



First Presbyterian Church
First Sunday of Christmas
December 30, 2018

SHARE the amazing love
of God

REFLECT the light of Jesus
Christ

LIVE and serve joyfully
in the Spirit's
power

757-397-3622 515 Court St. Portsmouth, VA 23704 www.fpcPorts.org

Made One by Christ

Welcome & News for the Good of the Church

Prelude "The Christ Child" Norris

Opening Prayer

Clothed by Christ

Moment of Silence

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Like a great light in a land of deep darkness, the mercy of the Lord shines upon us. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**** Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, we have seen the Christ child in the manger, and we know that You are a light to all people. Forgive us when our lives are not shaped by the Christmas story, when our hearts are not open to the leading of Your spirit, when our hands are not open to help a neighbor in need. Speak Your good news to us once more, forgive us, and bring us peace.

Hear the promise of the Lord: See, your salvation has come!
You are a holy people, redeemed by God, sought out, not forsaken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

****Thanks be to God.**

Sharing of Christ's Peace

*** Song of Praise, Hymn #633 "Praise Ye the Lord" (See today's insert)**

Sharing God's Blessings and Compassion

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Musical Offering "Sing We Noel" French Carol

***Doxology Hymn #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

Prayers of the People 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.**

** Please rise in body and spirit. The hymns are in the burgundy Glory to God hymnal found in the pew racks.*

*** Words in bold print are spoken aloud as a congregation.*

Hearing God's Word of Hope and Power

I. Isaiah IX

Michael Broadhurst

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has the light shined. For unto 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.

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #88

II. Isaiah IX

Todd Taylor

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his root. 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; and He shall smite the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the fatling together, and a little Child shall lead them.

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" #129

III. Luke I

Burma Smith

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!" But she was greatly troubled at his saying and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might 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."

Anthem

"Mary, Did You Know?" Lowry, Greene, Schrader

IV. Luke II

Jennifer Patgorski and Malakai Goodrich

And in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born Son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the Inn.

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #121

V. Luke II

Mike McCormick

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 cloths and lying in a manger.”

Away in a Manger #114

VI. Luke II

Alice Butler

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, and good will toward men.”

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.”

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” #136

VII. Matthew II

Raymond Rodrigues

Now, when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East, who studied the stars, came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born king of the Jews, for 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 assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told 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.’”

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” #119

VIII. Matthew II

Sue Fay

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared, and he sent them to Bethlehem saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, so I too may come and worship Him.” 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 going into the house they saw the Child with Mary, His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him, offering Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

“We Three Kings of Orient Are” #151

X. John 1

Stuart Shippey

In the beginning was the Word, 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. He came to His own, and his own received Him not. But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave the power to become children of God.

“Joy to the World” #134

Taking Christ's Blessing to the World

*** Charge**

Benediction (sung) “Gloria in Excelsis Deo”

Postlude

“Christians Rejoice”

Bach

*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.
Please join us after worship for post-worship fellowship
(refreshments and fellowship) in our courtyard lobby.

Prayer List

Dick Barnwell (friend of the Butlers),
Brenda Berry (friend of Oralie & Raymond),
Alan Butler (Paul Butler's brother),
Jeanne Butler (Paul Butler's sister),
Rebecca Duncan (friend of Oralie & Raymond),
Jackie & Tyler Forsythe,
Lt. Col. Rob Gerlach (deployed to Kuwait),
Mary Alice Jarman (friend of the Powells),
Brian Mills,
Carl Rhodes,
Dorothy Wooldridge (friend of Carl Rhodes)

Everyone suffering with cancer and facing surgery

Our friends at home, especially

Ronald Curry (Grace Yingling's son),	Lanier Halterman,
Frances Hardy,	A. T. Mayo,
Sue Parker,	Lane Pittman,
Harvey Spiers,	Grace Yingling

Leading in worship today

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

Our bulletin is printed on Wednesday. We are pleased to include any you wish to be added to the prayer list. You may contact Raymond (email: bulletin@pfpcports.org, cell: 757-319-5019) or the church office (757-397-3622) by Tuesday evening.

December Offerings

12/2	\$ 3,997.00	12/23	\$ 1,630.35
12/9	\$ 4,814.00	12/30	
12/16	\$ 4,327.50	MTD	\$14,768.80

December Attendance

12/2	Worship	71	Sunday school	25
12/9	Worship	58	Sunday school	26
12/16	Worship	41	Sunday school	17
12/23	Worship	76	Sunday school	19
12/30	Worship		Sunday school	

The church office will be open on Wednesdays only, from 1:00 – 4:00.

To assist with timely preparation of the bulletin, please send all notices to pastor@fpcports.org and/or bulletin@fpcports.org no later than 6 p.m. on Tuesday.

