



**First Presbyterian Church
Blue Christmas Service
December 16, 2024
7:00 p.m.**

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In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude "Carol" Ian Wells
Words of Welcome
Hymn 95 "Prepare the Way of the Lord"

Call to Worship
Blessed be the God of our salvation,
***who bears our burdens, forgives all our sins,
and restores our joy.***
All those who await the Lord's presence cry out:
"Come, Lord Jesus!"

Opening Prayer

Hymn 842 "The Lord is My Light"

Litany of Remembrance

Lighting of the First Candle
***We remember them with love.
May God's eternal love surround them.***

Lighting of the Second Candle
***We remember that, through you, all things are possible.
Refresh, restore, renew us, O God, and lead us into your future.***

Lighting of the Third Candle
***We remember that, though we have journeyed far and may have turned away
from the light, the light itself has not failed.***

Lighting the Fourth Candle
***We remember the One who shares our burdens, who shows us the way to the
Light, and who journeys with us into tomorrow.***

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination
First Reading: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 (OT, p. 638)
Hymn 90 "Wait for the Lord"

Second Reading: Psalm 27 (Hymnal 90)

Third Reading: Luke 1:68-79 (NT, p. 58)
Hymn 678 "Our Darkness is Never Darkness in Your Sight"

Reading: "A Song of Christ's Goodness"
Hymn 544 "Bless the Lord"

Anselm of Canterbury

Reading: "A Song of Our True Nature"

Julian of Norwich

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn 814 "In God Alone"

Candle Lighting

*All are invited forward to light a candle on the table if they wish,
naming a struggle with the season or naming those they have loved and lost.*

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer ("debts" and "debtors")

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 122 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

* Blessing

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Bless the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised!

* Postlude "In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. Gordon Young

For those who wish to make an offering, the ushers will be standing at the side door.

* All who are able shall stand.

PARTICIPANTS IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE

Pastors

Rev. William G. Carter

Rev. James E. Thyren

Director of Music

Frank Jones

Organist

Kay Ten Eyck

Readers

Betsy Ellis

Barbara Norton

Judy Cutler

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