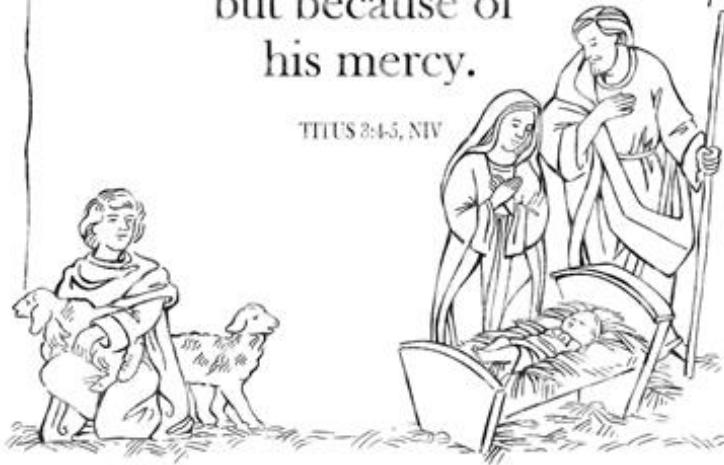


But when the kindness
and love of
GOD
our
SAVIOR
appeared, he saved us,
not because of righteous
things we had done,
but because of
his mercy.

TITUS 3:4-5, NIV



First Presbyterian Church
Service for the Lord's Day
Christmas Day

December 25, 2022

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Concerns of the Church

Prelude

"Once in Royal David's City"

arr. Victor Johnson

Call to Worship

Christ is born! Alleluia!

Jesus is among us. Alleluia!

The Word has become flesh.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

* Hymn 143

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Litany for Christmas

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

Glory to God in the highest!

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Glory to God in the highest!

For a child has been born for us, a Son has been given to us.

Glory to God in the highest!

He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Glory to God in the highest!

To us is born in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest!

And the Word became flesh and lived among us.

Glory to God in the highest!

Christ is now on earth! Exalt him! O earth, sing to the Lord!

O you nations, praise him in joy, for he has been glorified! Amen.

* Passing of the Peace

* Response 143 **Come and worship! Come and worship!**

Worship Christ the newborn king!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

Reflection: "Mary, Ponder This," part 1

Hymn 110 "Love Has Come"

Second Lesson: Luke 1:39-56

Reflection: "Mary, Ponder This," part 2

Hymn 158 "Born in the Night, Mary's Child"

Third Lesson: Luke 2:1-20

Reflection: "Mary, Ponder This," part 3 and conclusion

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 146 "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"

* Affirmation of Faith: Nicene Creed (Hymnal, p. 34)

Offering and Dedication of Christmas Joy Offering

Offertory "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

arr. Wayne Kerr

* Doxology

* Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 132 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude

"Ding, Dong! Merrily on High"

arr. Robert Lau

* All who are able shall stand.

We are grateful for the many ways that people support our church's ministry to the community and world. If you wish to contribute by cell phone, scan here.



PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor

Organist

Liturgist

Rev. William G. Carter

Kay Ten Eyck

Dick Cochrane

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

Church Family Announcements

Our congregation worships God, equips God's people for ministry in the world, and serves God in ways that are faithful to the Gospel.

Thank you for joining us for Worship. We worship every Sunday in two ways!

- **Join us in person at 10:00 a.m.**
- **Tune in online** for our service, which is broadcast live on [our video page on YouTube](#) and archived for later viewing on the same site.

Large-print bulletins can be found at the rear of the sanctuary.

The Nursery is open Sunday mornings from 9:40-11:10 a.m. for children ages 3 and younger in room 208. The nursery is staffed by Heather Lyons.

Tell us your prayer concerns: Prayer Request Cards are available in the pew racks. Pass them to the center aisle to be collected during the first hymn. Please pray for: Barbara, Hall, Nancy, Ellen, Susannah, Janice, Kate, Leonard, Janet, June, Janet, Donna, Maura, Chuck, Jane, Morse, Dick Maurer and family, Bailey Family, MacDade family.

