

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

4th Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE *Pastoral Air with Variations* **Franz Xaver Murschhauser**
Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (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.)

INTROIT *The Magnificat* **Donovan Klotzbecher**
Jean Dvorak, vocalist

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Gail and David Geijer

L: Isaiah spoke to a people called chosen, to a tribe called Israel, with a light of hope. Gabriel came to a town called Nazareth, to a girl called Mary, with a light of joy. Mary went to a place called Bethlehem, to a stable called a nursery, with a light of love.

L: As we light our fourth Advent candle,
P: **we rejoice with Mary, for Love has flesh.**

L: Come now, O Child of Mary.
P: **Come now, O Prince of Love.**

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE

SUNG RESPONSE *(tune Hymn #115 Away in a Manger)*

**A candle is burning, a candle of LOVE,
a candle to point us to heaven above
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.**

SERMON

“A Christmas Invitation”

Rev. Hannah Lovaglio

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #123 (Hymnal)* *“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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 GIVING OF OUR OFFERINGS & CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERINGS

Offertory

“Ave Maris Stella”

Jean Titelouze
Organ

Sung Response*

Advent Doxology

(tune Hymn #385)

**All praise to you eternal Son, whose Advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit evermore.**

Prayer of Dedication*

HYMN #110 (Hymnal)*

“Love Has Come”

RESPONSE*

Choral Amen

The Chorale

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE*

Basse de Trompette

Jean Adam Guilain
Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

A Congregational Meeting

has been called by the Session immediately following the
10:30 a.m. Worship Service TODAY, December 22, 2019,
for the sole purpose of electing church officers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friends, as we prepare to worship the Lord together, please be mindful of our neighbors and choir offerings by settling down prior to the start of our Prelude. Thanks very much for your thoughtfulness.

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 one of our 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”.

Children are welcome in worship! Worship materials for children 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. Children are also invited to come forward for the children’s message, and nursery care is available throughout the service. Find the way to worship that works best for your family!

Hearing devices are available for your convenience in the Narthex.

Large print bulletins and hymnals are available 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 Dec. 27 by contacting Ruth Jost at (609)235-9078.)

Coffee Hour today is hosted by The Chorale and Deacon Helper, Ruth Jost.

Head Usher is Pat Bohrs.

Greeters are Jack Britton and Heidi Knowlton.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church members with special prayer concerns: Betty Borgeson; Bill Chermak; Margie Conley; Helen Dickerson; Dina Ellsworth; Paul Furchak; Carolyn Lee & family due to the passing of her brother, Leroy; Sally Giovanos; Mark Hughes & family due to the passing of his father, John; Harry Kleinkauf; Dorothy Klotzbeacher; Beatrice Mabutho; Charlie Patterson, Jr.; Ken Rossman; Wilma Shimer; and Elliott Wilson.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: CPNS teacher, Gretchen’s husband, Chip; Helen Dickerson’s mother, Martha & brother, Clifford; Joan & Gordon Fraser’s daughter, Fiona and son Iain; Gail Geijer’s son, Dan & sister, Jane; Gay Ingegneri’s husband, Tom; Ed Kietlinski’s sister, Joanna; Dorothy Klotzbeacher’s ex-husband, Rev. Maltby; Rev. Joanne Petto’s friend, Steve & family; Senior Fellowship member, Ruth; Sharon Ramkishun’s niece, Kaity; Art &

Gloria Jean Ryba's cousin, Layla; Audrey & George Smith's brother-in-law, Bob; Joan Smith's brother, Jim; Bonnie Wagman's son-in-law, Paul; Doris Wiegartner's nephew, Gary; Loida Wilson's mother, Loli; and Agnes Winchell's sister, Aniko.

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 or email Daune Arsnow at deersnow@verizon.net. 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.

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 fill out and 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!

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Congregational Life is welcoming new members to the team. This is an exciting group of people who would love to have you join in on the fun. There are several events that the Congregational Life Committee puts on each year. Our group is well organized so the learning curve for new members is very fast. Many hands make for light work and of course easy high fives!! Please join us as we help strengthen our Faith through Fellowship!! Please contact our Sharon in the church office, Matt Curran or Vicki Waciega to be a part of the fun. Thank you.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Group: See you in the New Year! Join us to bake cakes on January 5 for TASK! Middle School 5:00-6:30 PM | High School 6:30-8:00 PM.

