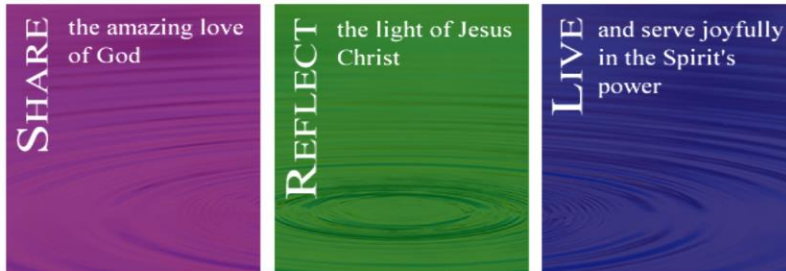




*First Presbyterian Church  
Second Sunday in Advent  
December 8, 2019*



757-397-3622 515 Court St. Portsmouth, VA 23704 [www.fpcPorts.org](http://www.fpcPorts.org)

## Made One by Christ

Welcome

News for the Good of the Church

Prelude "Coventry Carol" Traditional  
Betty Bartlet, organ

Call to Worship "Where the Promise Shines" Joel Raney  
*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Second Sunday of Advent – *The Promise of Peace*

Readers & Advent candle lighters – Kelsey & Logan Smith

*The congregation is asked to join the choir in singing the refrain.*

**\*Refrain**



LEAD US ON, LEAD US ON TO A  
MORN-ING WHERE THE PROM-ISE SHINES LEAD US

### **\*\*Responsive Litany**

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

**Let the peace of the Lord rule our hearts.**

Where there is division, we long for unity.

**Let the peace of the Lord rule our hearts.**

Where there is hostility, we long for resolution.

**Let the peace of the Lord rule our hearts.**

Where there is separation, we long for reunion.

**Let the peace of the Lord rule our hearts.**

Candle Lighting and Reading - Today we light two candles. The **first candle** represents the everlasting **hope** that has touched our lives in the person of Jesus Christ. In a world of division, brokenness and uncertainty, the **second candle** summons our hearts to the One called Prince of Peace. As the light shines, may we embrace and extend the **peace** of Christ in all that we do and say.

### **\*\*Refrain – Congregation and Choir**

Prayer – Gracious God, You are the Prince of Peace who lives and reigns forever. As we journey together, we pray You would still our fears, heal our wounds, and fill our spirits. Shine forth Your perfect peace in our unsettled world throughout this Advent season.

**\*\*Amen.**

### **\*Hymn #106 "Prepare the Way, O Zion"**

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

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

## *Clothed by Christ*

Moment of Silence

Corporate Prayer of Confession

We have all sinned; not one of us is clean, but there is mercy for those who call on the name of the Lord. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**\*\* Holy One,**

**Christ is coming; Your kingdom is drawing near. We cannot remain unchanged. As we prepare the way for the Prince of Peace, help us abandon wayward wanderings and return to faithful paths. We have neglected to plead the case of the poor and ignored the needs of the afflicted. We have denied our part in systems that oppress and turned a blind eye toward injustice. Renew our minds and transform our hearts, that our lives might bear the fruit of compassion and care. Baptize us with Your Spirit, and claim us again for Your holy work, until You come in glory.**

Every valley is lifted; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God.**

Sharing of Christ's Peace

**\* Song of Praise, "We Will Go Out with Joy"**

The musical notation is written on a single staff in 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The piece ends with a double bar line and the word 'Fine' above it.

Now an-y-one who's born of the Spir-it, sing a new song of joy.

Now an-y-one who's born of the Spir-it, sing a new song of joy.

Al - le - lu - ia! Sing a new song of joy. Al -

le - lu - ia! Al - le lu - ia!

