

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

Alice Lerp
Diane Griffin and Family
Sylvia Simpson
Connie, Friend of Oralie
Bev Smith, Mallory's Mother-In-Law
Josh Bennett
Skip Parker

Nancy Ward
David Stuart
Paul and Alice Butler
Lane Pittman
Robert Norfleet
Monica Manley

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary
Nancy Frazier and Amanda McCormick – Guest Musicians

SESSION

Steve Frazier – Moderator of Session
Mary Lemming
Gail Pittman
Dan Swanson
Oralie Wilhite
Linda Audet
Michelle Graupmann
Diane Griffin
Mary Ann Taylor
Michael Broadhurst

TRUSTEES

Earl Griffin
John Hackworth
Pat Sparks

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2	Kathy Goolsby	26	Sarah Arambula
6	Joyce Kallaher	27	Sean Taylor
12	Viki Goolsby	28	Elizabeth Gerlach
12	Jay James	28	Malakai Goodrich
18	Michael Broadhurst	28	Riley Winkler
20	Bill Faas	30	Kara McCormick
21	Pat Sparks	30	Ian Taylor
22	Earl Griffin		

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
Sunday, December 17, 2023 – 10:30 AM
Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements-Thank you for joining us for this morning's worship service. We are glad to have you here! If this is your first time visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's form, found in the back of most pews. We would be pleased to add you to our email list. Welcome!

Prelude "A Lovely Rose is Blooming" Brahams

****Call to Worship**

Advent is a time for God's people to reawaken their longings.
Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.
In the darkness, we long to see the light.
Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.
In the silence, we long for a comforting word.
Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.
In hardship, we long for an act of love.
Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.
In Christ, we celebrate and rejoice in the promise of joy.
Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

Where the Promise Shines

Words by SYLVIA G. DUNSTAN
Music by BOB MOORE

Congregation:

Lead us on, lead us on to a morn - ing where the
prom - ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on
to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

On this Third Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Joy – Butler Family

*Hymn 147 "The First Nowell"

Invitation to Confession

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

A voice is crying out in the wilderness: Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near! Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Holy God, we confess that we do not walk in Your light. We hurt and destroy one another and neglect the poor and hungry. We let evil grow among us and fail to bear good fruit. Forgive us. Awaken us to Your Word, so that we may be ready to welcome You with joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

****Assurance of God's Grace**

The promise is that our who being – spirit, soul and body will be kept blameless at the coning of our Lord Jesus Christ. Rejoice, then, and give thanks as we receive forgiveness in His name.

****Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Please rise in body or Spirit. | **Words in bold print are spoken aloud or sung in unison.*

Response "Sing A New Song"
****Sing a new song unto the Lord. Let your song be sung from mountains high.
Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing Halleluiah!**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem "The Shepherds" Held

*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.**

Prayers of the People
****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**

Cantata *He is Born!*

Narrator	The Rev. Steve Frazier
Organ/Piano	Edna Broadhurst
Piano	Nancy Frazier
Flute	Amanda McCormick
Guitar/Trumpet	John Hackworth
Soprano	Oralie Wilhite Sofia Calicchio Diane Griffin Kim McCormick Nancy Grant
Alto	Gabrielle Goodrich Gail Pittman
Tenor	Todd Taylor Skip Baker-Smith
Bass	Michael Broadhurst Matthew Goodrich Raymond Rodrigues John Hackworth
Children's Choir	Brantley Aliff Logan Aliff Malakai Goodrich Benjamin McCormick Charlie McCormick Daniel McCormick Reagan Smith Riley Smith

Movements

"I Wonder as I Wander"- Soloist Raymond Rodrigues

"Keep Silent" – Soloist John Hackworth

"The People Who Walked in Darkness" – Soloist Michael Broadhurst

"Prophecy" – Soloist Skip Baker-Smith

"An Angel Came from Heaven" – Children's Choir

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" –Soloists Nancy Grant, Diane Griffin, Gabrielle Goodrich, Todd Taylor, Matthew Goodrich **Congregation**

"Sweet Was the Song" – Soloist Gabrielle Goodrich

"Rise Up Shepherd and Follow" – Soloist Gail Pittman

"How Far is it to Bethlehem" – Soloist Oralie Wilhite

"We Three Kings" – Hymn 151 Soloists Todd Taylor, Raymond Rodrigues and Michael Broadhurst **Congregation**

"Song of the Star" – Trio: Gabrielle Goodrich, Sofia Calicchio, Todd Taylor

"African Noel" – Ladies Choir

"Joy to the World" Hymn 134 v 1&4 **Congregation**

Benediction

*Benediction Response "Angels We Have Heard on High"
**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains:
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

Postlude "Christmas Fanfare"
Nancy Frazier and Edna Broadhurst

Passing the Peace of Christ
Peace of Christ be with you.
****And also with you.**
Greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Please join us in the Courtyard Lobby for snacks after worship!

This Morning's Liturgist – Steve Frazier

