

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 14, 2014 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

The Prelude

Brass Choir

“The Christmas Spirit” arr. C Strommen & M. Carubia

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

Isaiah 40: 1-5

The Flyge Family

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"

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 forevermore 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

The Chorale
Bell Choir

Luke 1: 26-33

"The Angel Gabriel"
"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Joan Fraser, Narrator
arr. Theron Kirk
Kevin McChesney

Announcements

CHOIRS

The Bell Choir **Patricia Bohrs, Director**

Joy Barclay, Carolyn Barlow, Lil Conley, Peg Hagerty, Debbie Konrad, Ann Mooney, Ann Olsson, Paddi Rodgers, Pat Scott, Mary Ellen Szczepanik, Michele Till, Robin Toplin, Patricia Willard and Ina Zimmer

The Brass Choir **Patricia Bohrs, Director**

Bob Briggs, Gaylord French, Monty Hagerty, Henry Holland, Dave Stewart, Roger Suttmeier, Ed Szczepanik and Steve Szczepanik

Children's Choir **Jo D. Andrews, Director**

Jenna Barry, Owen Barry, Pauline Cole, Maddie Klein, Sawyer Klein, Charlotte "Charlie" Klein, Morgan Pease, Luke Pease, Evan Pease, Cameron Pease, Lily Rivenburgh, Gracie Taylor and Kylie Vandenberg

The Chorale **Donovan Klotzbeacher, Director**

Jo. D. Andrews, Samantha Andrews, Richard Craig, Judy Duke, Jean Dunham, Jean Dvorak, Mark Hughes, Dorothy Klotzbeacher, Mary Speer, Carol Vandercher and Larry White

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING

- ◆ Barbara Santoro and Leah Moy for the beautiful Christmas displays in the Narthex glass cases.
- ◆ Cabot Knowlton, Debbie, Ed and Ben Konrad, Art Ryba, Rick and Linda Scott and Kirstie and Bob Venanzi for setting up the outdoor Crèche.
- ◆ Deanna and Tory Anderson, Linda Cody, George Conley, John and Brenda Kirkenir, Andy and Flo Kremann, Ginny Swanagan and the Buildings and Grounds Committee for decorating the Sanctuary.



Christmas Eve Services - Would you like to help usher one of the 3 beautiful services for this year's holiday season?

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES, DECEMBER 24, 2014

5:00 p.m. – Children's Service

8:00 p.m. – Family Service

11:00 p.m. – Communion Candlelight Service

The sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex or you can contact Caren Anuszewski at (609)587-8883 or ccrabbeg1@optimum.net.



Come Celebrate the Birth of Christ with Us!

Sunday, December 21, 2014 – 4th 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

11:00 a.m. Meadow Lakes Worship Service

Wednesday, December 24, 2014 - Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Meadow Lakes Lessons & Carols Vesper Service

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 28, 2014

No Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:00 a.m. Meadow Lakes Worship Service

Sunday, December 14, 2014

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. Linda Protinick is the Nursery Coordinator.

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 available for your convenience in the narthex. The ushers can assist you.

The Flowers in the chancel today are given by Beverly and Craig Gilbert in loving memory of their daughter, Cynthia.

Coffee Hour today is hosted by the Mission, Service and Grants Committee.

Greeters are Jack Britton and Earl Davison.

Head Ushers are George Arsnow, Laurie Sasso and Samuel Smith.

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 call the church office at 609/395-0897.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church members with special needs: Marge Bloom; Will Ellsworth; Marlene French; Bill Keller; Scott Kerr; Carren Klenke and family due to the death of her father; Claire Maselli; Karen Moser; Russ Richardson; Elsie Sutton; Doris Wiegartner and Ann Zimmerman.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Vicki Bain's mother, Joan Stiles; Alan Balcomb's sister, Elizabeth Goodfellow; Jean Dunham's sister, Pat; Arlene Duran's daughter, Catherine Lepp; Paul & Janet Furchak's friend, Lori Sigley; Gail Geijer's son, Dan; Wayne & Cyndi Girardet's son and Karen & Andy Moutenot's son-in-law, Benjamin Girardet; Mark Hughes' grandmother, Olga Zelder; Bryan Nemeth's friend, Ellen Weiner; Ron & Ann Riemann's friend, Susan Seibert; Fran Stewart's father, Eugene Feeney; and Gretchen Stults' granddaughter, Jodi Mallette & family.

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!

Birthdays of Distinction: Carol Sprout on December 13 and Fritz Hager on December 18. **Happy Birthday!**

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Send some Christmas joy in honor or memory of someone you love-- Give to the Christmas Joy Offering. The funds will provide scholarships to deserving minority students at Presbyterian schools and housing assistance to retired Presbyterian pastors and missionaries. Any size gift will fit perfectly and make a big difference!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Cranbury Men's Bible Study (Sundays 8:00 p.m.): All men are invited to join us in a relaxed setting at the Cranbury Inn. Please contact Brett Butler for more information.

Family Fun Day Information! This year, on January 19, 2015 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day), the Christian Education Committee is planning a ski trip to Camelback Mountain in Tannersville, PA! The trip will cost between \$80 - \$90.