Giving Tree! There is still time to donate to make Christmas memorable at UrbanPromise Trenton. There are **13 gift tags left** on the giving tree in the Narthex. To donate, take a tag off the tree and add your monetary donation to the UrbanPromise stocking on the tree. Checks can be made out to the First Presbyterian Church with "UrbanPromise Giving Tree" in the memo line. Thank you for having Big Dreams for the children and youth at UrbanPromise this Christmas! (If you have already taken a tag, please drop off your donation before Christmas. Thank you!)

Daily Devotion 2020: All are invited to join Pastor Hannah and the Book Group in reading *The Courage to See: Daily Inspiration from Great Literature*, a daily devotional by Greg Garrett and Sabrina Fountain. This simple devotional celebrates the beauty of literature and its ability to illuminate elements of the Divine, present all around us. **Copies are available for \$12 in the church office.**

DEACONS

Candles for Sale! During coffee hour TODAY, the Deacons will be selling candles for \$5 each. The proceeds from their sale will benefit the Deacons Benevolence Fund.

Coffee Hour Host(s) Needed: Anyone who signs up for Coffee Hour will have a Deacon helper if they want a Deacon helper. There are two sign-up lists; the first is to sign-up to be a Coffee Hour Host. The second is to volunteer to bring a plate of cookies or crackers or the like to help the host. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Jost at ruthjost@comcast.net.

MISSIONS, SERVICE & GRANTS

Skeet's Pantry Christmas Wishes: All of our Skeet's Pantry volunteers send very warm wishes to all our generous and kind donors. You have made it possible to brighten the tables of many families over the years, and it is deeply appreciated. Now, we need your help to put food on tables around our community for Christmas. We especially need:

Cereal (Family Size Is Best); Peanut Butter; Jelly; Spaghetti Sauce

Please be sure that "use by" dates are current. And if you'd like to make a monetary donation, just make checks out to First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury with "Skeet's Pantry" on the memo line. May you and yours enjoy all the blessings of this wonderful Christmas Season. Thanks so much!

OUTREACH

Do you have a church name badge? Many of you already have a name badge. If you already have one, please remember to wear it. You might consider leaving it in a place in your home where you will see it when you are getting ready for church. If you don't have a name badge and would like one, please email Audrey Smith at aud123abc@aol.com.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Senior Exercise Schedule: We will resume exercise class on January 2. Happy New Year!

SMALL GROUPS

Prayer Shawl Group: Our Prayer Shawl Group has been busy knitting shawls and praying that each will bring comfort to its recipient. The original prayer shawl pattern calls for 555 yards of sport weight yarn or 2 skeins 11-16 ounces. We generally use No. 10 or 11 needles. If you wish to donate the yarn for a shawl, needles, or if you are cleaning out the cupboards and have extra yarn (we can make stripes or borders with more than one color), please consider giving it to our group.

Book Club: Our Book Group is reading *Waking Up White*, by Debby Irving, to be discussed at book group on **January 27** (7:30 to 9 p.m.). Join us in the church library!

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Counting Teams: 12/22 (Team #2) – 12/29 (Team #3) – 1/5/20 (Team #4)

2020 Pledge Envelopes are here! You can pick up your envelopes in Fellowship Hall beginning today. PS – please remember to turn in your pledge for next year. If you cannot locate your pledge card that was mailed in October, you will find one in the pew.

P.S. - Thinking about a year-end offering to help our budget? Try a gift of appreciated stock (or shares of a mutual fund). Gifting securities that have appreciated in value has tax benefits. By doing so, you may avoid paying taxes on the capital gains that have accumulated and the market value of the securities when received will be reported as part of your annual offering. Instructions to make a transfer of securities can be downloaded from our church website, or you can contact Ken Gordon at stewardshipandfinance@cranburypres.org.

WORSHIP

We would love for you to join our Ushering Team! If you have questions or would like to usher, please contact Heidi Knowlton at (609)480-9176 or email her at cabotk@comcast.net. There also is a sign-up sheet on the Congregational Life bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Flowers: If anyone wishes to provide flowers for any given Sunday in memory or in honor of a loved one(s), please contact Heidi Knowlton at (609)799-1724 or email her at cabotk@comcast.net.

Lay Readers: The Lay Reader schedule for January 2020 through June 2020 is posted in Fellowship Hall. We are looking for, and would welcome, any new Readers to our group. Please sign up! Any questions please contact Joan Fraser.

