Birthday of Distinction: John Frisch on December 21. **Happy Birthday!**

~~ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ~~

Sunday School Hour (9:15-10:15 a.m.)

Adult Sunday School: Come and join us in the library at 9:15 a.m. for friendly conversation on the Book of Colossians.

Bible Study series led by Bob Kane: "Who Are You?"

January 10, 17, 24, 31 and February 7

In this new series, explore the nature of God's covenants in the Old and New Testaments and how they relate to your life today.

ADULT EDUCATION AT OTHER TIMES

Transitions Networking Group: Fridays, 7:30-8:30 a.m. in Room 1. This is an opportunity to connect with others going through job change and sharing information about jobs, opportunities and resources. It will feature expert speakers and guests, and provide Scripturally-based resources focused on career and life changes. Everyone is welcome to attend. The group will be facilitated by church member, Charlie Ernst and sponsored by the Outreach Committee. Coffee and donuts/fruit will be provided. **Please note: we will not be meeting on December 25 and January 1.**

Martha Circle Women's Bible Study: First Monday of the Month, 1:30 p.m. in the Library All women are welcome to attend! Our study for the year is *Joshua: A Journey of Faith*, the new Horizons Presbyterian Women's Bible study. Join us for fellowship, Bible study and prayer, with the discussion led by Rose Eller. She can be reached at 655-9175.

Cranbury Men's Bible Study: Sundays 7:30-9:00 pm, The Cranbury Inn: All men are invited to join us in this relaxed setting for our new study on *The Westminster Confession of Faith*. Weekly themes are the starting point for our conversation about confessing Christ in our contemporary context. For more information, please contact Mike Kasper at cwcollector@aol.com or Clifford Anderson at clifford.anderson@ptsem.edu. **Please note: we will not be meeting on December 27 and January 3.**

~~ CPNS ~~



As a Christian Nursery School our goal is to guide your children in the appropriate ways to get along with others, to be self-confident and respectful individuals, to make decisions, to be creative, to solve math problems, to love reading and writing, and most of all to love to learn.

In addition to our regular classes, we also offer enrichment programs for any child whether enrolled in CPNS or not. You may have a child attending a Cranbuddies program or even a local ½-day kindergarten program that you would like to enrich their learning opportunities. We welcome everyone! To receive registration information, please contact Janice Parker at 655-8663 or e-mail her at cpnschool@comcast.net or check the CPNS portion of the church website.

~~ MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS ~~

A SNIPPET FROM THE YEAR BOOK OF PRAYER: Jordan seems far away and yet it is intricately bound up in the problems faced by the rest of the Middle East countries as well as the United States. The good news, on a religious level, is that since 1950 for the most part Christians and Muslims have been living together with little tension or discrimination and Christians have been guaranteed freedom of worship, religious education, and parliamentary representation. Jordan has taken in over 1.7 million Palestinian refugees since the State of Israel was established in 1948. In addition, since the 2003, war in Iraq, close to a million Iraqis have fled to Jordan. You can imagine how this has burden the country's economy and educational and health systems. And along with these problems, inflation has skyrocketed. But it is encouraging to know that the churches and the Middle East Council of Churches are attempting to help meet this great human need, and the PC(USA) tries to assist in shouldering this burden.

GUATEMALA TRIP 2010 MEETING

This year's trip is from July 9 - 16, Friday to Friday. As a church member your only cost of the trip will be your airfare which typically is around \$500.00 - \$600.00. There are no skills required, just a set of hands and the willingness to serve the Lord. Some of the projects we will work on could include children's ministry, dental and medical clinics and building construction.

An informational meeting has been set for January 5, Tuesday at 7:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall at the church. If you cannot make this meeting and are interested in traveling with us this year, please e-mail me at geolive60@aol.com or call me at 609 395-0513.

Yours in Christ, George Conley

**FIFTH ANNUAL GUATEMALA
GOURMET DINNER FUNDRAISER**

Our fifth annual gourmet dinner to support our Guatemala mission is quickly approaching. Don't miss the wonderful opportunity for church fellowship, entertainment and a delicious meal. There are a limited number of tickets being sold, so buy them today.

