

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
2nd Sunday of Advent
December 4, 2011 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE “Advent Tidings” Michael Akers
Bell Choir

INTROIT “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel” Donovan Klotzbeacher
The Chorale

CALL TO WORSHIP The Rev. Rosanna Anderson
Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet. Righteousness and peace will embrace.
Faithfulness will spring up from the ground and righteousness will look down from the sky.
The Lord will give what is good and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness will go before us and make a path for us to follow.
Prepare the way for the Lord!

HYMN #8 (Hymnal)* “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison) **God of fierce compassion, you call us to make our ways straight, yet we get lost down crooked roads of selfish concern. We are to prepare the way for your reign of justice, but we choose easier paths of comfort. Have mercy on us. Forgive us and set us back to work, clearing paths of justice, building highways of peace, and preparing the world for your return. 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

CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY

The Huang Family

SCRIPTURE

Micah 5:2-5a

Pew Bible pg. 865

“But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.”

Leader: *The season of Advent continues. Thousands of years of waiting for the Messiah are commemorated by the lighting of four candles.*

People: We join with a hopeful throng in the lighting of the Advent candles, signs of God’s love and symbols of our faith.

Leader: *We are a people of hope. Last Sunday the frail light of a single candle dared to pierce through the darkness of desolation and sin.*

People: Hope lives in us and will abide with us.

Leader: *Today we will light the candle of peace.*

People: This light, too, must brave the great darkness.

Leader: *In an age when people seldom find peace within themselves, and when all the earth knows the sorrow of war, we light a fire called peace.*

People: Peace that is not merely the absence of war and conflict, but peace that is the fullness of blessing for all - that is the peace for which we dare to hope.

Leader: *Christ comes to bring peace to those who have been separated from God and one another.*

People: In the name of that Child born so long ago, we light the candles of peace and hope.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF HOPE AND PEACE

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of Nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease.
Fill the whole world with heaven’s peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Christmas Joy Offering

Youth Class

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 22: 1-18

Don Winchell
Pew Bible pgs. 500-501

ANTHEM

“Go not far from me, O God”
(Ps. 71)

Niccolo Antonio Zingarelli
The Chorale

According to His commandment:
**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

The presence of the Holy Spirit is sought, as well as God's blessing on our lives. The prayer concludes with a Trinitarian doxology.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

THE COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We will eat the bread individually when served. We will hold the cup until all have been served and then partake together. All baptized Christians, whatever your denomination or tradition, are invited to share with us in this holy sacrament.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

HYMN #27 (Hymnal)* *"Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"*

BENEDICTION*

RESPONSE* *Fourfold Amen in G* **Donovan Klotzbeacher**
The Chorale

POSTLUDE* *Trumpet March* **Anon.**
Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

<p>A Congregational Meeting has been called by the session immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service today, December 4, 2011, for the purpose of electing church officers.</p>
--

Visitors! We hope 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. 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.

Gluten free bread is now available at all communion services. At our communion service today, it will be in a small cup or area in the center of the bread trays which are passed throughout the aisles.

Hearing devices are now available for your convenience in the narthex. The ushers can assist you.

We thank those who are serving today in these ways:

Communion Servers are George Arsnow, Jack Britton, Gordon Fraser, Joan Fraser, KY Huang, Joan Smith, Craig Vandenberg and Kirstie Venanzi.

The Flowers in the chancel are given in memory of Edward G. Trenkle by Jason Trenkle, Debbie Mara and Alan Danser.

Head Ushers are Caren Anuszewski and Mike & Andrew Kasper.

Coffee Hour is hosted by the Kim family.

After Church Greeters are Liz Callaway and Flo & Andy Kremann.

Friends, as we prepare for worship in this festive season, please be mindful of our neighbors in the pews who are allergic to strong scents and perfumes. We want everyone to be comfortable and healthy as we worship the Lord together! Thanks very much for your thoughtfulness.

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 Bloom; Joan Brown; Martha Davis; John Henzler; Helen Myer; Russ Richardson; Dorothy Swec; Anna Wahler; Lindsey Warne and Mildred Watts.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Barbara Danser's mother, Evelyn Walton; friend of the church, Barbara Darwin's daughter, Cindy; Gail Geijer's son, Dan; Jane Huff's grandson, James Huff-Miller; Joanne Hughes' parents, Cornelius and Bella Tanis; Linda Ill's mother, Carol Scarpone; Carolyn Lee's husband, John; Kathy Mitchell's mother, Marjorie Stewart and friends, Logan and Leslie Wyers; CPNS teacher Sheila Morrissey's sister, Tricia; friend of the church Sharon Ramkishun's sister-in-law, Michelle and niece, Kaitlyn; Arthur and Gloria-Jean Ryba's brother-in-law, Arthur Sanford; and Dave Stewart's mother, Carolyn Stewart.

We pray for all the people who are in need in our wider community and please remember family and friends in our nation's service.

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 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!

