

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

Lessons and Carols

December 16, 2012 10:30 A.M.

The Prelude

Bell and Brass Choirs

"All hail the power of Jesus' name"

Arr. Joshua Evanovich

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.)

The Prophecy

The Chorale and Bell Choir

"Long ago, prophets knew"

Lloyd Larson

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

The Kim Family

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 40: 1-5

Pew Bible pg. 667

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Leader: God is making the final preparation for an amazing thing! This is the Advent of the long awaited Messiah, the bringer of hope, the prince of peace, our leader of love.

People: We wait, we prepare, we make straight the way.

Leader: We celebrate the coming of Christ with the lighting of Advent candles.

People: We are a people of hope, a people of peace, a people of love.

Leader: At first there was the frail light of a candle called hope, daring to pierce the darkness of despair and sin.

People: Then there was the candle of peace, the gentle and persistent fire, the one that calls out the violent forces and lets in God's deep and tranquil Spirit.

Leader: Today we light the candle of love. No other word so adequately captures the spirit and goal of our faith. No other word so beautifully describes what we know of God.

People: For God so loved the world.

Leader: For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son. A savior was made in the form of a baby who was born so that we might know God's love.

People: We gather, then, in Christian love. We give thanks for a love that passes understanding, and we await the dawning of God's pervasive and enduring love once more this Christmas season.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF HOPE, PEACE, and LOVE

HYMN #41 (Hymnal)*

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

John Francis Wade

BIDDING PRAYER

Dr. Louis Mitchell

Beloved in Christ, be it at this Christmas-tide our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God and the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all His people; for unity and brotherhood within the Church He came to build, and especially in this our congregation. And because this would rejoice His heart, let us remember, in His name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love Him not, or who by sin have grieved His heart of love. Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in this Lord Jesus we for evermore are one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ Himself hath taught us:

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 Annunciation

Luke 1: 26-33

Joan Fraser, Narrator

Bell Choir

"The King Shall Come"

Arr. Cathy Mocklebust

The Nativity of the Lord

Luke 2: 1-7

Cherub Choir

"Jesus Born in Bethlehem"

Youth Band

"Away in a Manger"

Arr. Marty Parks

The Angels

Luke 2: 8-14

Bell Choir

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Kevin McChesney

Brass Choir

"The First Noel"

Arr. Paul Cook

The Shepherds

Luke 2: 15-20

Young Worship Choir

"Silent Night"

Youth Band

"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

Trad. English

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory	<i>“Une vierge pucelle”</i> (A virgin pure)	Nicolas Le Begue
Hymn #592 (Hymnal)* Prayer of Dedication*	<i>“Doxology”</i>	Dr. Mitchell
HYMN #63 (Hymnal)*	<i>“As with Gladness Men of Old”</i>	
The Magi The Chorale Bell Choir	Matthew 2: 1-6 <i>The Coventry Carol</i> <i>“We Three Kings”</i>	16 th cent. Arr. by Tom Scott Arr. Cynthia Dobrinski
The Star Youth Choirs Brass Choir	Matthew 2: 7-12 <i>“Love’s Pure Light”</i> <i>“Do You Hear What I Hear”</i>	Arr. Michael Sweeney
The Light of the World The Chorale	John 1: 1-5, 14, 16 <i>“Carry His Light”</i>	Ruth Elaine Schram
HYMN #40 (Hymnal)*	<i>“Joy to the World!”</i>	
BENEDICTION*		
POSTLUDE	<i>“In dulci jubilo”</i>	J. S. Bach

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

We give thanks to God for the birth of
Eileen Noel Beykirch on December 4, 2012
daughter of Nicholas and Katherine Beykirch
sister of Benjamin
granddaughter of Larry White and Pat Cavender

*“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children
of God; and that is what we are.” I John 3:1*

**“I am the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.”**

Thomas E. Graham
February 16, 1922 – December 4, 2012

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 23, 2012 - The Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:15 a.m. Christian Education for all ages

10:10 a.m. Sunday School Caroling

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, December 24, 2012 - 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 30, 2012

No Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service



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 or if you would like to be contacted by the Outreach Committee please provide us with your address and/or email address in the red "friendship pad".

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.

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

Friends, as we prepare for worship, 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.

We thank those who are serving today in these ways:

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

Coffee Hour is our Annual Christmas Luncheon hosted by the Congregational Life Committee.

Greeters are Earl Davison, Heidi Knowlton and Hennie Sushereba.

Head Ushers are Brian and Gina Moore.

Special thanks to the following:

- Daune Arsnow, Leah Moy and Barbara Santoro for the beautiful Christmas displays in the Narthex glass cases.
- Mark Kelly, Ed and Debbie Konrad, Arthur Ryba, Rick, Linda and Samantha Scott, Paul and Sam Venanzi for setting up the outdoor Crèche.
- Kay and John Gartner, Andy Moutenot, Barbara Sears, Dale and Joan Smith and Ginny Swanagan for decorating the Sanctuary.

