FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

Alice Lerp

Diane Griffin and Family

Sylvia Simpson

David Stuart

Connie, Friend of Oralie Paul and Alice Butler

Bev Smith, Mallory's Mother-In-Law
Josh Bennett
Skip Parker

Lane Pittman
Robert Norfleet
Monica Manley

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary
Nancy Frazier and Amanda McCormick – Guest Musicians

TRUSTEES

Earl Griffin

Pat Sparks

John Hackworth

SESSION

Steve Frazier – Moderator of Session

Mary Lemming

Gail Pittman
Dan Swanson

Oralie Wilhite

Linda Audet

Michelle Graupmann

Diane Griffin

Mary Ann Taylor

Michael Broadhurst

22 Earl Griffin

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Kathy Goolsby 26 Sarah Arambula
6 Joyce Kallaher 27 Sean Taylor
12 Viki Goolsby 28 Elizabeth Gerlach
12 Jay James 28 Malakai Goodrich
18 Michael Broadhurst 28 Riley Winkler
20 Bill Faas 30 Kara McCormick
21 Pat Sparks 30 Ian Taylor

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church Sunday, December 17, 2023 – 10:30 AM Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements-Thank you for joining us for this morning's worship service. We are glad to have you here! If this is your first time visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's form, found in the back of most pews. We would be pleased to add you to our email list. Welcome!

Prelude "A Lovely Rose is Blooming" Brahams

**Call to Worship

Advent is a time for God's people to reawaken their longings.

Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

In the darkness, we long to see the light.

Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

In the silence, we long for a comforting word.

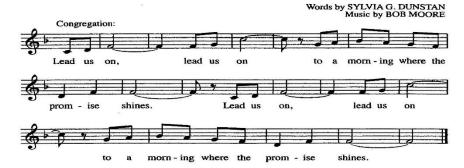
Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning. In hardship, we long for an act of love.

Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

In Christ, we celebrate and rejoice in the promise of joy.

Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

Where the Promise Shines



On this Third Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Joy – Butler Family

*Hymn 147

"The First Nowell"

Invitation to Confession

**Prayer of Confession-followed by a time for silent confession and prayer

A voice is crying out in the wilderness: Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near! Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Holy God, we confess that we do not walk in Your light. We hurt and destroy one another and neglect the poor and hungry. We let evil grow among us and fail to bear good fruit. Forgive us. Awaken us to Your Word, so that we may be ready to welcome You with joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The promise is that our who being – spirit, soul and body will be kept blameless at the coning of our Lord Jesus Christ. Rejoice, then, and give thanks as we receive forgiveness in His name.

^{**}Assurance of God's Grace

^{**}Thanks be to God. Amen.

^{*}Please rise in body or Spirit. | **Words in bold print are spoken aloud or sung in unison.

Response "Sing A New Song"

**Sing a new song unto the Lord. Let your song be sung from mountains high. Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing Halleluiah!

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem "The Shepherds" Held

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People

**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

Cantata He is Born!

Narrator The Rev. Steve Frazier
Organ/Piano Edna Broadhurst
Piano Nancy Frazier
Flute Amanda McCormick

Guitar/Trumpet John Hackworth

Soprano Oralie Wilhite
Sofia Calicchio
Diane Griffin
Kim McCormick

Nancy Grant

Alto Gabrielle Goodrich

Gail Pittman

Tenor Todd Taylor

Skip Baker-Smith

Bass Michael Broadhurst

Matthew Goodrich Raymond Rodrigues John Hackworth

Children's Choir Brantley Aliff

Logan Aliff Malakai Goodrich Benjamin McCormick Charlie McCormick Daniel McCormick Reagan Smith Riley Smith Movements

"I Wonder as I Wander"- Soloist Raymond Rodrigues

"Keep Silent" - Soloist John Hackworth

"The People Who Walked in Darkness" – Soloist Michael Broadhurst

"Prophecy" - Soloist Skip Baker-Smith

"An Angel Came from Heaven" - Children's Choir

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" – Soloists Nancy Grant, Diane Griffin, Gabrielle Goodrich, Todd Taylor, Matthew Goodrich Congregation

"Sweet Was the Song" - Soloist Gabrielle Goodrich

"Rise Up Shepherd and Follow" – Soloist Gail Pittman

"How Far is it to Bethlehem" – Soloist Oralie Wilhite

"We Three Kings" – Hymn 151 Soloists Todd Taylor, Raymond Rodrigues and Michael Broadhurst **Congregation**

"Song of the Star" - Trio: Gabrielle Goodrich, Sofia Calicchio, Todd Taylor

"African Noel" - Ladies Choir

"Joy to the World" Hymn 134 v 1&4 Congregation

Benediction

*Benediction Response

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Postlude

"Christmas Fanfare" Nancy Frazier and Edna Broadhurst

Passing the Peace of Christ

Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.

Greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Please join us in the Courtyard Lobby for snacks after worship!

This Morning's Liturgist – Steve Frazier

