

*First Presbyterian Church
First Sunday of Christmastide
December 29, 2024*



SHARE the amazing love
of God

REFLECT the light of Jesus
Christ

LIVE and serve joyfully
in the Spirit's
power

Order of Worship

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 "What Child Is This?" Traditional

Hymn 143 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

Responsive Litany

Children of God, Jesus Christ is born!

God has come to make a home among us!

Yet the story is not over. After birth comes the mundane and ordinary of growing, maturing, and discovering, even for the Christ Child.

In the ordinary and mundane, God has come to make a home among us.

In the midst of the everyday, something surprising happens, and we see again God in our midst.

In a surprising and very special way, God has come to make a home among us.

Children of God, let us worship the God who dwells with us in all things and all seasons.

We come to make our home with God, who has made a home among us. Amen.

Corporate Prayer of Confession - followed by a time for silent confession

Like a great light in a land of deep darkness, the mercy of the Lord shines upon us. 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.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the promise of the Lord. Your salvation has come! You are a holy People, redeemed by God, sought out in every moment, never forsaken!

Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

Song of Praise "Gloria In Excelsis Deo"

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Solo "Go Tell It on the Mountain" arr. Hayes
Michael Broadhurst, soloist

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.

Words in bold print are spoken aloud as a congregation.

Our Statement of Faith

This is the Good News which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved. Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; He was buried and raised on the third day. He appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; He is our Lord and our God. Alleluia! Amen.

Hymn 145

“What Child Is This?”

Time with the Children

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.**

Hymn 128

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Sermon

The Rev. Skip Baker-Smith

A Short Tour of the Lectionary Texts
(Please pick up a pew bible to follow along.)
1 Samuel 1: 9-23, found on page 234
1 Samuel 2: 4-8, found on page 235
Luke 2: 41-52, found on page 890
Psalm 148: 3-13, found on page 546
Colossians 3: 12-17, found on page 1027-1028

Hymn 132

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

Postlude

“Joyous Noel!”

Benoit

Charge and Benediction

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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PORTSMOUTH

Prayers of the People

Alice Lerp	Jean Byers
Wayne Braswell	David Stuart, Mary's brother
Paul and Alice Butler	Lou Wilhite
Lane Pittman	Mae Holoman
Josh Bennett	Robert and Peggy Norfleet
Monica Manley	Kathy Goolsby
Jackie LaPonte	Betty Hunt, friend of Michele
Maria Rhodes	Mary, friend of Bobbi Stegall
Gus and Clara Spanos	Barbara Bond
Isaiah Burgess, friend of Matt and Gabbi	Sonia Powell
Cecilia Fry and children Alfred and Teresa	Bev Smith, Mallory's mother-in-law
Dana Arden	Nancy Grant
Carol Conklin-Collins, Mary Ann's sister	Family and friends of Erik Savereide
Mike Fitzwater	

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

SESSION

Steve Frazier – Moderator of Session
Cameron McCormick
Norma Halterman
Todd Taylor
Oralie Wilhite
Linda Audet
Michele Graupmann
Diane Griffin
Mary Ann Taylor
Michael Broadhurst

TRUSTEES

Earl Griffin
John Hackworth
Pat Sparks

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Kathy Goolsby
12 Jay James
12 Viki Goolsby
18 Michael Broadhurst
20 Bill Faas
21 Pat Sparks
22 Earl Griffin
27 Sean Taylor
28 Elizabeth (Pond) Gerlach
28 Malakai Goodrich
30 Kara McCormick
30 Ian Taylor

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

7 David Turner
15 Beth Lutz
17 Carl Rhodes, Jr
18 Brantley Aliff
26 Sylvie Joyner
27 Kay Kidd
31 Kelsey Smith
31 Abby Taylor