Can you help? We are seeking volunteers to replenish our committees and assist with brief but important tasks around the church.

- Can you assist with serving meals at one of our funeral luncheons? Let our Deacons know.
- Interested in volunteering in the office on a regular weekday morning? Notify Nancy Owens.
- Can you serve on the Christian Education and Growth committee? Let Jana know.
- Could you serve on the Worship, Music, and Arts committee, or on the Arts planning team? Tell Jan Thyren or Robin Pinches of your interest.

Thanks for considering this invitation. This church depends on volunteers!

2023 Offering Envelopes can be found on the tables in the hallway by the pastor's office. Please take yours home today. If you would like a box of envelopes, and one hasn't been prepared for you, contact the church office (570-586-6306).

Speaking of pledges, thank you for your generous support of our work and worship. As we wind up the year, our church's accountant will be closing the books on a generous year. Need to fulfill your financial pledge? You can do so online or you can drop it off at the church office. **Next week**, you may want to call before you stop by because the church staff will be visiting family members, catching up on sleep. or simply taking some breathing room after a very busy month.

Coming in January:

The Chamber Music Society of NEPA will perform a concert "Tempestuous Harmony" at the First Presbyterian Church in Clarks Summit on **Sunday, January 8 at 4 pm**. The program will feature piano quartets of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Richard Strauss. Artists are Brian Farrell, piano, John M Vaida, violin, Amy Iwasumi, viola, and Bryan Hayslett, cello.

Mr. Farrell currently holds the position of Music Director and Conductor of Repertory Opera Company of Los Angeles, and both Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from The Juilliard School where he studied piano with Jerome Lowenthal, opera with Diane Richardson, and collaborative piano with Samuel Sanders.

John Vaida and his wife, Amy Iwasumi, are co-founders of the NEPACMS, and perform regularly as soloists, recitalists, and chamber musicians. Vaida is currently on the faculty at Mansfield University and Wilkes University, and Artist-in-Residence at the Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School. His wife enjoys a diverse career as a musician, web developer and graphic designer, and is the chief of operations for the NEPACMS.

Cellist Bryan Hayslett teaches as Assistant Professor of Cello at the New World School of the Arts and serves as the cellist of contemporary performance group Juxtapositional.

The Piano Quartet in G Minor by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was one of only a handful of his compositions in G Minor, a key in which his most turbulent and tragic yet beautiful works were written. Paired with the fiery and expansive Piano Quartet in C Minor by Richard Strauss, this concert is not to be missed!

Art Show at the Ice Festival First Presbyterian is happy to host a juried photography exhibit, as well as the fine artwork of its talented parishioners at the Clarks Summit Ice Festival, held on **January 27-29, 2023**. If you want to be a part of the event, here's what you need to know:

- Elaine Tweedy will coordinate the Art Show. If you are interested in participating, you will need to let her know by December 30th. You can contact Elaine via her cell at 570-575-1705 or email at elainetweedy@gmail.com.
- Drop off of artwork and photography will be Thursday, January 26 between 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. Pick up of your work will be Sunday, January 29 between Noon and 1:30 p.m. There will be a People's Choice Award as part of the show. For more information and a schedule of the event, contact Elaine.

This Week at a Glance

Today **Christmas Day**

Monday, December 26 Church Office is closed.

Wednesday, December 28

- **10:30 a.m.**, Prayer and Share, Room 209

Thursday, December 29

Friday, December 30 **12 noon**, Church Office Closes

Sunday, January 1, 2023 **New Year's Day**

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online

Looking Ahead:

Monday, January 2 The Church Office is closed.

Sunday, January 8

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
- After worship, there will be an intergenerational lunch/event on the theme of **Baptism**.
- **4 p.m.**, NEPA Chamber Music Society presents "**Tempestuous Harmony**", in our Sanctuary.