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 (609)395-0897.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church members with special needs: Marge Bloom; Everett Campbell; the Cassidy family; Martha Davis; Marlene French; Bill Keller; Claire Maselli; Rebecca Pelto; Rev. Joanne Petto; Russ Richardson; Dorothy Swec and Walter Wright.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Barbara Danser's mother, Evelyn Walton; Martha Donovan and family due to the death of her mother; Arlene Duran's daughters, Catherine Lepp and Jennifer Tuffy; Gail Geijer's son, Dan; Thomas Graham's family and friends due to his death; Jane Huff's grandson, James Huff-Miller; Joanne Hughes' parents, Cornelius and Bella Tanis; Linda III's mother, Carol Scarpone; Carolyn Lee's husband, John; church treasurer, Art Pellichero; friend of the church Sharon Ramkishun's niece, Kaitlyn; Carlene Reyes' friend, Will; Gretchen Stults' granddaughter, Jodi Mallette and family; and Loida Wilson's friend, Colleen Cahill Brunskill.

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!

~~ CHOIRS ~~

The Bell Choir **Patricia Bohrs, Director**

Joy Barclay, Carolyn Barlow, Lil Conley, Peg Hagerty, Debbie Konrad, Ann Olsson, Paddi Rodgers, Pat Scott, Mary Ellen Szczepanik, Michele Till, Robin Toplin, Alexander Vogen, Cathy Vogen, Becky Young, Ina Zimmer and Percussionist, Chris LeBrun

The Brass Choir **Patricia Bohrs, Director**

Bob Briggs, Monty Hagerty, Chris LeBrun, Dave Stewart, Luke Sickle, Roger Suttmeier, Ed Szczepanik and Steve Szczepanik

Cherub Choir **Laurie Davis, Director**

Owen Andrews, Hope Meizenis, Noah Meizenis, Cameron Pease, Evan Pease, Luke Pease, Graciela Rodriguez, and Gustavo Rodriguez

Young Worship Choir **Laurie Davis, Director**

Emily Ellsworth, Maya Pettway, Graciela Rodriguez and Lilly Santoro

The Chorale **Donovan Klotzbeacher, Director**

Jo. D. Andrews, Samantha Andrews, Richard Craig, Martha Donovan, Jean Dunham, Jean Dvorak, Mark Hughes, Dorothy Klotzbeacher, Beatrice Mabutho, Taylor Miller, Mary Speer, Ross Trube, Carol Vandercher, Larry White and Becky Grykien-Young

The Youth Ensemble **Patricia Bohrs, Director**

Alicia Kasper, Andrew Kasper, Hunter Miller, Taylor Miller, Alexander Vogen and Accompanist, Roger Suttmeier

~ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ~

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

The Bible and Handel's Messiah - Gaylord French will continue to lead us through the beautiful message and music of this familiar work. Join us--there will be a review of the first two weeks--and we will hear more this Sunday and on December 23. All are welcome. We are meeting in the library at 9:15 a.m.

Martha Circle: All women of the Church - you are welcome to join the Martha Circle which meets in the Library on the first Monday of each month at 1:30 p.m. This is a Study Group under the leadership of Rose Eller; this year's topic is "Dispatches to Christians: the Lesser Epistles." Join us on January 7 for the first lesson of the New Year.

~ CPNS ~

This week, our CPNS children will hear the story of Christmas told by our pastors using the beautiful nativity pieces that were donated by Harriett Perrine many years ago. The pieces are relatively large so the children can see them as the story is being told. Being able to bring the true meaning of Christmas to our children makes Christmas extra special at CPNS. We will also have our family Christmas sing-a-longs on Wednesday and Thursday at 10:45 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. on both days in Fellowship Hall. Join us for a special Christmas sing-a-long and a Christmas cookie snack.

We hope everyone has a joyous Advent season filled with hope, love, joy and peace. Our hope is that we carry the Christmas feeling in our hearts wherever we go.

We have decided to change the date of registration beginning with our 2013-2014 registration process. The new dates are as follows:

- Our existing students will register on January 14, 2013.
- Our sibling, sibling of alumni, and church members will begin registration on January 22, 2013.
- The general public registration will begin on February 1, 2013.

More information will be sent out as we get closer to the date.

As you research your options for a preschool for your child, please consider CPNS. Please call Janice Parker at 609 655-8663 or email 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: Cherokee Presbytery in Georgia has an interesting way in looking at itself as one church that is located in many places throughout northwestern Georgia, following Christ together with confidence, joy and hope. This church of 42 chartered congregations, two campus ministries, a retreat center and more than 9,800 members is serving God and growing in knowledge of God. The church in its various locations engages college students in serious conversation about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus; provides free health care to those who are living below the poverty level; proclaims that Christ is Lord through worship in a variety of languages and styles; cares for children and seniors; feeds the growing number of hungry and homeless in their communities, studies, prays, tutors children and adults, repairs breaches in families, communities, and hearts; and - most important -- is a vibrant witness to the saving love of Christ in the classrooms, kitchens, boardrooms, courtrooms, and offices where members spend their days.