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

December 22 (4th Sunday of Advent/Christmas Joy Offering) 11:00p Candlelight Communion Service

NO Sunday School

10:30a Worship followed by Congregational Mtg to Elect Church Officers & coffee hour (Joy Offering Collected)

NO Youth Group

December 25 (Christmas Day)
CPNS/Church Office Closed

December 26
CPNS/Church Office Closed

December 23
CPNS Closed
7:30p Brass Choir
8:00p Al-Anon (McK Rm)

December 27
CPNS/Church Office Closed

December 28

December 24 (Christmas Eve)
CPNS/Church Office Closed
5:00p Bell Service for Children of All Ages
9:00p Candlelight Communion Service

December 29
NO Sunday School
10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour
NO Youth Group

2019 Christmas Poinsettias

Given to the Glory of God by:

Vicki Bain

Alan and Barbara Balcomb

Alan and Barbara Balcomb

Brent and Carolyn Barlow

Richard, Joelle, Kara and
Kaylee Zimmer

Brent and Carolyn Barlow

Connie Bauder

Pat Bohrs

Pat Bohrs

Pat Bohrs

Elise Bruno

Liz Callaway and Ruth Jost

Dennis and Nancy Chonko

Dennis and Nancy Chonko

Pat Demers

Pat Demers

Martha Donovan

Jean E. Dvorak

Jean E. Dvorak

Linda Ferguson

Jack and Carol Fisher

Gordon and Joan Fraser

Gaylord W. French

Ken and Anne Gordon

In Memory, Honor, Gratitude of:

In memory of Dennis W. Bain

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. George Balcomb

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Thomas

In memory of Ethel and Vincent VanHise

In memory of Ina and Richard Zimmer

In memory of Ina and Richard Zimmer

In memory of Connie Bauder's parents,
Margaret and Milton Huber

In memory of Judson and Elizabeth Hagerty

In memory of John and Thelma Henzler

In honor of All Church Musicians

In memory of Spencer Bruno

In memory of Arlene Duran

In memory of Lyle and Shirley Armstrong

In memory of John and Mary Chonko

In memory of Robert Demers

In memory of Gretchen Stults

In honor of my children, John Wallace
Donovan and Virginia Hoye Donovan

In memory of Ruth, Julius and Walter Dvorak

In memory of Tucker, PJ, Si, Russell and all
my beloved pets

In honor of my children

In memory of loved ones

In memory of Charles and Winnie White &
Gordon and Hilda Fraser

In memory of Marlene French

In memory of Anne Gordon's father, Byron
Dugdale

2019 Christmas Poinsettias

Given to the Glory of God by:

Ken and Anne Gordon

Jane Huff

Jane Huff

Jane Huff

Ruth Jost

Ruth Jost

Anthony, Heather, Lisa,
Shelby, Van, and Victoria
(Grandchildren)

John Kirkenir

Cabot and Heidi Knowlton

Barbara Mortensen

Barbara Mortensen

Leah Moy

Leah Moy

Hugh and Doris Parry

Hugh and Doris Parry

Hugh and Doris Parry

Rev. Joanne Petto, Chaplain

Sharon and John Ryba

Sharon and John Ryba

Arthur & Gloria-Jean
(McKenrick) Ryba

Barbara Sears

George and Audrey Smith

George and Audrey Smith

Eugene and Mary Speer

Eugene and Mary Speer

In Memory, Honor, Gratitude of:

In memory of Anne Gordon's brother, John
Dugdale

In memory of Jack Huff

In memory of Halchen Zingg

In memory of Wherry Zingg

In memory of Rev. and Mrs. Paul Kovacs

In memory of Andrew and Clarissa Jost

In memory of Louis and Blanche Delfino

In memory of John and Lucille Kirkenir

In memory of Henrietta Sushereba

In memory of Cliff Mortensen

In memory of Scott Mortensen

In memory of Richard and Helen Wagner

In memory of Freda and Jacob Schassberger

In memory of Margaret and Asa T. Davison, Jr.

In memory of Verna and Asa T. Davison, Sr.

In memory of Meribah and Donald Busby

In honor of our Law Enforcement Officers and
all First Responders

In memory of Michael Sweeney

In memory of Anne Hunlock

In memory of Ernest, Jeanne and Richard
McKenrick

In memory of Henry Sears

In memory of our parents and son-in-law

In honor of our children and grandchildren

In memory of Virginia Speer

In memory of Alfred Foulet

2019 Christmas Poinsettias

Given to the Glory of God by:

Dianne M. Stecher

Jim and Debbie Taylor

Neal and Bonnie Wagman

Neal and Bonnie Wagman

Margo Wegner

Doris Wiegartner

In Memory, Honor, Gratitude of:

In memory of my husband, Raymond P. Stecher

In honor of our family

In memory of Ev and Jack Beckford

In honor of Rev. Joanne Petto

In memory of our cousins

In memory of Sam and Bob Wiegartner