## *Sharing God's Blessings and Compassion*

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Choral Musical Offering "A Tiny Little Baby"

Don Besig

**\*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.**

## December Birthday Blessing

### *Hearing God's Word of Hope and Power*

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

Time with the Children

First Reading                      Isaiah 11:1-10                      pages 595- 596

Second Reading                  Matthew 3:1-12                      pages 836-837

Sermon                              "Kingdom Candles" The Rev. Steve Frazier

### *Taking Christ's Blessing to the World*

#### **\*Hymn #123            "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"**

\*Charge

**\*Benediction & Response (sung) Hymn #113 "Angels We Have Heard  
on High" Refrain (Gloria in Excelsis Deo)**

Postlude                              "The Shepherds"                      Held

#### *A Tiny Little Baby*

*There's a wonderful story that I love to tell, 'bout a tiny little baby named Jesus. So, gather around me now and listen well, 'bout a tiny little baby named Jesus. It happened, oh, so long ago, amid the cold of the winter snow. He came from heav'n to the earth below, this tiny little baby named Jesus. And the angels sang: "Glory to God!" And the angels sang: "Glory to God!" And the angels sang: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good will!"*

*There were shepherds who came from the hills afar to see the tiny little baby named Jesus, led by the light of the shining star, to see the tiny little baby named Jesus. They entered in that lowly place and saw the smile on the mother's face, and they all were filled with the holy grace of the tiny little baby named Jesus. And the angels sang: "Glory to God!" And the angels sang: "Glory to God!" And the angels sang: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good will!"*

*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!**

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

### **Prayer List**

Steve Carlisle (Bob Carlisle's brother),  
Jackie & Tyler Forsythe,  
Cecilia Fry,  
Mike Holley (friend of the Butlers),  
Mary Alice Jarman (friend of the Powells),  
Max Kayton (cousin of Cindy Deller),  
Jennifer Patgorski,  
Jim & Joan Plaatsman,  
Carl Rhodes,  
Dorothy Wooldridge (friend of Carl Rhodes)

### **Everyone suffering with cancer and facing surgery**

#### **Our friends at home**

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

### **Leading in worship today**

The Rev. Dr. Steve Frazier  
Edna Broadhurst, Dir. of Music Ministries  
Ushers: David Culpepper, Dan Swanson or Yolanda Faas  
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@fpcports.org](mailto:bulletin@fpcports.org),  
cell: 757-319-5019) or the church office (757-397-3622) by Tuesday evening.*

Date	Offering total	Worship count	Sunday school count
12/1	\$3,583.00	49	13
12/8			
12/15			
12/22			
12/29			
MTD			

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

**REVISED 12/1/2019** To assist with timely preparation of the bulletin, please send all notices to [bulletin@fpcports.org](mailto:bulletin@fpcports.org) no later than 6 p.m. on **Sunday**.

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### The Session

Moderator	The Rev. Dr. Steve Frazier
Clerk of Session	Gail Pittman (2019)
Administration/Property	Paul Butler (2020)
Christian Formation	Kim McCormick (2019)
Congregational Care/Fellowship	Betty Bartlett (2019) Pat Sparks (2020)
Finance	Michael Broadhurst (2020)
Mission/Outreach	Stuart Shippey (2021), Oralie Wilhite (2020)
Worship	Stuart Shippey (2021), Mary Ann Taylor (2021)

### Trustees

Michael Broadhurst (2020), Alfred Fry (2022), Earl Griffin (2021)

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

### Church Staff

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

### December Birthdays

2 Kathy Goolsby	6 Joyce Kallaher
12 Jay James	12 Vickie 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](mailto:pastor@fpcports.org) or call 397-3622 or email the bulletin editor at [bulletin@fpcports.org](mailto:bulletin@fpcports.org).



## First Presbyterian Church Portsmouth, VA Coming Events

### **Sunday, December 8 – Second Sunday of Advent**

9:00 Breakfast fellowship – Todd Taylor  
9:20 Children's music – led by Edna Broadhurst  
9:30 Sunday school – led by Paul Butler  
10:30 Worship – the Rev. Steve Frazier  
11:30 Post-worship fellowship – Jerry Freeman

### **Wednesday, December 11**

6:45 Bells  
7:15 Choir

### **Thursday, December 12**

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

### **Saturday, December 14**

**12:30 Presbyterian Women (PW) Ladies' Circle Christmas Luncheon at the home of Alice Simpson**

### **Sunday, December 15 – Third Sunday of Advent**

9:00 Breakfast fellowship  
9:20 Children's music – led by Edna Broadhurst  
9:30 Sunday school – led by Paul Butler  
10:30 Worship – the Rev. Steve Frazier  
11:30 Post-worship fellowship – Lou Wilhite  
12:00 FPC book club