Skeet's Pantry Receives Food Donations - Wynwood Forsgate, a Brookdale Senior Living facility in Monroe, is collecting food for Skeet's Pantry. They have donated food in the past and look forward to collecting food for Skeet's this holiday season. If you know folks at Wynwood Forsgate or live nearby, please spread the word that food donations are welcomed.

In Cranbury, there is a collection box at the Town Hall or food can be donated at Skeet's Pantry anytime. The following food items are always needed: tuna fish, peanut butter, rice, canned fruit and soups. Thank you for your support!

A Big THANK YOU From Skeet's Pantry! All the Skeet's Pantry volunteers and the folks we serve are really grateful for the generosity of our congregation and community. You have made it possible to not only give bountiful Thanksgivings to many families, but you are also providing for very happy Christmas meals in struggling households all around us. In addition, you are enabling our pantry to continue distribution of food to folks in need each month into the future. Our pantry has been truly blessed by your help. We are also deeply thankful for the donation of enough hams and turkeys to feed all our pantry families, courtesy of Shop-Rite of East Windsor. The spirit of giving is alive and well among us! Thank You!

16	(Classrooms/Lib./FH/McKnight Rm) 10:30a Lessons and Carols followed by the Christmas Luncheon 2:30 pm-Junior and Senior High caroling at the Elms-meet at the Elms 4:00p-5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice - upstairs classroom 7:30p-9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn
Monday 17	9:30a CPNS w/Pastor Christmas Story 1:00p CPNS w/Pastor Christmas Story 7:30p Brass Choir 7:30p CPNS Board Mtg. - Library 8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm
Tuesday 18	9:30a CPNS w/Pastor Christmas Story 11:00a Staff Mtg.-Church Office 12:30p CPNS w/Pastor Christmas Story 7:30p Session Meeting - FH 7:30p AA - McKnight Room
Wednesday 19	10:00 - 2:00p CPNS - FH/Kitchen 10:45a CPNS Christmas Program-FH 2:15p CPNS Christmas Program-FH 7:30p Deacons -FH 7:30p Bell Choir
Thursday 20	8:30a Senior Breakfast at the Cranbury Inn 10:00 - 2:00p CPNS - FH/Kitchen 10:45a CPNS Christmas Program-FH 2:15p CPNS Christmas Program-FH 4:15p-4:45p Cherub Choir -Sanctuary 4:45p-5:30p Young Worship Choir-Sanctuary 6:00p-7:00p Cub Scouts-McKnight Rm (KE) 7:30p The Chorale - Sanctuary
Friday 21	CPNS Closed Church Office Hours 9a to 12 noon 9:00a Bulletin Assembly-Church Office 8:00p-9:00p Promises - 12 Steps - McKnight Room
Saturday 22	
Sunday 23	(4th Sunday of Advent) 9:15a Christian Education for all ages (Classrooms/Lib./FH/McKnight Rm) 10:10a Sunday School Caroling-Sanctuary 10:30a Worship w/Baptism followed by coffee hour 4:00p-5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice - upstairs classroom 5:00p-6:30p Jr. and Sr. High Youth Groups (Christmas Cookie Baking Party -Kit/McKnight Rm 7:30p-9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn

~~ STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE ~~

Counting Teams: 12/16 (Team #1) and 12/23(Team #2)

Stewardship Update: We continue to make progress on our Stewardship campaign. Currently, we have received pledges of about \$271,000, which is about 63% of what is necessary to maintain our current budget. Your support is very important to reach our goal and will help immensely in continuing to support the missions and ministries of our church in 2013. Please consider making a pledge commitment as soon as possible, if you have not done so already. Pledge cards are available in the pews in church or the Church office can mail you one.

~~ WORSHIP ~~

The Lay Reader Schedule for January to June 2013 is now on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up if you would like to be a Lay Reader.

Flower Openings available! There are flower openings for the following Sundays: January 13, January 20 and January 27. Please contact Diane Smith at d1stargazer@verizon.net or 609-890-0822 if you are interested.

~~ YOUTH MINISTRY ~~

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 16 **2:30pm** - Junior and Senior High caroling at the Elms. (Meet at the Elms)
Sunday, December 23 **5:00 p.m. - 6:30p.m.** Jr. and Sr. High Youth Groups (Christmas Cookie Baking Party -FH/Kit)

~~ CALENDAR ~~

December 16, 2012 - December 23, 2012

Sunday	(3rd Sunday of Advent) 9:15a Christian Education for all ages
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