

December 3, 2023
First Presbyterian Church
1st Sunday of Advent

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Processional*
Fun Program Chimes

Lowenberg

Welcome

Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

***Call to Worship**

Elder John Joyce

Christ is coming!

We will keep awake!

Christ is coming!

We will be ready!

Christ is coming! He will gather his people from the ends of the earth.

Praise be to God! We will worship and prepare.

***Processional Hymn 88** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL
(vs. 1, 3, 6)

Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Phillips Family

Invitation to Confession (the congregation is seated)

Preparing for Christ's coming requires honest examination of our lives and our hearts. Let us turn to God in prayer to confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession

Prince of Peace, the wars and rumors of wars betray our addiction to violence, our destructive and dehumanizing ways. We deserve your judgement and condemnation. Yet, you remain faithful, a steadfast source of peace during our warring madness. Holy God, turn us from evil. Return us to Christ and his path of peace. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us now greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

***Holy Interruption** *We greet our neighbors in Christ's love*

***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, Amen.

We Receive God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 64:1-9

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading Mark 13:24-37

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Message "Long As I Can See The Light" Rev. Maxwell Michaels

***Affirmation of Faith** (*Book of Common Worship*)

We believe there is no condemnation

for those who are in Christ Jesus;

for we know that all things work together for good

for those who love God,

who are called according to God's purpose.

We are convinced that neither death, nor life,

nor angels, nor rulers,

nor things present, nor things to come,

nor powers, nor height, nor depth,

nor anything else in all creation,

will be able to separate us from the love of God

in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn 83** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* STUTTGART
Youth Bells

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. McChesney
Fun Program Bells

***Doxology Hymn** (*Praise to God*)

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

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Communion Music

Prayer after Communion

Communion music *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659* J.S. Bach
(*Savior of the Nations, Come*)

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn 93** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* TRURO

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** *Amen* Naumann
Chancel Choir

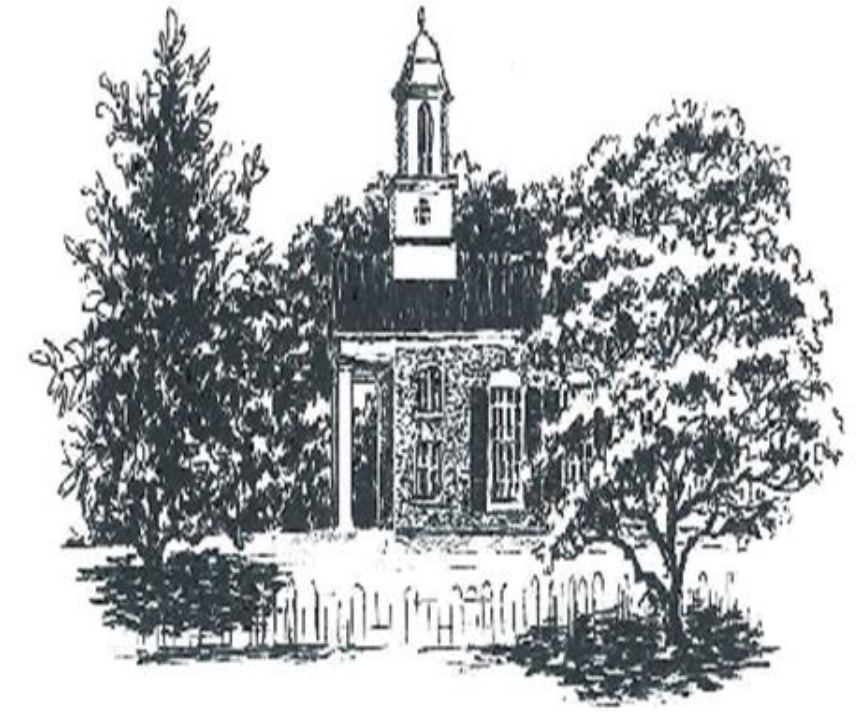
***Postlude** *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661* J.S. Bach
(*Savior of the Nations, Come*)

Please wait until the end of the benediction response by the choir before exiting.

*Those who are able, please stand as directed at the items marked with an asterisk

The Church This Week (12/3/2023)

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	3:30 p.m.	Children's Choir rehearsal
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir rehearsal
	6:00 p.m.	Youth
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
Tues.	12:00 p.m.	At Ease
	5:30 p.m.	Christian Education
	6:30 p.m.	Worship Team
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	10:00 a.m.	PW Bible Study
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
Thurs.	6:30 p.m.	Mission Outreach
Sat.	10:30 a.m.	Children's Pageant rehearsal
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship



Prayer List as of December 3, 2023

Gerry & Bobby Rogers
 Ina Coggeshall
 Gray & Bea Sloop
 Bennie and Benny Lou Moore
 Beth O'Neal
 Bobbie Jones
 Keller Smith
 Gene Brymer
 Maggie Sanders (Bill Malloy's sister)
 Dr. Sue Arledge and her husband, Bob

Session of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2023

Gina Goddard
 John Joyce
 Christie McLeod
 Calvin Phillips
 Charlene Tillman

Class of 2024

Marietta Melton Burch
 Cathy Chapman
 Dan Tillman, III
 Jennifer Tillman, III

Class of 2025

Kelli Beck
 Avery Dickson
 Mary Jane Evans
 Jean Page Watson

The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor
 Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary
 Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton
 Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper
 Mrs. Mary Gullede, Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery

Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE

Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
 Mrs. Paige Coates, MMO
 Mrs. Sally Powell, MMO

Mission Partners

Mr. Mark Hare/ Mrs. Jenny Bent, Costa Rica
 Mrs. Ellen Smith, (mission co-worker) Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Poland

Our Vision

***Rooted by God's Grace,
 Growing in the Spirit,
 Reaching Out with Christ's Love***

Sunday, December 3, 2023

First Presbyterian Church
 300 Market Street
 PO Box 552
 Cheraw, SC 29520
 (843) 537-7474

Email: info@firstprescheraw.org
www.cherawfpc.org



The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. For individuals with hearing aids, please activate your T-coil to utilize this feature. Spare headsets are also available.