

Welcome to Worship at The First Presbyterian Church
Please join us for fellowship and refreshments at "Coffee Hour" in the
Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Lessons and Carols

December 17, 2017 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

THE PRELUDE

Pastoral Air with Variations

Franz Xaver Murschhauser

Organ

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

Gail and David Geijer

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."

L: 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.

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

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

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

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

P: 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.

L: 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.

P: For God so loved the world.

L: 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.

P: 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 #41/42 (Hymnal)* *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

THE ANNUNCIATION **Luke 1: 26-33** **Joan Fraser, Narrator**
The Chorale *"The Angel Gabriel"* **Basque Carol, arr. Theron Kirk**
Flute/Bell Choir *"Go Tell It on the Mountain"* **Spiritual**

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD **Luke 2: 1-7**
Women's Chorale *"What you Gonna Call your Pretty Little Baby"* **Spiritual,**
 arr. Greg Gilpin
Children's, Youth and Bell Choirs *"Gesu Bambino"* **Italian, Pietro A. Yon,**
 arr. Michael Burkhardt

THE ANGELS **Luke 2: 8-14**
The Chorale *"Angels was a-shoutin' on Christmas morn"* **David Lantz III**
Brass Choir *"The Angels"* **arr. Paul Clark**

THE SHEPHERDS **Luke 2: 15-20**
The Chorale *"Come on Down to Bethlehem"* **Joel Raney**
Children's Choir *"Sing We Now of Christmas"* **French Carol,**
and Women's Chorale **Mark Patterson**

OFFERINGS AND THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING
Offertory *"A Spiritual Christmas"* **arr. David Thomas**
 Brass Choir

Hymn #592 (Hymnal)* *"Doxology"*
Prayer of Dedication*

THE MAGI

The Children's Choir
Bell Choir

Matthew 2: 1-6
"I Saw Three Ships"
"Good King Wenceslas"

English Carol
Traditional

HYMN #66 (Hymnal)*

"We Three Kings"

THE STAR

The Chorale and Children's Choir
Brass Choir

Matthew 2: 7-12
"One Bright Star"
"Star of the East"

Lloyd Larson
arr. Pat Bohrs

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD John 1: 1-5, 14, 16

Bell Choir
The Chorale

"O Holy Night"
"Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light"

arr. Glenna Kratzer
J.S. Bach

HYMN #40 (Hymnal)*

"Joy to the World!"

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE

"In Dulci Jubilo"

J. S. Bach
Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

CHOIRS

The Bell Choir

Patricia Bohrs, Director

Carolyn Barlow, Henry Holland, Sandra Holland, Debbie Konrad, Ann Mooney, Leah Moy (Flutist), Carlene Reyes, Paddi Rodgers, Pat Scott, Mary Ellen Szczepanik, Michele Till, Robin Toplin, Patricia Willard and Ina Zimmer. Substitutes: Monty Hagerty, Peg Hagerty and Roger Suttmeier

The Brass Choir

Patricia Bohrs, Director

Bob Briggs, Henry Holland, David Stewart, Roger Suttmeier, Ed Szczepanik and Steve Szczepanik

Children's Choir

Jo D. Andrews, Director

Jenna Barry, Owen Barry, Dani Franke, Morgan Pease, Cameron Pease, Evan Pease, Luke Pease, Grace Taylor and Anna Terhaar

Youth Choir

Jo D. Andrews, Director

Owen Barry, Emily Ellsworth, Maggie Hughes, Cameron Pease, Evan Pease and Elise Root

The Chorale

Donovan Klotzbeacher, Director

Jo. D. Andrews, Samantha Andrews, Richard Craig, Jean Dunham, Jean Dvorak, Mark Hughes, Dorothy Klotzbeacher, Maggie Miller, Mary Speer, William Suits, Ross Trube, 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.
- Debbie and Ed Konrad, Cabot Knowlton, Art Ryba, Rick and Linda Scott and Paul Venanzi for setting up the outdoor Crèche.
- George and Margie Conley, Andy and Ruth Jost and John and Brenda Kirkenir for decorating the windows and the Sanctuary.
- Ginny Swanagan who prepares the Advent Wreath each year.