We will be serving dinner on Friday, January 29 and on Saturday, January 30 beginning at 7:00 p.m. with open seating beginning at 6:30 p.m. As you dine on Friday, you will be serenaded by a String Quartet and on Saturday you will be entertained by our very own Don Klotzbeacher and company along with a Barbershop Quartet. The cost of the meal will be \$50.00 per person (remember this is a fundraiser). You may want to attend both evenings to experience the variety of entertainment being offered. We will be selling only a limited number of tickets, so plan on buying your ticket early. They are on sale now and will be available during coffee hour (see Lil or George Conley) or call the church office.

We are offering a filet mignon, grilled salmon or stuffed chicken as your main entrees along with all the trimmings and a delicious desert to top it off with.

Checks can be made payable to The First Presbyterian Church (tax deductible) memo: Guatemala dinner. Any amount above the \$50.00 fee will be greatly appreciated.

Please save this date, we are counting on you for our success in this project.

George Conley, Guatemalan Team
(609) 395-0513

~~ SENIOR FELLOWSHIP ~~

PLEASE NOTE: Senior Fellowship exercise class has grown. We are keeping a waiting list. If you would like to be placed on it, please call the church office.

EXERCISE SCHEDULE

January 4, January 7, January 11, January 14

~~ STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE ~~

God has blessed our church with a long and productive history, but the support of the missions and ministries requires significant financial resources. Session has begun the process of developing a realistic budget for 2010 that we believe responds to God's call to our Church. Pledge support we receive during this Stewardship season is critical to these discussions to enable Session develop a balanced budget. If you have already turned in your pledge, thank you. If you are procrastinating (Commitment Sunday was November 15), please turn in your pledge forms as soon as possible. Thank you

Please note: remember to pick-up your 2010 Pledge Envelopes in the Fellowship Hall.

Counting Teams: 12/20 (Team #1) - 12/27 (Team #2)

Stewardship Offerings Update to December 13, 2009

	Last Week	Year-to-Date
Offering	\$8,366	\$365,758
Amount needed to meet our obligations	\$7,038	\$370,900
Collection for Historical Records	\$20	\$1,120
Christmas Joy Offering	\$325	\$465

~~ WORSHIP ~~

The Worship Committee would like to invite you to take advantage of our nursery if you have children age 5 and under. If you prefer to deep your young child with you during worship, we remind you that you can hear the sermon from the narthex if your child becomes restless.

USHERS GUILD: If you are interested in joining the Ushers Guild, please contact Caren Anuszewski at (609)587-8883 or ccrab91@optonline.net. Ushers please remember to pick up your ushering packets in the Narthex.

~~ YOUTH MINISTRY ~~

Youth Group Activities

- TONIGHT** 6:30p-8:00p Youth Group Christmas Party! Bring a wrapped gift (\$10.00 value)
- 12/27** No Youth Group scheduled due to Christmas vacation
- 1/3** No Youth Group
- 1/10** 6:30p-8:00p Youth and Parent Meeting with sign-ups for mission trips, etc...
- 1/17** 6:30p - 9:00p Youth Group attending Martin Luther King Service, St. Paul Lutheran (East Windsor)
- 1/24** 6:30p-8:00p Youth Group - FH
- 1/31** 2:00p - 4:00p Youth Group Ice Skating at Princeton Sports Center

~~ CALENDAR ~~

Sunday 20	(Joy Offering) 9:15a Christian Education for all ages (Classrooms/Lib./FH/McKnight Rm) 10:10a Sunday School Caroling 10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour 6:30p-8:00p Youth Group Christmas Party-FH/Kit 7:30p-9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn
Monday 21	9:00a Bulletin Material Due 8:00a CPNS Set-up- FH 10:45a CPNS Christmas Sing-A-Long - FH 7:30p Brass Choir 8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm
Tuesday 22	10:00a-2:00p CPNS - Lib/Kitchen 10:45a CPNS Christmas Sing-A-Long-FH 2:15p CPNS Christmas Sing-A-Long-FH 7:00p Boy Scouts Board of Review-Library 7:30p Deacons - FH 7:30p AA - McKnight Room
Wednesday 23	CPNS Closed 9:00a Bulletin Assembly-Church Office 10:45a Staff Mtg.-Church Office 7:30p Bell Choir
Thursday 24	(Christmas Eve) CPNS/Church Office Closed 5:00p Children's Service 8:00p Family Candlelight Service 11:00p Candlelight Communion Service
Friday 25	(Christmas) CPNS/Church Office Closed
Saturday 26	
Sunday 27	9:15a No Christian Education 10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour NO Youth Group NO Cranbury Men's Bible Study