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Session

Moderator of Session – The Rev. Dr. Steve Frazier
 Clerk of Session – Gail Pittman (2019) | Administration/Property – Paul Butler (2020)
 Christian Formation – Kim McCormick (2019)
 Congregational Fellowship/Care – Betty Bartlett (2019), Pat Sparks (2020)
 Finance - Diane Griffin (2018) | Mission/Outreach – Oralie Wilhite (2020)
 Worship – Michael Broadhurst (2020)

Members and friends of the congregation are encouraged to contact the appropriate elder with their comments and suggestions.

Church Staff

The Rev. Steve Frazier, Covenant Pastor - 397-3622 ext. 202 | pastor@fpcports.org
 Edna Broadhurst, Director of Music Ministries - 397-3622 ext. 203 | ednafpc@aol.com
 Gabbi Goodrich, Secretary - 397-3622 | g.furman121@hotmail.com

Sunday Ministries

12/9	Breakfast	Nancy & Steve Frazier
	Sunday school	Bill Faas
	Post-Worship Fellowship	Birthdays -Pat Sparks
12/16	Breakfast	Pat Sparks
	Sunday school	Paul Butler
	Post-Worship Fellowship	Ashley & Cameron McCormick
12/23	Breakfast	Frankie Austin & Nancy Grant
	Sunday school	Chreston Holoman
	Post-Worship Fellowship	Betty Bartlett
12/30	Breakfast	
	Sunday School	Chreston Holoman
	Post-Worship Fellowship	Gail Pittman

December Birthdays

2 Kathy Goolsby, 6 Joyce Kallaher, 12 Jay James,
 12 Viki Goolsby, 18 Michael Broadhurst, 20 Bill Faas,
 21 Pat Sparks, 22 Earl Griffin, 26 Sarah Arambula,
 28 Elizabeth [Pond] Gerlach, 28 Malakai Allen Goodrich,
 28 Riley Winkler, 30 Kara McCormick, 30 Ian Taylor

Missing a birthday? Contact the Church at pastor@fpcports.org or call 397-3622 or email the bulletin editor at bulletin@fpcports.org.

pastor@FPCports.org



www.FPCports.org



First Presbyterian Church
Portsmouth, VA
Coming Events

Sunday, December 30– First Sunday of Christmas

9:00 Breakfast fellowship
9:20 Children’s music
9:30 Sunday school
10:30 Worship
11:30 Post-Worship Fellowship

Wednesday, January 2

6:45 Bells
7:15 Choir

Thursday, January 3

10:00 Bible study with the Rev. Dr. Chreston Holoman

Sunday, January 6 – Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 Breakfast fellowship
9:20 Children’s music
9:30 Sunday school
10:30 Worship
11:30 Post-Worship Fellowship

Tuesday, January 7

10:30 Ladies’ Circle

Wednesday, January 9

6:45 Bells
7:15 Choir

Thursday, January 10

10:00 Bible study with the Rev. Dr. Chreston Holoman

Saturday, January 12

Shelter opening – Volunteers are still needed; please see Sue Fay or Oralie Wilhite

Sunday, January 13 – Baptism of the Lord

9:00 Breakfast fellowship
9:20 Children’s music
9:30 Sunday school
10:30 Worship
11:30 Post-Worship Fellowship

Wednesday, January 16

6:45 Bells
7:15 Choir

Thursday, January 17



First Presbyterian Church Portsmouth Announcements

" **Our Winter Shelter week (Jan. 12-13) is coming soon!** There will be many opportunities to serve our community. Volunteers are needed for overnight chaperones each night, on Jan 12th morning to unload bedding, and to make and serve dinner on Sun night Jan 13. Please talk to Oralie Wilhite or Sue Fay to volunteer.

Offering envelopes for 2019 are on order but will not arrive in time for the first Sunday in 2019. You will receive the same envelope number for 2019 that you had in 2018. In the meantime, please use the generic envelopes available in the pews.

The attendance for the Christmas Eve Candlelight service was 106.

The Presbytery of Eastern Virginia's Annual Martin Luther King Day Worship Service will be held on Sunday, January 20, at 4:00 p.m. at King's Grant Presbyterian Church, 745 Little Neck Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452.

The 117th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia will be held on Saturday, January 23, at Hilton Presbyterian Church, 34 Main St., Newport News, VA. Registration/check-in and fellowship begins at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. On-line registration is available at www.pcusa-peva.org/md.

Overflowing baskets for a large family Christmas dinner were delivered on Tuesday, December 11. Our church family donated the items including a Christmas tablecloth, napkins, plates, cups, and candy canes. A large turkey and ham were added by the church. It was a blessing to be able to do this for a special EDMARC family.

***Today's Song of Praise** (sung after "Sharing Christ's Peace")

Refrain Fine

Praise ye the Lord, Hal-le-lu-jah! Ev-ery-bod-y praise the Lord.

Praise God on top of the moun-tains. Praise God both day and night.

to Refrain

Praise God down in the low val-leys. Praise God with all of your might.