POINSETTIAS 2017

Given to the Glory of God by:	In Memory, Honor, Gratitude of:
Vicki Bain	In memory of Dennis Bain
Alan and Barbara Balcomb	In memory of Mr. & Mrs. George Balcomb and Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Thomas
Carolyn V. Barlow	In memory of my parents, Vincent and Ethel VanHise
Connie Bauder	In memory of my parents, Margaret and Milton Huber
Pat Bohrs	In memory of Elizabeth D. Hagerty
Pat Bohrs	In honor of the Bell and Brass Choirs
Pat Bohrs	In honor of Judson C. Hagerty
Betty S. Borgeson	In memory of my sister, Martha George
Dennis and Nancy Chonko	In memory of Lyle and Shirley Armstrong
Dennis and Nancy Chonko	In memory of John and Mary Chonko
Pat and Bob Demers	In memory of Gretchen Haverkamp Stults
Jean Dunham	In memory of Patricia R. Conant
Jean Dunham	In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice W. Rowland
Jean E. Dvorak	In memory of Ruth, Julius and Walter Dvorak
Jean E. Dvorak	In honor of The Chorale
Linda Ferguson	In memory of my parents
Gordon and Joan Fraser	In memory of Gordon & Hilda Fraser and Charles & Winnie White
Gaylord French	In memory of Marlene French
Paul and Janet Furchak	In memory of our mother, Janet LaRocco and our daughter, Christine Massaro
Fritz and Mary Jane Hager	In memory of our parents
Jane Huff	In memory of Jack Huff
Jane Huff	In memory of Halchen and Wherry Zingg
Jane Huff	In memory of James Huff-Miller
Ruth and Andy Jost	In memory of Rev. and Mrs. Paul Kovacs
Ruth and Andy Jost	In memory of Mr. Andrew Jost, Sr.
Scott and Mary Lou Kerr	In memory of Louis and Blanche Delfino
Margaret Lamb	In memory of my father, James Barry Lamb (Feb. 26, 1935 - Dec. 24, 2016)
Megan, Morgan, Donovan and Gavin Mavoides	In memory of our beloved grandfather, Don Scroggins

Doris Davison Parry and Hugh R. Parry	In memory of Asa T. Davison, Jr. and Margaret L. Stults Davison
Doris Davison Parry and Hugh R. Parry	In memory of Asa T. Davison, Sr. and Verna D. Davison
Doris Davison Parry and Hugh R. Parry	In memory of Meribah Davison Busby and Donald A. Busby
Arthur and Gloria-Jean (McKenrick) Ryba	In memory of Ernest, Jeanne and Richard McKenrick
Barbara Sears	In memory of my husband, Hank Sears
Audrey and George Smith	In memory of our son-in-law, Greg King
Audrey and George Smith	In honor of our children and grandchildren
Rae Ellen and Sam Smith	In memory of our loved ones
Mary B. Speer	In memory of Alfred Foulet
Mary B. Speer	In honor of my family
Virginia Swanagan	In memory of Don Jo Swanagan
Mary Szczepanik	In memory of my parents, John and Dorothy Szczepanik
Mary Szczepanik	In memory of Uncle Ed, Aunt Helen, Edward Christopher and Edward Martin Szczepanik
Leah Moy	In memory of Richard and Helen Wagner
Leah Moy	In memory of Mr. & Mrs. J. Schassberger
Doris Wiegartner	In memory of Sam and Bob Wiegartner
The Yeager family	In honor of our children, Tracey, Nick, Scott, Marissa and our grandchildren, Colin and Andrew

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors! We hope you will find a warm welcome here. We invite you to consider membership in our church family. Please speak to our Greeter or Pastors after worship for more information; or if you would like to be contacted, please provide us with your address and/or email address in the red “friendship pad”.

Worship Bags, Children’s Bulletins & Coloring Pages! All three are available in the narthex, and are offered with the hope that children who want to will be able to worship alongside the whole church family.

