



First Presbyterian Church
300 School Street
Clarks Summit, PA 18411
570/586-6306
www.fpccs.org

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
2nd Sunday after Christmas

January 5, 2014

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music (PH 66)

Concerns of the Church

Prelude

“We Three Kings”

arr. Linker

Call to Worship

Jeremiah 31:7

Thus says the Lord: sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;

***Proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save your people, O Lord,”
the remnant of Israel.***

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

* Hymn 68 (PH)

“What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

God of glory,

you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world,

to reveal your love for all people.

We confess that our sin and pride

hide the brightness of your light.

***We turn away from the poor, we ignore cries for justice,
we do not strive for peace.***

In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin,

and baptize us once again with your Spirit,

***that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory
shining in the face of Jesus Christ.***

- * Silent Confession
- * Assurance of Pardon
- * Passing of the Peace
- * Gloria Patri (PH 579)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Lesson: Ephesians 1:3-14 (NT, p. 192)

Psalter: Psalm 147 (Sing 29)

A Time with Children

Special Music

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

arr. Wilburg

Gospel Lesson: John 1:1-18 (NT, p. 91)

Sermon: “After, Ahead, and Before”

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 308 (PH) “O Sing a Song of Bethlehem”

* Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed (PH, p. 15)

Offering

Offertory

“As With Gladness Men of Old”

arr. Pelz

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Please hold the bread until all are served, so that we might share it as a sign of our unity in Christ. As a sign of individual devotion and commitment, you may drink the cup as you are served.

Prayer after Communion

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn 63 (PH) “As with Gladness Men of Old”
 - * Charge and Benediction
 - * Postlude “Wie Schon leuchtet der Morgenstern” arr. Sedio
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- * All who are able shall stand.

The flowers this morning have been given to the glory of God by Gail Van Horn in honor of her family.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	William G. Carter
Director of Educational	Tina Ide
Director of Music	Susan Kelly
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Sue Kelly

Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.