~~ ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE ~~

Sunday, December 11, 2011 - The Third Sunday of Advent

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. **Lessons and Carols** Worship Service

Sunday, December 18, 2011 - The Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:10 a.m. Sunday School Sing-Along
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Annual Christmas Luncheon following worship

Saturday, December 24, 2011 - Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Service of Bells for children of all ages
8:00 p.m. Family Service
11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

Sunday, December 25, 2011 - Christmas Day

No Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Christmas Worship Service
Christmas Joy Offering

~~ ADULT EDUCATION ~~

This week we will begin a two-week study on Messianic Prophecy in the Bible led by Dr. Gretchen Hull. In this special Christmas study we will learn about what was written in the Bible about the Messiah.

December 4	Anticipating the Incarnation— Messianic Prophecy in the Old Testament
December 11	Recognizing the Incarnation— Messianic Prophecy in the New Testament

Come to the Adult Education Class one or both weeks -- each week is an independent study. We will be in Room 1. If you are dropping your kids off for Sunday School, don't drive all the way home and then come back to pick them up. Drop into the Library and join the study—what an example you will be setting for your kids!

Please Note: There will be **NO Adult Education on Sunday, December 18.** Join us on January 8 for our series on "The Truths of the Bible."

~~ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ~~

Family Fun Day! Kids! Parents! Mark your calendars! Monday, January 16, Martin Luther King Day from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in Fellowship Hall.

~~ CPNS ~~

The children of CPNS will be singing at the Seniors Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 6. Mrs. "K" will be reading a very special story and the children will be sharing their gift of music with everyone as well as a special candy cane treat.

On Friday evening, December 9 the Cranbury Coffee House will present Laurie Davis. Laurie will be singing children's and Christmas music. The doors open at 6:00 and the show begins at 6:30. Tickets will be \$5.00 for all. Bring a blanket; there will be room in front of the stage to sit. There will also be child friendly refreshments given to all children. Danishes and coffee for the older children and parents will be available at an additional cost. Remember all the proceeds less expenses benefit Skeet's Pantry and the Deacon's Benevolent Funds.

As you begin to research your options for a preschool for your child, please consider CPNS. Please call Janice Parker at 609 655-8663 or e-mail her at CPNSchool@comcast.net for more information. Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors about our developmentally appropriate academic Christian preschool. We don't want anyone to miss the opportunity to give their children the best and strongest foundation for their child's academic success.

~~ MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS ~~

Snippets from the Year Book of Prayer: Although ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING is an Easter offering, and, hence a good many months from now, it is good to know that the gifts that we have given in the past have been put, and continue to be put, to good use. We are all aware of the terrible disaster that struck Haiti, and the continuing problems that island suffers. Immediately after the hurricane, One Great Hour of Sharing and general designated funds were sent to provide temporary shelter, food, and health assistance. More funds provided water and sanitation engineers and equipment to construct water purification systems. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance will continue its support in the struggle to rebuild from Haiti's worst earthquake in 200 years. How wonderful that our church is still at work in Haiti.

JEWELRY JUMBLE - PART 2: The Mission, Service & Grants Committee is bringing back our "Jewelry Jumble" by popular demand, with a limited run of two Sundays in December – December 11 and December 18.

We will continue selling the jewelry which had been donated to the Mission Fair, and you'll find us in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour on December 11. We will also be in the Library selling jewelry during the December 18 Christmas Luncheon.

So if you need some last minute Christmas gifts or want to put together another "add-a-link" bracelet, check out our Jewelry Jumble Part 2! All sales will continue to go to the Good Shepherd Hospital in the Congo.

~~ OTHER NEWS~~

Gift Idea: Did you know that our Organist and Music Director, Donovan Klotzbeacher, has published a book of 75 choral responses called "Time for Worship"? The cover of the book features a picture of our church steeple. It's available at amazon.com. Just search by his last name and you'll find it!

If you are acquainted with choir members or musicians from other churches, this would make an excellent Christmas gift and help promote the awareness of his music across various church denominations. Donovan has also written many anthems and several cantatas. He is thinking about publishing a book of anthems in the near future.

~~ OUTREACH~~

Dinner for 8: Beginning in January the Outreach Committee will offer a new opportunity to bring people together for fellowship and fun. Members of the church are invited to deepen and strengthen their ties with one another through conversation and through a meal. Young and old, singles and couples may sign up because the intent is to get to know people across age and interests. The host and/or hostess will invite six other people and provide the home, entrée and beverage. The other three couples will provide hors d'oeuvres, salad and dessert. Sign-ups began in Fellowship Hall on November 21 during the directory photo sessions and you can also sign-up on Sunday mornings at Coffee Hour. If you would like to host a dinner please note on the sign-up sheet. Your hostess will contact you after New Years for a dinner date in January.

~~ SENIOR BREAKFAST CLUB~~

Please join us on **Thursday, December 15 at 8:30 a.m.** at the Cranbury Inn when Pastor Lou Mitchell will present a Christmas Feature. If you wish to attend, and have not done so before, please notify the church office at 609-395-0897 so that we can contact you. We need to notify the Cranbury Inn with a head count of the guests that wish to attend.