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.

Hearing devices are available for your convenience in the Narthex.

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 for many wonderful people. (Poinsettias may be picked up after the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service or on December 27 by contacting the church office.)

Flowers are also given in loving memory of Stanley Stults.

Coffee Hour today is hosted by the 6th and 7th Grade Sunday School Class.

Head Ushers are Brian and Gina Moore.

Greeter is Jack Britton/Heidi Knowlton.

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 prayer concerns: Austin Applegate; Sue Britton; Bill Chermak; Bea Davison on the passing of her husband, Earl; Robert Dyke; Gordon Fraser; Paul Furchak; Judson Hagerty; Robb Irving; Beatrice Mabutho; Charlie Patterson; Russ & Cheryl Richardson; Gloria-Jean Ryba; Wilma Shimer; Diane Smith; Larry Wegner; Larry White; Loida Wilson; Don Winchell; and Ina Zimmer.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: friend of the congregation, Michael’s mother, Carol; Pat Demers’ husband, Bob; Helen Dickerson’s mother, Martha & brother, Clifford; Rose Eller's sister, Louise; Linda Ferguson’s sister, Patty; Gail Geijer’s son, Dan & sister, Jane; Fritz & Mary Jane Hager’s daughter-in-law, Liz; Lucille Kirkenir’s friend, Rosie; Dorothy Klotzbeacher’s ex-husband, Rev. John Maltby; Beatrice Mabutho’s sister, Phyllis, brother-in-law, Joe & niece, Diana; Karen Moser’s nephew, Adam; Leigh Perry’s cousin, Ruby; Rev. Joanne Petto’s friend, Estelle; Arthur Ryba’s sister, Anna; Arthur & Gloria-Jean Ryba's cousin, Blair; and Roger & Ellie Suttmeier’s friend, Jacob.

Meadow Lakes members with special prayer concerns: Ruth Andersen; Wil Cassel; George Dubell; Jane Hahn; Pat Hesslein; Joe Kelly; Jane Kengeter and Beverly Robertson.

We pray for all people who are in need in our wider community and please remember family and friends in our nation's service. Members of our church family are encouraged to make prayer requests for relatives serving in our armed services, most especially those serving in harm's way.

Prayer Chain: If you have a prayer concern, please call the church office at (609)395-0897; Marie Perrine at (609)426-6244; or email Doris Wiegartner at doriswieg@aol.com. **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!

Birthday of Distinction: Fritz Hager on December 18. **Happy Birthday!**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

There will be NO Sunday School on December 24 and December 31.

Middle and High School Youth Group meets tonight, December 17 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for our Christmas Party.

Middle Schoolers: Bring an appetizer High Schoolers: Bring a dessert

Everybody: Bring a new t-shirt wrapped for the Gift Swap Game

We'll celebrate with delicious food, a reading of the Christmas story, and a no-holds-barred round of white elephant/dirty santa/yankee swap/gift exchange game to celebrate the coming birth of Emmanuel, God with us, the Prince of Peace!

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Coffee Hour Host(s) NEEDED! We need coffee hour host(s) to sign-up. Upcoming available dates needed for coffee hour host(s) are December 24, December 31, and January 7. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Heidi Knowlton at (609)799-1724 or cabotk@comcast.net.

CPNS

May your hearts and minds be filled with the spirit of Christmas. We hope you are taking time to enjoy this Advent season as we all prepare to celebrate Christ's birth. We are all busy at CPNS with activities filled with the love, peace, hope, and joy that is part of this season.

Please mark your calendars to attend our 2018-2019 Open House on January 24, 2018. You will have an opportunity to explore the many options our school has to offer. 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 strongest foundation for their child's academic success.

If you are a church member you will be able to register beginning on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. Please call Janice at 609 655-8663 or e-mail her at CPNSchool@comcast.net for additional information.

DEACONS

At coffee hour this morning, the Deacons will be selling beautiful candles in a choice of five scents and lovely Christmas mugs with a painting of our church by Agnes Winchell. All items are \$12.00 each. The proceeds from their sale will benefit the Deacons Benevolence Fund.

MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS

Skeet's Wish List:

**Pancake Mix and Pancake Syrup, Cereal, Peanut Butter and Jelly,
Tuna Fish, Beans (all varieties), Laundry Detergent (32 oz. size preferred)**

We send everyone a great big THANK YOU and we wish you and yours all the blessings of Christmas.

OTHER NEWS

A church is for spiritual renewal. Our church is so much more than that. It is friends and family and a pastoral staff that is there whenever you need them. Pastor Lou's support during Earl's final journey provided both comfort and strength to me. Earl knew that he was loved by the congregation. He cherished each call, visit, soft harp music played for him and cards that he received. Please accept my sincere gratitude to all of you. Bea Davison

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Christmas Nativity Processional: Many thanks to so many who made our Christmas Procession a Huge Success! Thanks to Jane Huff, who hosted the cast – and the pony. Thanks to the Cranbury Police Department for keeping everyone safe. Thanks to Tom Ingegneri, who was a wonderful Innkeeper. Thanks to Maggie Couse and her pony, Gingerella – known as “G.” Thanks to Sharon Ramkishun, who created our flyers and announcements. Thanks to the Outreach Committee, especially Ruth Jost, who handled the publicity, Pastor Lou who coordinated the police presence, KY Huang, who got our barriers up at the sidewalk. Many, many thanks go out to Pastor Hannah, Daune Arsnow, Jo D. Andrews, Vicki Waciega and the Christian Education & Youth Committee; who were responsible for the cast and their costumes and the pageant. Thanks to the Sunday School children who walked along with the Procession and who led us in caroling and to Don Klotzbecher, who provided the beautiful organ accompaniment. What a joyous event in our Advent Season!

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Senior Exercise Schedule: We will resume Sr. exercise on January 4, 2018.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Counting Teams: 12/17 (Team #1) – 12/24 (Team #2)

	Week Ended 12/10/17
Weekly Offering	\$8,869
YTD Offerings	\$387,110
YTD Expenses	\$483,028
YTD Net Income/(Loss)	(\$95,918)
YTD Per Capita: \$4,196 (19% of \$21,636)	

WORSHIP

Ushers Needed: Ushers are needed for the **Christmas Eve services at 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.** A sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall or you can contact Heidi Knowlton at (609)799-1724 or at cabotk@comcast.net.

Lay Readers Needed: We are looking for lay readers for January 2018 through June 2018. We welcome new readers to join our team, and would be happy to see your name for one or two Sundays on the sign-up sheet which may be found on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

December 17, 2017 (Third Sunday of Advent/Christmas Joy Offering)

9:15a Sunday School
10:30a Lessons and Carols Worship service followed by coffee hour
11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Service
11:45a Library Committee (Lib)
5:30p-7:30p Middle/High School Youth Group Christmas Party (FH)

December 18, 2017

10:45a CPNS Christmas Stories (Sanctuary)
9a Bulletin Material Due for 12/24 & 12/31
7:00p Brass Choir
8:00p Al-Anon (McK Rm)

December 19, 2017

10:45a CPNS Christmas Stories (Sanctuary)
11:00a Staff Mtg followed by staff Christmas luncheon
12:45p CPNS Christmas Stories (Sanctuary)
4:15p Children's Choir
7:30p AA (McK Rm)
7:30p Session Mtg (Lib)

December 20, 2017

10:45a CPNS Christmas Program (FH/Kit)
7:00p Bell Choir

December 21, 2017

9:00a Bulletin Assembly (Church Office)
10:45a CPNS Christmas Program (FH/Kit)
2:15p CPNS Christmas Program (FH/Kit)
7:30p The Chorale

December 22, 2017

CPNS Closed/Church Office Hours (9a-12p)

December 23, 2017

December 24, 2017 (Christmas Eve/ Fourth Sunday of Advent)

NO Sunday School
10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour
11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Service
5:00p Bell Service for Children of All Ages
9:00p Family Service
11:00p Candlelight Communion Service