



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Second Sunday of Christmas**  
**January 3, 2016**

<p><b>S</b>HARE the amazing love of God</p>	<p><b>R</b>EFLECT the light of Jesus Christ</p>	<p><b>L</b>IVE and serve joyfully in the Spirit's power</p>
757.397.6322	515 Court Street, Portsmouth, Va 23704	<a href="http://www.fpcports.org">www.fpcports.org</a>

## Coming Events

Sunday, Jan. 3  
9:30 Breakfast  
9:50 Children's music  
10:00 Sunday school  
11:00 Worship with  
the Lord's Supper

Tuesday, Jan. 5  
10:30 Women's circle

Sunday, Jan. 10  
9:30 Breakfast  
9:50 Children's music  
10:00 Sunday school  
11:00 Worship,  
including receiving gifts  
for \$6 a backpack and  
**installation of new  
officers**  
12:00 Hospitality hour

Sunday, Jan. 17  
9:30 Breakfast  
9:50 Children's music  
10:00 Sunday school  
11:00 Worship

Sunday, Jan. 24  
9:30 Breakfast  
9:50 Children's music  
10:00 Sunday school  
11:00 Worship

Tuesday, Jan. 26  
7:00 Backpack packing

Sunday, Jan. 31  
9:30 Breakfast  
9:50 Children's music  
10:00 Sunday school  
11:00 Worship and  
**annual congregation  
meeting**

Sunday, Feb. 7  
9:30 Breakfast  
9:50 Children's music  
10:00 Sunday school  
11:00 Worship with  
the Lord's Supper

*Reminder: The Court St.  
and King St. doors will be  
locked during worship.  
Please enter through the  
sanctuary during worship.*



## *Made One by Christ*

### **\* Welcome and Call to Worship**

In the beginning was the Word,  
**and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.**

Now the fullness of time has come:  
**and the Word became flesh  
to dwell among us.**

Let us worship God.

News for the Good of the Church

Prelude "The Three Kings" Held

Choral Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

### **\*Hymn #143**

**"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"**

## *Clothed by Christ*

Listening for the silence of God followed by the  
"Gloria Patri"

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to  
the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is  
now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.**

### **Corporate Prayer of Confession**

Christ Jesus came to save us, not because of  
our works, but according to the mercy of God  
through the water of rebirth and the renewal  
of the Holy Spirit.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**God our Savior, we confess that we are not  
people of peace. You call us home from our  
exile, yet we remain wandering and lost. You  
came to dwell among us, yet we refuse to  
welcome You. Forgive us, God of grace.  
Gather us up in Your arms and hold us close,  
as Your own, so that we may live to praise  
You, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Corporate Prayer of Confession (continued)**

God has poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might have the hope of eternal life. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God.**

Sharing of Christ’s Peace

**\* Song of Praise, Hymn #453 “Open Your Ears, O Faithful People”**

*Sharing Christ’s Promise*

Time with the Children

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson	Psalm 121	page 536
Second/Gospel Lesson	Matthew 2: 13 – 15	page 836
Sermon	“The Lord Is Our Keeper”	The Rev. Vernon Murray

*A Life of Blessing*

**\* Hymn #45 “I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes”  
tune “Amazing Grace”**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Choral Musical offering “Another Year of Grace” Austin C. Lovelace

**\*Doxology Hymn #606 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

**The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**Response Hymn #565 “Holy, Holy, Holy”**

**Response Hymn #566 “Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen”**

**Response Hymn #568 “Amen”**

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory forever.  
Amen.

Communion of the People

### *A Life of Blessedness*

\* Hymn #150 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

\* Charge and Benediction



The grace of our Lord, Je-sus Christ, and the love of God and the  
fel - low - ship of the Ho - ly Spir-it, be with us for ev - er - more

A Blessing in Music "March of the Wisemen"

Voirs

### *Another Year of Grace*

*Now greet the swiftly changing year  
with joy and penitence sincere.  
Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace  
another year of grace.*

*This Jesus came to end sin's war;  
This Name of names for us He bore.  
Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace  
another year of grace.*

*His love abundant far exceeds  
the volume of a whole year's needs.  
Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace  
another year of grace.*

*With such a Lord to lead our way  
in want or in prosperity, what need we fear  
in earth or space in this new year of grace?*

*"All glory be to God on high,  
and peace on earth!" the angels cry.  
Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace  
another year of grace.*

*The Vision of the Congregation: We see ourselves as the embracing arms of Jesus Christ for each other, for the community, and for the world.*

## **Welcome to our visitors!**

We hope that you find our congregation a welcoming one.  
Your presence enriches our worship of God.

