



**First Presbyterian Church  
Blue Christmas Service  
December 15, 2025  
7:00 p.m.  
300 School Street  
Clarks Summit, PA 18411  
570/586-6306  
[www.fpccs.org](http://www.fpccs.org)**

# First Presbyterian Church

Blue Christmas Service

December 15, 2025

7:00 p.m.

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

## **ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

Prelude

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 and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Even through the longest nights,

***we keep vigil.***

When days are long and we grow weary,

***we keep vigil.***

When we're running out of hope,

***we keep vigil.***

When peace feels like a pipe dream,

***we keep vigil.***

When joy seems like a luxury we can't afford,

***we keep vigil.***

When the world is more full of hate than love,

***we keep vigil.***

When we are desperate for Christ, Emmanuel, God-With-Us,

***we keep vigil.***

## **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9 (OT, p. 638)

Hymn 90 "Wait for the Lord"

Second Reading: Psalm 27 (Hymnal 90)

Third Reading: Isaiah 54:9-14

Hymn 678 "Our Darkness is Never Darkness in Your Sight"

Fourth Reading: Luke 1:68-79 (NT, p. 58)

Hymn 544 "Bless the Lord"

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

### 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"

\* Affirmation of Faith

Time after time, the angels break in with a greeting:

***"Do not fear."***

So when our days are heavy and our sleep grows restless,

***we believe that God is near.***

When fear feels greater than hope,

***we will look for signs of new life;***

***we will take a step toward God with shaking knees;***

***we will stand together, and we will not let fear stop us.***

When we are desperate for Christ, Emmanuel, God-With-Us,  
we will remember:

***we are the hands and feet of Christ,***

***made in God's own image,***

***called to be light-bearers in a fearful world.***

For we know that, no matter how it may seem,

***God is here, among us, even now. Amen.***

\* Benediction

\* Postlude

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

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\* All who are able shall stand.

Portions of tonight's liturgy are written by the Rev. Anna Strickland / A Sanctified Art LLC  
/ sanctifiedart.org

## **PARTICIPANTS IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE**

Pastors

Director of Music

Organist

Readers

Ushers

Rev. William G. Carter

Frank Jones

Kay Ten Eyck

Jack Pittman

Judy Cutler

Betsy Ellis

Debbie Miller

Betsy Ellis

Diana Pope-Albright