



First Presbyterian Church
Christmas Day
December 25, 2016

SHARE the amazing love of God	REFLECT the light of Jesus Christ	LIVE and serve joyfully in the Spirit's power
757.397.6322	515 Court Street, Portsmouth, Va 23704	www.fpcports.org

Coming Events

Sunday, December 25
Christmas Day
10:30 Worship, with the
Lord's supper

Sunday, January 1
9:00 Breakfast fellowship
9:20 Children's music
9:30 Sunday school
10:30 Worship, with the
Lord's supper

Tuesday, January 3
10:30 Ladies' circle

Wednesday, January 4
6:45 Bells
7:15 Choir

Sunday, January 8
9:00 Breakfast fellowship
9:20 Children's music
9:30 Sunday school
10:30 Worship

Wednesday, January 11
6:45 Bells
7:15 Choir

Sunday, January 15
9:00 Breakfast fellowship
9:20 Children's music
9:30 Sunday school
10:30 Worship

Wednesday, January 18
6:45 Bells
7:15 Choir

Sunday, January 22
9:00 Breakfast fellowship
9:20 Children's music
9:30 Sunday school
10:30 Worship

**Reminder: During
worship, please enter
through the Court Street
sanctuary doors. All other
doors will be locked.**



***Please rise in body and
spirit.**

Made One by Christ

Welcome

News for the Good of the Church

Prelude "Nowell!" D'Aquinn

* Choral Call to Worship

Christ candle lighting and reading
Kelsey Frazier & Logan Smith

Opening Prayer

Clothed by Christ

Moment of Silence

Corporate Prayer of Confession

The grace of God has appeared, bringing
salvation to all, through Jesus Christ, who
gave Himself to redeem us.

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

**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.**

God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us
through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ's
grace we have become children of God and
heirs to 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, "We Are Singing"**

**We are singing for the Lord is our Light; we
are singing for the Lord is our Light. (Repeat)
We are singing, singing; we are singing, Oh,
we are singing for the Lord is our Light.
(Repeat)**

Repeat using the word praying for singing.

Sharing God's Blessings and Compassion

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Musical Offering "Go Tell It on the Mountain"
Michael Broadhurst, soloist arr. Mark Hayes

***Doxology Hymn #606**

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Hearing God's Word of Hope and Power

Isaiah IX

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; they that dwell in the land of deep darkness, upon them has light shined. For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder, and His name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will do this.

Hymn #347 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Isaiah XI

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom, and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. With righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion together, and a little child shall lead them.

Hymn #88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Luke I

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women."

And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this must be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of his father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His kingdom there will be no end."

Then Mary meekly bowed her head and said, "To me be as it pleases God. My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name.

Hymn (see insert) "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

Luke II

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary, his espoused wife, being great with child.

Hymn #121 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Luke II

And so it was that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first born Son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Hymn #114 "Away in a Manger"

Luke II

And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And the angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which shall be to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign to you: you will find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly hosts praising God and saying; "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

Hymn #119 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Luke II

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger. When the shepherds saw the baby with his mother, they told everyone what the angel had said about the child, and all who heard it were amazed.

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

Matthew II

Now, when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? We have seen His star in the east, and have come to worship Him."

When Herod the King heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where the Christ should be born. And they said unto him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.' "

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and inquired of them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem saying, "Go and search diligently for the Child, and when ye have found Him, bring me word again, so I too may come and worship Him."

Hymn #132 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Matthew II

When they heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East, went before them till it came to rest over the place where the Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And when they came into the house, they saw the child with Mary, his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Hymn #151 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

Communion of the People

John I

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and

the darkness has not overcome it. The true light that enlightens everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world knew Him not. He came to His own, and His own knew Him not. But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave the power to become children of God; who are born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, the glory of the Son from the Father.

Hymn #134 "Joy to the World"

Taking Christ's Blessing to the World

*** Charge and Benediction**

A Blessing in Music "Lullaby for the Christmas Child" Norris

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 friends and visitors!