### **Wednesday, December 18**

6:45 Bells  
7:15 Choir

### **Thursday, December 19**

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

### **Sunday, December 22 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9:00 Breakfast fellowship  
9:20 Children's music – led by Edna Broadhurst  
9:30 Sunday school – led by Chreston Holoman  
10:30 Worship, with the Lord's supper – the Rev. Steve Frazier  
11:30 Post-worship fellowship **(Bring an item to share.)**

### **Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

7:00: Worship

### **Sunday, December 29 – First Sunday of Christmas**

9:00 Breakfast fellowship  
9:20 Children's music – led by Edna Broadhurst  
9:30 Sunday school – led by Chreston Holoman  
10:30 Worship – Lessons and Carols  
11:30 Post-worship fellowship – Cameron McCormick



## First Presbyterian Church Portsmouth Portsmouth, VA Announcements

**New bulletin editor** - Beginning with the January 5, 2020, bulletin, we are pleased to announce that **Gabbi Goodrich**, First Presbyterian Church (FPC) secretary, will assume the role of editor for the weekly Sunday bulletin, calendar/announcement insert, and other miscellaneous inserts and forms.

Raymond Rodrigues, FPC's current bulletin editor, will continue to update/maintain FPC's website, [www.fpcports.org](http://www.fpcports.org), and edit the weekly electronic newsletter, *First Pres. News*.

In anticipation of this change of personnel, we will be changing the deadline for announcement submissions. **The new announcement submission deadline will be on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. effective Sunday, December 1.** There will be no change to the prayer request deadline, which is currently Tuesday evening. These deadlines will allow ample time for bulletin preparation and review before it is printed on Wednesday afternoon. Announcements and prayer list requests will still be made to the email address [bulletin@fpcports.org](mailto:bulletin@fpcports.org).

**Additionally, written requests can be placed in Gabbi's in-box (on her desk in the Church office) beginning on Sunday, January 5.**

FPC would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to Norma Halterman who has been proofreading the weekly bulletins for the past five years! We are pleased to announce that she has graciously agreed to continue as proofreader.

**Presbyterian Women (PW) Ladies' Circle of First Presbyterian** will meet on Saturday, **December 14, at 12:30 p.m.** at the home of Alice Simpson, 114 Monitor Rd., Portsmouth, VA, for their annual Christmas luncheon. All women of the church are invited.

**Presbyterian Women (PW) Ladies' Circle of First Presbyterian** will once again coordinate the collection of donations for **EdMarc's Christmas dinner event**. Everything from a turkey to cranberry sauce is needed. A sign-up sheet on the board in the courtyard foyer lists items that are needed. Cash is always welcome. All donations should be at the church by **Sunday, December 15**. For further details, please contact **Alice Butler** or **Alice Simpson**.

**The FPC book club** will meet on Sunday, December 15, at 12:00 p.m. The book *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin will be presented by Agnes McFadden.

**Save the Date to Rise Against Hunger!** On Saturday, **January 25, 2020** (time to be determined), First Presbyterian will again pack meals for Rise Against Hunger. Last year, we raised \$3,600 and packed 10,000 meals in no time. Our challenge this time is to raise \$4,000 and pack 11,800 meals! Donors and 50-60 packing volunteers will be needed so tell everyone you know about this fun, family-friendly mission.





## POINSETTIA ORDER FORM



The plants are \$9.00 each.  
Please submit your order by Sunday, **Dec. 8.**

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ # of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication(s) (please indicate IMO, IHO, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please use the back of this form if necessary. PRINT CLEARLY!

## NATIVITY SIGN-UP FORM



We have 10 beautiful church windows to decorate for Christmas. Let's fill each one with a nativity scene... maybe your nativity scene?

If you have a Nativity set you would like to loan to the church during the Advent/Christmas season, please fill in the information below and place this form in the offertory plate.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_