

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 2, 2022 – 10:30 AM

Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“Coventry Carol”
John Hackworth, Guitar

Call to Worship

We gather on this Epiphany Sunday to hear and learn from God’s Living Word!

God’s Word is alive and active, sharper than any two-edged sword.

It cuts through our spirits until it discovers the desires and intentions of our hearts.

Before God, nothing is hidden. All is exposed to the eyes of the One who requires us to tell the truth.

Let’s hold fast to our faith in Jesus the Christ, the Son of God.

He understands our weaknesses. He has faced all of our temptations without giving in to sin.

This morning, let’s go to Christ where we can receive His amazing gift of mercy and grace.

In the shelter of Christ, let’s dare to hear and explore the truth of God’s Living Word for our lives.

Let’s worship God together!

Hymn

“Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!”

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession-followed by a time for silent confession and prayer

Who cuts through our clutter;

sees when we sit and when we stand;

reads our moods and motives;

and uncovers every secret in our hearts?

Lord God, it is you that knows us better than we know ourselves.

Please mend what needs mending in us, and fill our hearts with your love and light.

Assurance of God’s Grace

Doxology

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.

Special Music

“Another Year of Grace”

Lovelace

Now greet the swiftly changing year with joy and penitence sincere.

Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace another year of grace.

This Jesus came to end sin’s war; this Name of names for us he bore.

Rejoice, with thanks embrace another year of grace.

His love abundant far exceeds the volume of a whole year’s needs.

Rejoice with thanks embrace another year of grace.

With such a Lord to lead our way in want or in prosperity,

what need we fear in earth or space in this new year of grace?

“All glory be to God on high and peace on earth!” the angels cry,

rejoice embrace another year of grace.

Today's Lesson

"Chapter 12" of *The Story for Children*

King David ruled Israel for many years. He was a good king, and most of the time he made good decisions. But one-time King David made a bad choice. He fell in love with another man's wife! Beautiful Bathsheba was already married to Uriah. But King David loved Bathsheba so much he could hardly think of anything else.

"I'll get rid of Uriah and then Bathsheba can be my wife." David plotted. He made a plan for Uriah to be killed in battle, so he could be with Bathsheba.

King David got what he wanted. Bathsheba became his wife. King David was happy until his friend Nathan told him that God was not pleased with what he had done. It was wrong to kill Uriah and take his wife.

David's heart ached. It made him sad to know he had disappointed God. This was a time of many hardships in David's life. He was a king.

He had riches, a beautiful palace, and a family. But more than all of that, David wanted God's love. He asked God to forgive him. Later, Nathan told David, "God has forgiven you for the bad choices you made

Sermon

"What a Tangled Web We Weave"

The Sacrament of the Lord's Table

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Hymn

"Lord, Make Us More Holy"

Benediction

Postlude

"The Kings"

Held

Prayers for the Journey—All who welcome prayers for themselves, or others, are invited to come forward following the service to pray one-on-one with our pastors or an elder.



On next Sunday, January 9, Pastor Steve will be focused on Chapter 13 of The Story.

If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary, please fill out the flower request form in the Courtyard Lobby

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Billy Ricketts – Pastor for Admin and Mission Outreach
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

In the name of Jesus Christ, welcome to this morning's service of worship. Thank you for helping us maintain social distancing and a clean worship environment. Until the Corona Virus is no longer a health threat, we are participating in a more limited liturgy. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plate on the piano by the front Exit door.

Week of January 2 - Prayers of the People

- Sonia Powell
- Brian Patgorski
- Estelle Umphlette
- Lane Pittman
- Mae Harmon
- Rose Layman
- Agnes McFadden
- Emily Bond
- Linda Thompson
- Karen Diggs
- Monica Manley
- Paul and Alice Butler
- AT Mayo
- Lindsey Parr & Family
- Cathy Revell

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

7 David Turner
17 Carl Rhodes, Jr.
18 Brantley Aliff
26 Sylvie Joyner
27 Kay Kidd
27 Kerry Westerwick
31 Kelsey Smith
31 Abbey Taylor

Chapter 12 (The Story for Children)

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church Celebrating Our 200th Year of Ministry

We are delighted to welcome you to the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. We are new and long-time residents, single adults, couples, black, white, Asian, LGBT, one and two parent families, military personnel, teens, and college students. Our faith traditions and stories are varied. What gathers us is God's inviting grace.

Our mission is to glorify God through joyful worship, hospitality, unceasing prayer, engaging study and acts of compassion. Our Peace, Love and a Bag of Chips outreach often needs volunteers to prepare 25 lunches (in their home). Please let Oralie Wilhite at 757-319-5020 know of your interest.

Dr. Steve Frazier, was born in Seoul, Korea and raised in Washington State. He received his Master of Divinity degree from San Francisco Seminary and his Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey. He works full time for Towne Bank as an insurance broker specializing in the senior adult market. He came to First Presbyterian in 2016 as our part-time Covenant Pastor. Steve and his wife, Nancy, have a blended family of three grown children and one grandchild.

Billy Ricketts, a lifelong Presbyterian, was baptized at Simonsdale Presbyterian, confirmed at Cradock Presbyterian Church and certified by The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary and Union Presbyterian Seminary. Billy has served First Presbyterian Norfolk, Second Presbyterian Norfolk and Providence Presbyterian Church in Virginia Beach. He retired from full-time ministry in 2020 and joined the staff of First Presbyterian Portsmouth as part-time Pastor for Administration and Outreach. Billy and his wife, Loretta, have two adult children.

Edna Broadhurst, our Director of Music Ministries, was baptized as an infant by her grandfather, Rev. H. Turner. Edna came to First Presbyterian Church in 1981 as the organist and choir director. She also teaches music at The Williams School in Ghent, Norfolk, teaches private piano/organ lessons, and sings with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra Chorus. She generously shares her musical talents. She holds a degree in Organ Performance from Old Dominion University and advanced studies from Appalachian State University and Westminster Choir College. She is married to Michael and they have a daughter, two grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

If you are looking for a church family, we believe First Presbyterian is a community where you can grow spiritually and share the life and gifts God has given to you. COVID19 has derailed some of our plans. Nonetheless, we are confident God has new adventures and opportunities in store to serve God and love our neighbors. For regular updates please visit our website: fpcports.org.

The Session

Dr. Steven E. Frazier – Moderator
Elder Kim McCormick - Clerk

Class of 2021

Nancy Grant
Stuart Shippey
Mary Ann Taylor

Class of 2022

Sue Fay
Kim McCormick
Todd Taylor

Class of 2023

Mary Leming
Gail Pittman
Dan Swanson