~~ SENIOR FELLOWSHIP ~~

Senior Exercise Schedule -December 2, December 5, December 8, December 12, December 15

~~ STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE ~~

Thinking of tax efficient ways for year-end giving? Consider the following:

1. Transfer securities, in-kind, to the Church and avoid paying a capital gains tax that could arise from liquidating securities. Suitable for individual stocks, bonds or shares of mutual funds;
2. Consider directing any of your IRA distributions directly to the Church and avoid including the amount of the distribution as taxable income.

Please discuss either of these suggestions with your tax advisor to confirm eligibility to benefit from any tax savings. See Ken Gordon for broker transfer information.

If you have not returned your 2012 Pledge Card, please return your card as soon as possible. Thank you.

Counting Teams: 12/4 (Team #3) – 12/11 (Team #4)

~~ WORSHIP ~~

Scripture Readers Wanted! - The schedule for Lay Readers for January 2012 through June 2012 is now available in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up during coffee hour.

Ushers wanted! Would you like to help usher one of our Christmas Eve Services, 5:00 p.m. Children's Service, 8:00 p.m. Family Service or the 11:00 p.m. Communion Candlelight Service on December 24. If so, the sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex or you can contact Caren Anuszewski, Ushers Guild Coordinator at 609-587-8883 or email her at ccrabbe91@verizon.net.

~~ YOUTH MINISTRY ~~

Activities for Youth Group

- Dec. 2- 4 (Friday 5 p.m. - Sunday 1:30 p.m.) **Middle School Fall Retreat** at Camp Johnsonburg
- Dec. 4 5:30-7 p.m. Youth Group **"Does the Bible Really Say That!?"** Pt. 2; Musicians, please bring your guitars!
- Dec. 11 5:30-7 p.m. Youth Group **Christmas Cookie Baking** in the Kitchen
- Dec. 18 (Christmas Joy Offering) 10:10 a.m. Carol Sing-Along in the Sanctuary, 11:30 a.m. Annual Christmas Luncheon, 2:30-4:00 p.m. Service Project: **Caroling at The Elms and on Main Street-** Meet at The Elms, then we'll walk back to church for cocoa and cookies.

Dec. 24 (Saturday) **Christmas Eve worship services** at 5 p.m., 8 p.m. and 11 p.m.
 Dec. 25 **Merry Christmas!** Worship at 10:30 a.m.,
 No Sunday School, No Youth Group

~~ CALENDAR ~~
December 4, 2011 – December 11, 2011

Sunday 4	(2nd Sunday of Advent) 9:15a Christian Education for all ages (Classrooms/Lib./FH/McKnight Rm) 10:30a Worship with Communion followed the Congregational Meeting to Elect Church Officers 11:45 Library Committee – Library 11:45a-2:45a Larry White – McKnight Room 1:30p Middle School Retreat @Camp Johnsonburg returns (VAN) 4:00p–5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice – upstairs classroom 5:30p-7:00p Youth Group-FH/Kit 7:00p Boy Scouts (GC) - FH 7:30p-9p Cranbury Men’s Bible Study at the Inn
Monday 5	10:00a Senior Exercise 1:30p Martha’s Circle – Lib. 2:00p – 5:00p Senior Fellowship Christmas Party Preparation - FH/kit 7:00p Boy Scout District Meeting-FH (JK) 7:30p Brass Choir 8:00p AI-Anon-McK Rm
Tuesday 6	8:00a Senior Fellowship Christmas Party preparations – FH/Kit 9:00a Bulletin Material Due 10:45a–4:00p Senior Fellowship VAN 9:30a- 12 noon Women’s Bible Study-Bell Choir Rm 11:00a Staff Mtg.-Church Office 12:00p – 4:00p Senior Fellowship Christmas Party – FH/Kit 3:00p-5:00p CPM Meeting - Library 7:30p Christian Ed. Meeting-FH 7:30p P&A Meeting-Library 7:30p Youth Instrumental Ensemble 7:30p AA – McKnight Room

Wednesday 7	11:00a-2:00p Woman’s Club General Meeting- FH 3:00p-9:00p Church Pictorial Directory- FH/Room 1 7:30p Bell Choir
Thursday 8	10:00a Senior Exercise 1:30p Outreach Committee Meeting- Library 2:30p-9:00p Church Pictorial Directory- FH/Room 1 4:15p-4:45p Cherub Choir -Sanctuary 4:45p-5:30p Children’s Choir-Sanctuary 7:30p B&G Meeting-Lib. 7:30p The Chorale – Choir Room
Friday 9	9:00a Bulletin Assembly-Church Office 3:00p Set-up for Coffee House-FH/Kit 7p-9:30p The Cranbury Coffee House-FH/Kit 7:30p AA – McKnight Room
Saturday 10	7:00p Boy Scouts Holiday Concert – FH (JY)
Sunday 11	(3rd Sunday of Advent) 9:15a Christian Education for all ages (Classrooms/Lib./FH/McKnight Rm) 10:30a Lessons and Carols followed by coffee hour and Jewelry Jumble 4:00p–5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice – upstairs classroom 5:30p-7:00p Youth Group Christmas Cookie Baking-FH/Kit 7:30p-9p Cranbury Men’s Bible Study at the Inn