



I WILL RECOUNT  
THE GRACIOUS  
DEEDS OF THE  
LORD ...  
BECAUSE OF  
ALL THAT THE  
LORD HAS DONE  
FOR US ...  
ISAIAH 63:7, NRSV

**First Presbyterian Church**

Service for the Lord's Day  
First Sunday after Christmas Day

January 1, 2023

10:00 a.m.

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

Gathering Music

Concerns of the Church

Prelude

“Kings of Orient” arr. Rebecca Groom Te Velde

Call to Worship

There is good news of great joy for all!

***Our Savior is born: the Messiah, the Lord.***

I will proclaim the gracious deeds of God;

***the steadfast love of the Lord is great.***

Let us worship God.

\* Hymn 147

“The First Nowell” (verses 1, 2, 4, 5)  
*Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.*

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession

***God-with-us, we confess that we have not embraced your love.  
Christ has come into the world, and yet we do not know him.  
He has called us to be his own, and yet we do not accept him.  
Forgive us, God of grace.  
Show us your mercy and truth  
until we know in fullness your good news of great joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.***

\* Silent Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

\* Response 147

***Nowell! Nowell! Nowell! Nowell! Born is the King of Israel!***

## **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Matthew 2:13-23 (NT, p. 2)

Psalter: Psalm 148 (Hymnal 17)

A Time with Children

Solo

Second Lesson: Isaiah 63:7-9 (OT p. 693)

Sermon: “Saved By Presence”

Rev. Carter

*Sermon series: Wintering with Isaiah*

## **RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

\* Hymn 152

“What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright”

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

Offering

Offertory “Sing We Now of Christmas” arr. David Cherwien

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.*

Prayers of the People

## **GO IN GOD'S NAME**

- \* Hymn 150 "As with Gladness Men of Old"
  - \* Charge and Benediction
  - \* Postlude "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" arr. James Loeffler
- 

\* All who are able shall stand.

**The flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in loving remembrance of Shirley McLaughlin, who was a dedicated member and steward of our church family. Singing and ringing, she shared her time and musical talent, and we are thankful to have been a part of many musical moments with Shirley. The flowers were given by Bev Bright, Barbara Brown, Jean Brown, Meg Hatch, Bill Keller, and Margie Reese.

### **PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Robin Pinches

**First Presbyterian Church  
300 School Street  
Clarks Summit, PA 18411  
570/586-6306  
[www.fpccs.org](http://www.fpccs.org)**

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.



## 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, Tina, Chuck, Jane, Morse, Dick Maurer and family, Bailey Family, MacDade family, McLaughlin 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.

### **Next Sunday:**

**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 Juxtatonal.

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 January 9th. You can contact Elaine via her cell at 570-575-1705 or email at [elainetweedy@gmail.com](mailto: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**

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

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

Monday, January 2      The Church Office is closed.

Tuesday, January 3

7 p.m., Mission and Justice, Room 206

Wednesday, January 4

- **9 a.m.**, Presbyter Mailing, Room 206
- **10:30 a.m.**, Prayer and Share, Room 209
- **6 p.m.**, Adult Bible Study, Room 206
- **7 p.m.**, Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft
- **8 p.m.**, Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

### **Looking Ahead:**

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.

Sunday, January 15

- **10 a.m.**, **Worship in the sanctuary and online**
- **11:15**, **Session meeting, room 206**