

December 10, 2023
First Presbyterian Church
2nd Sunday of Advent

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Angels We Have Heard on High* Wood
(The congregation is invited to use this time for preparation, meditation worship and prayer.)

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

***Call to Worship**

Comfort, O comfort my people!

We welcome God's tender words to us today.

Prepare the way for your God!

We gather for worship to prepare ourselves for Christ's coming.

Christ is coming! The glory of God will be revealed!

Thanks be to God for this good news!

***Hymn 119** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN

Lighting of the Advent Candles The Long and Tucker Family

Invitation to Confession

God promises forgiveness through Jesus Christ. On this second Sunday of Advent, let us approach God in humility and faith.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Eternal God, John the Baptist prepares the way by calling upon us to repent. We have failed to share as we should. We have failed to honor the poor and the oppressed. We have failed to bear fruit worthy of your salvation. Have mercy upon us, God. Heal and forgive us so we can welcome Christ with pure and genuine hearts. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

With joy, let us draw water from the springs of salvation. Give thanks to the Lord! Call on God's name.

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*

Minute for Missions Mike Chapman

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer & 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.

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings and Christmas Joy Offering

Offertory *Jesus, Baby Jesus* Sewell
Ella Morgan, soloist

***Doxology** *Gloria in excelsis deo. Gloria in excelsis deo* GLORIA

***Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, accept these gifts in grateful response for your generosity. May these gifts bring joy to those most in need of Christ's mission and ministry. Amen.

We Receive God's Word Through Our Children's
Christmas Pageant

"The First Christmas"
By Pooler/Baker

O Come Let Us Adore Him Traditional Latin

Fum, Fum, Fum Traditional Catalanian
Grace Tillman, Lizzy Lynn Britt, & MaKenlee Foote, soloists; Sara Gavin, drums

No Room! Traditional
Charlotte Folger, wood blocks

Away in a Manger 19th Century American
Laila Driggers, wind chimes

Glory to God Pooler
Lucy Canipe, sanctus bells

Il est né, le divin enfant French Traditional
(He is born the divine Christ child)
Brylee Denham, Angela Morgan, & Campbell Harris, soloists; Ella Morgan triangle; Knox Miller, xylophone

And that is the story of the first Christmas

Adeline Barton

***Hymn 122** *Silent Night, Holy Night*
(Glow Sticks)

STILLE NACHT

***Benediction**

***Postlude** *Il est né le divin Enfant* Goemanne

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

CAST

Narrators: Penelope Jean Angle & Jackson Tucker

Layla Tinsley, Gabriel

Mari Burch, Mary

Grace Tillman, Elizabeth

Hank Parker, Joseph

Junuh Foote, King Herod

Kaleb Howington, Caesar Augustus

MaKenlee Foote, Chief Priest

Anna Gavin, Prophet #1

Ella Morgan, Prophet #2

Madlyn Tinsley, Innkeeper #1

Campbell Harris, Innkeeper #2

Laila Driggers, Innkeeper #3

Lizzy Lynn Britt, Shepherd

Lydia Fenters, Shepherd

Charlotte Folger, Shepherd

Peyton Haile, Shepherd

Angela Morgan, Shepherd

Caroline Tinsley, Angel

Adeline Barton, Angel

Lucy Canipe, Angel

Eliza Chapman, Angel

Ella Davis, Angel

Brylee Denham, Angel

Knox Miller, Wiseman #1

Elliot Lloyd, Wiseman #2

Sara Gavin, Wiseman #3

Stevie Gavin, Camel

Jem Morgan, Cow

Boykin Tucker, Cow

Christopher Tucker, Sheep

The Church This Week (12/10/2023)

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	2:00 p.m.	Membership Team
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	5:30 p.m.	White Christmas Covered Dish
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Prayer List as of December 10, 2023

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

Please join us this Wednesday, **December 13th** for our annual **White Christmas covered dish**. Dinner will begin at 5:30. You are asked to bring a covered dish along with a monetary donation for the benefit of Pee Dee Coalition. We also understand there may be a special visitor from the North Pole!!

All **pledges and/or contributions** to First Presbyterian Church must be turned in by **Sunday, December 24th for year ending 2023**. Also, any checks that need to be written for 2023 expenses must be turned in by Sunday, December 24, 2023.

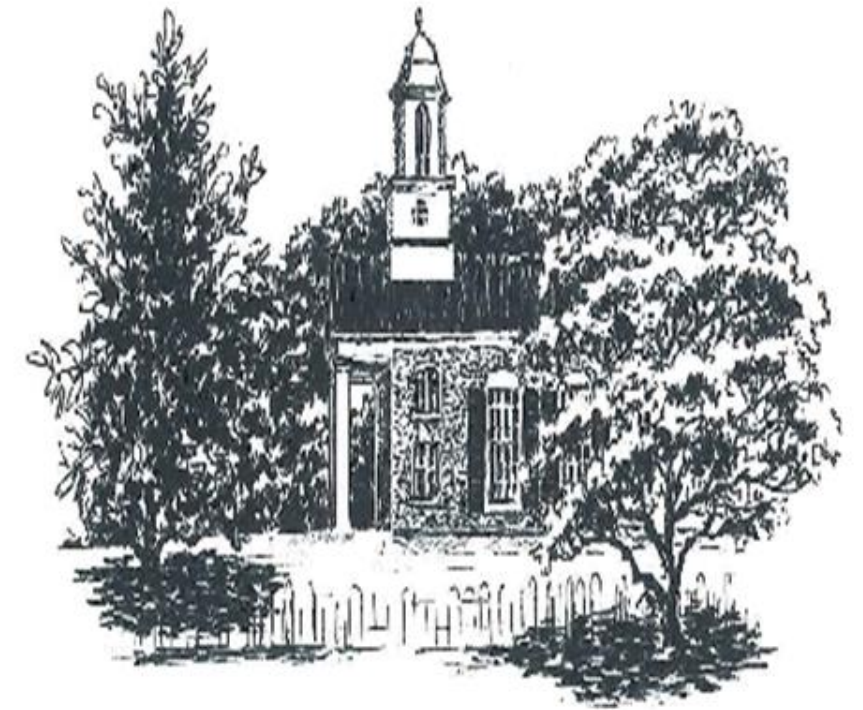
The annual Christmas Joy offering will be taken today. This offering of the Presbyterian Church helps to support retired clergy, missionaries, educators and their families, as well as the eight ethnic minority colleges around the USA. As you have been blessed during this holiday season, be a blessing to other people with your generous giving! Make your check out to "First Presbyterian Church" and mark it, "Christmas Joy."

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the Malloy Family upon the death of their sister, Margaret (Maggie) Malloy Sanders.



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.

Thanks to all who placed poinsettias in the Sanctuary. See insert for more information.



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

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 10, 2023

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