

December 8, 2024
First Presbyterian Church
2nd Sunday of Advent

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Come To Praise* Bill Ingram
Fun Program Chimes

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

***Call to Worship** Diane Hines
John came out of the wilderness to preach repentance;
he preaches to us still.
Make straight the paths we now walk.
and prepare the way for God's reign of justice and love.

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

Lighting of the Advent Candles The Barton Family

Invitation to Confession
Saints, let us trust in God's love for us and confess our sin, confident in God's mercy.

Prayer of Confession (unison)
Refining God, you have sent us prophets, and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon
Friends, I am confident of this: if we repent, God is sure to forgive us. The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion. Grateful for the promise of joy and of peace, let us share that peace with one another.

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 **Christmas Joy Offering** Cathy 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
Brylee Denham, soloist

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

***Prayer of Dedication**
God of all righteousness, receive these gifts of gratitude, the offerings of our lives. Purify them with your refining fire so that they may serve your purposes and shine with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Speech Choir Charlotte & John Watson Folger

Fum, Fum, Fum Traditional Catalonian
Madelyn Tinsley, Annabelle Claytor, Peyton Haile, & MaKenlee Foote,
soloists; Christopher Tucker, djembe

No Room! Traditional
Lucy Canipe, wood block

Away in a Manger 19th Century American
Anna Gavin, soloist; Jem Morgan, wind chimes

Glory to God Pooler
Charlotte Folger, sanctus bells

Il est né le divin enfant French Traditional
Mari Burch, Hank Parker, Brylee Denham, & Campbell Harris, soloists;
Harper Helms, triangle; Ella Morgan, xylophone; Peyden Watts, djembe

Speech Choir Charlotte & John Watson Folger

Little Angel Caroline Tinsley

Closing Campbell Harris

Hymn #122 *Silent Night, Holy Night* STILLE NACHT

Benediction Rev. Maxwell Michaels

Postlude *Joy to the World* arr. Thompson
Fun Program Bells

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

CAST

Gabriel--**Mari Burch**
Mary--**Madelyn Tinsley**
Elizabeth---**Campbell Harris**
Joseph--**Junuh Foote**
Caesar Augustus—**Taedynd DeFord**
King Herod—**Brycen Byrd**
Chief Priest—**Campbell Harris**
Prophet #1—**Payden Watts**
Prophet #2—**Harper Helms**
Innkeeper #1—**Anna Gavin**
Innkeeper #2—**Raynor Douglas**
Innkeeper #3—**Peyton Haile**
Shepherd #1—**Julia Fenters**
Shepherd #2—**MaKenlee Foote**
Shepherd #3—**Oliver Goldberg**
Shepherd #4—**Jem Morgan**
Shepherd #5—**Brylee Denham**
Wiseman #1—**Quentin Goldberg**
Wiseman #2—**Christopher Tucker**
Wiseman #3—**Dawson Wilkerson**
Angel—**Charlotte Folger**
Angel—**Caroline Tinsley**
Angel—**Adeline Barton**
Cow--**John Watson Folger**
Camel--**Boykin Tucker**
Donkey--**Stevie Gavin**
Sheep--**Thomas Barton**
Narrator #1--**Sara Gavin**
Narrator #2--**Ella Morgan**
Narrator #3--**Lydia Fenters**
Narrator #4--**Hank Parker**
Narrator #5--**Annabelle Claytor**
Narrator #6--**Lucy Canipe**

Thanks to all parents, volunteers, Kathie Cook, Susie Ingram, and Lindsay Bennett for your hard work with the Christmas Pageant.

Please dispose of all glow sticks in the buckets in the narthex as you exit.

Acolytes for today are Warren Wetternek and Elliott Lloyd

The Church This Week (12/8/2024)

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Membership Team
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
Tues.	6:00 p.m.	CBS
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	9:00 a.m.	CBS
	5:30 p.m.	White Christmas Covered Dish
Thurs.	6:00 p.m.	Session
	6:30 p.m.	Mission Outreach
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Prayer List as of December 8, 2024

Gerry Rogers
 Ina Coggeshall
 Gray & Bea Sloop
 Bennie and Benny Lou Moore
 Bobbie Jones
 For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses
 Ruth Jackson
 B.J. Moore
 Marion Murphy
 Edward Tinsley
 Louise Carpenter
 Friends and families affected by Hurricane Helene

Please join us this Wednesday, **December 11th** 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!! This year, any canned goods brought to White Christmas will be donated to the Pee Dee Coalition Transition House in Wallace.

All **pledges and/or contributions** to First Presbyterian Church must be turned in by **Sunday, December 29th for year ending 2024**. Also, any checks that need to be written for 2024 expenses must be turned in by Sunday, December 29, 2024.

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 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.

We would like to give a huge thank you to Lynn Smith for the beautiful, new cross stitched Chrismon ornaments adorning our tree this year!

If you would like to learn about the Chrismon Symbols, please pick up a booklet from the table in the Narthex.



Our Vision

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

Sunday, December 8, 2024

Session of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2024

Marietta Melton Burch
 Cathy Chapman
 Dan Tillman, III
 Charlene Tillman

Class of 2025

Kelli Beck
 Avery Dickson
 Mary Jane Evans
 Jean Page Watson

Class of 2026

Mary Anderson
 Andrew McLeod
 Kristen Miller
 Richard Pierce

The Church Staff

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

Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE

Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
 Mrs. Sally Powell, MMO
 Mrs. Gini Eddins, MMO

Mission Partners

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

First Presbyterian Church
 300 Market Street
 PO Box 552
 Cheraw, SC 29520
 (843) 537-7474
 Email: info@firstprescheraw.org
www.cherawfpc.org