We hope that you find our congregation a welcoming one.

Your presence enriches our worship of God

Please join us after worship for refreshments and fellowship in our courtyard lobby.

The Scriptures are read from the pulpit Bible. The pew Bibles are a slightly different translation. To follow the exact text, use your smart phone/tablet, go to biblegateway.com and select the NRSV version.

Prayer List

Ronald Curry (Grace Yingling's son), Karen Diggs,
Jackie and Tyler Forsythe, Stephanie Green,
Linda Harrell (friend of Alice Butler),
Mary Alice Jarman (friend of Bob and Judy Powell),
Christy Mattern, Carl Rhodes, 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,
Harvey Spiers, Patrice & Phil Winkler,
Joyce Wright, Grace Yingling

Leading in worship today

The Rev. Steve Frazier
Edna Broadhurst, Director of Music Ministries
Ushers: David Culpepper, Dan Swanson
Counters: David Culpepper, Norma Halterman



*The poinsettias in the sanctuary
were given by*

Betty Bartlett

*In memory of Mildred & Al Bartlett
In memory of Richard & Robert Bartlett
In memory of Frances Butler
In memory of Graham & Virginia Carlton
In memory of Elizabeth Bartlett Fitzwater
In memory of Hugh Fitzwater
In memory of Ruby & Grace Justice*

Madeline Barrow

In honor of Colonel Francis E. Brandon, Jr.

Barbara Bond

In memory of Helen Mawhinney

Alice & Paul Butler

To the glory of God

Karen Diggs

*In honor of Rudy & Alice Simpson and in loving
memory of Aaron Filer*

John Fay & Emily Kenrick

In honor of Jack & Sue Fay

Steve & Nancy Frazier

*In honor of Claire, Barron, & Kelsey
In appreciation of Chreston & Mae Holloman and
Floyd & Norma Frazier*

Michele Graupman

*In honor of my wonderful, strong mother, "Mike"
Taylor
In memory of my dad, Don Taylor*

Earl & Diane Griffin

*In memory of Terry Pomeroy
In honor of great nieces Kate, Marlee, & Annie
Pomeroy*

R. Lanier & Norma Halterman

*In memory of Buddy & Rebecca Gargis
In memory of Rick & Gertie Halterman
In honor of Mike & Edna Broadhurst
In honor of David Culpepper
In honor of the Frazier family*

Benjamin Kenrick

In honor of Mom Mom, Pops, Nana, and Grandy

*Ryan & Emily Kenrick
In honor of Mary Jane Kenrick*

*Agnes McFadden
In honor of those who serve on the Worship
Committee, David Culpepper & Agnes McFadden*

*Jennifer Patgorski
In honor of Gabrielle & Matthew
In honor of Mom & Dad (Edna & Mike
Broadhurst)
In honor of Aunt Kathy (Kathy Goolsby)
In honor of Earl & Diane Griffin*

*Lane & Gail Pittman
In honor of the Fraziers
In honor of the FPC choir*

*Bob & Judy Powell
In honor of loved ones and in memory of loved
ones*

*Sonia Powell
In memory of Ed Powell*

*Raymond Rodrigues
In appreciation of Norma Halterman*

*Rudy & Alice Simpson
In memory of Ted & Marie Filer
In memory of John & Mable Simpson*

*Burma Smith
In memory of Leon C. Smith
In honor of Pat Sparks*

*Pat Sparks
In loving memory of Ruth & Frazier Byrd
In loving memory of Benjamin Robert Gerlach
In loving memory of Randy C. Sparks*

*Brad, Linda, & Lauren Spiers
In memory of Frances C. Spiers
In honor of Harvey E. Spiers*

Bradley Spiers & Linda Walker

*Sylvia Stephenson
In memory of the Stephenson family*

*Dan Swanson
In honor of Kelly, Joe, & Joeley
In memory of Shirley & Gustaf Swanson*

*Joyce Wright
In memory of Robert Westbrook & Harold
Yingling*