### **Important dates in January**

Jan. 10 – Installation of new officers  
Jan. 24 – Session committee reports due  
Jan. 31 – Annual congregational meeting

### **Memorial Donations**

Leon and Burma Smith in memory of Frances Spiers  
and Mildred Humphrey

### **Prayer List**

Jeff Baker (Norma Halterman's brother-in-law), Betty Bartlett,  
Richard Butler (Paul's cousin), Kyle Craig (Kerry's cousin),  
Ronald Curry (Grace Yingling's son), Jackie and Tyler Forsythe,  
Benjamin Gerlach (Pat Sparks' grandson),  
the Goodwin family (neighbors of Cecilia and Alfred Fry),  
Stephanie Green, Joe Jennings,  
Mark Leonard (Claudia Laughlin's brother),  
Agnes McFadden, Bob Pomeroy, Jr. (Diane Griffin's brother),  
Marina Reimann, Carl Rhodes, Georgie Stewart (David's mother),  
the Winkler and Powell families,  
Dorothy Wooldridge (friend of Carl Rhodes)

### **Everyone suffering with cancer and facing surgery**

#### **Our friends at home, especially**

Margaret Glynn, Lanier Halterman, Frances Hardy,  
AT & Nancy Mayo, Ann Michaluk, Sue Parker, Lane Pittman,  
Burma & Leon Smith, Harvey Spiers, Robert Westbrook,  
Patrice & Phil Winkler, Joyce Wright, Grace & Harold Yingling

### **Leading in worship today**

The Rev. Vernon Murray  
Mrs. Edna Broadhurst, Director of Music Ministries  
Communion Preparation: Gail Pittman  
Communion Servers: Penny Brangan, The Rev. Vernon Murray,  
Gail Pittman  
Communion Homebound: Al Fry, Agnes McFadden,  
Alice Simpson, Rudy Simpson  
Reader: Raymond Rodrigues  
Ushers: David Culpepper, Eva (Lou) Wilhite  
Counters: David Culpepper, TBA

### December Offerings

12/6 \$ 6,364.81	12/20 \$ 2,307.00
12/13 \$ 3,053.00	12/27 \$ 873.00
	MTD \$12,597.81

### December Attendance

12/6 Worship 33	Sunday school 16
12/13 Worship 42	Sunday school 16
12/20 Worship 39	Sunday school 14
12/27 Worship 21	Sunday school 5

\$150 was received for the Joy Fund on Christmas Eve.

The church office will be open on Wednesdays only, from 2:00 – 4:00.

In order to prepare the bulletin in a timely manner, all notices should be sent to ([church@fpcports.org](mailto:church@fpcports.org)) and the bulletin editor ([rjrodriguesiii@yahoo.com](mailto:rjrodriguesiii@yahoo.com)) no later than noon Wednesday.

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### Session

The Rev. Walter Hunting, Moderator of Session  
Karen Diggs, Clerk of Session  
Worship, led by Agnes McFadden and David Culpepper  
Congregational Fellowship, led by Oralie Wilhite  
Administration, Property and Finance, led by Paul Butler  
Mission and Outreach, led by Jennifer Patgorski  
Christian Formation, led by Gail Pittman

Members and friends of the congregation are encouraged to contact the appropriate elder with their comments and suggestions.

### Church Staff

The Rev. Walter Hunting, Crisis Pastor 483-4721 Home, 615-2944 Cell  
Mrs. Edna Broadhurst, Director of Music Ministries 397-3622 ext. 203

#### Birthdays

1/7 David Turner  
1/17 Carl Rhodes, Jr.  
1/26 Barry Westerwick  
Sylvie Joyner  
1/27 Kay Kidd  
Kerry Westerwick  
1/31 Bobby Powell  
Abby Taylor

*Missing a birthday?  
Please contact:  
Church churchr@fpcports.org  
397-3622  
Bulletin Editor  
rjrodriguesiii@yahoo.com  
Newsletter Editor  
slp149@aol.com*

#### Ministries

**1/3**  
Sun. Sch. Diane Griffin  
Brkfst. Rodrigues/Wilhite  
**1/10**  
Sun. Sch. Diane Griffin  
Brkfst.  
**1/17**  
Sun. Sch. Diane Griffin  
Brkfst.  
**1/24**  
Sun. Sch. Diane Griffin  
Brkfst.  
**1/31**  
Sun. Sch. Diane Griffin  
Brkfst.

#### **Contact Us:**

**757-397-3622**  
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