The registration deadline is **DECEMBER 21**. To register, email Brett Butler at bbutler532@gmail.com. Provide the following information: name, phone number, number of people that will attend and if rental equipment is needed. Thank you!

CPNS

We are "Getting Ready" for the baby! This week our pastors will tell the story of the first Christmas to the children. The story is told in the sanctuary, and we use a beautiful crèche set that was donated by Harriet Perrine many years ago. It's the perfect crèche; the children can see the whole story as it's being told. The Christmas story is one of our favorites, and the children's too, as evidenced by the sparkle in their eyes, and the awe on their faces as the story is being told. I'm so glad that we could share the true meaning of Christmas at CPNS to the children and their families.

MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS

Snippets from the Year Book of Prayer: The Church of Scotland has deliberately and consistently sought to prioritize resources and money for its work in the country's very poorest communities. That has meant a commitment to double resources in priority areas. They believe that if the church is not present in these places, then it ceases to be the church of Jesus Christ. They are committed to supporting the current generation of young people, often among the most marginalized, and helping them to become transformational leaders. They work with young people to inspire them where they live and enable them to experience all sorts of new challenges and opportunities.

Trenton Area Soup Kitchen News (TASK): We will not be going to TASK in January, for the first Thursday of the month falls on New Year's Day. Anyone over the age of 13 is welcome to join us starting in February. Please call Anne Gordon if you would like to serve.

SENIOR BREAKFAST

Please join the Senior Breakfast Fellowship on **Thursday, December 18** at 8:30 a.m. at the Cranbury Inn. The Senior Breakfast group will host their monthly meeting with a presentation by Gaylord French.

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. For information, contact Walter Wright.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Merry Christmas to all from the Senior Fellowship! Many thanks to all the volunteers who make it possible for us to carry out this mission and especially during our Christmas program.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Counting Teams: 12/14 (Team #4) – 12/21 (Team #1)

Budget Update (Year-to-Date to 12/7/14)		
	Week Ended 12/7	YTD to 12/7
Offerings	\$9,390	\$423,319
Expenses	\$8,617	\$408,087
Net Income/(Loss)	\$773	\$15,232

2015 Pledge Envelopes: Pledge envelopes are available to pick up in the church office (Monday through Friday). **Please note:** You may have a new number for 2015, so please use your new envelopes in January.

WORSHIP

January is open for flowers! If you would like to place flowers in the church, please contact Diane Smith at d1stargazer@verizon.net or call 609-890-0822.

Do you have an extra hour or two 4 or 6 times a year? Would you like to help the church? Would you like to be part of a great team?

The Ushers Guild is always looking for new members. Every week the ushers provide an invaluable service before, during and after the Sunday services. If you are interested in joining one of our many teams, or would like more information, please contact: Caren Anuszewski the Ushers Guild Coordinator at (609)587-8883 or email her at ccrabbeg91@optimum.net.

The **Lay Reader Schedule** for January to June 2015 is available in Fellowship Hall. We are always looking for, and welcome, new lay readers. If you have any questions, please call Joan Fraser.

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

December 14, 2014 (3rd Sunday of Advent)

9:15a Christian Ed for all ages (CRs/Lib./FH/McK Rm/Rm 1)
10:30a Lessons and Carols followed by coffee hour
11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Service
2:30p Youth Caroling at the Elms
4p-5p Cranbury Scout Band Practice
6p - 7:30p Youth Christmas Party-McK Rm
7:00p Cub Scouts Holiday Party - FH
8:00p-9:00p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn

December 15, 2014

Van repair
10:50a CPNS Christmas Stories – Sanctuary
1:30p CPNS Christmas Stories - Sanctuary
7:30p Brass Choir
7:30p CPNS Christmas Party
8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm

December 16, 2014

Van repair
9:00a Bulletin Material Due for 12/21, 12/ 24, 12/28
9:30a Staff Mtg.-Church Office
9:30a CPNS Christmas Stories – Sanctuary
12:00p Staff Christmas Luncheon
2:30p CPNS Christmas Stories – Sanctuary
7:30p Session Meeting - FH
7:30p AA – McK Rm

December 17, 2014

Van repair
7:00p-8:00p Girl Scout Meeting – RM 10 (CK)
7:30p Bell Choir

December 18, 2014

8:30a Senior Breakfast at the Cranbury Inn
10:45a CPNS Christmas Program – FH/Kit
2:15p CPNS Christmas Program – FH/Kit
4:30p- Children's Choir - Sanctuary
6:00p-7:00p Cub Scouts-McK Rm
7:30p The Chorale - Sanctuary

December 19, 2014

8:00p-9:00p AA (Promises 12 Steps)McK Room

December 20, 2014

December 21, 2014 (4th Sunday of Advent)

9:15a Christian Ed for all ages (CRs/Lib./FH/McK Rm/Rm 1)

10:10a Sunday School Caroling-Sanctuary

10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour

11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Service (Christmas Joy Offering)

11:45 Lib. Committee – Lib.

11:45a Meeting w/Officers Elect

4p–5p Cranbury Scout Band Practice

6p – 7:30p Sr. High Youth Group-FH

6:15p-8p Boy Scouts – McK Rm (GC)

8:00p-9:00p Cranbury Men’s Bible Study at the Inn