

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601

January 2, 2022

10:00 a.m.



A Word About Today's Service

Christmas carols were not considered to be appropriate music in worship until the late 19th century. But in 1875 the English composer, John Stainer, introduced a pamphlet of Christmas carols to be sung during Advent and Christmas worship services at St. Paul's, London. From there, the use of Christmas carols in worship spread. In 1880, Edward White Benson, Bishop of Truro, led the first service of *Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve as a way to draw revelers out of the local pubs and into the church. The service began at 10 p.m. and about 400 worshippers attended.*

Lesson and Carols tells the story of our salvation, from the time of Adam and Eve's sin to the birth of Jesus Christ. We will hear the story of the near sacrifice of Isaac and the prophet's heralding the birth of Jesus. The carols and music we sing and hear in today's service are meant to accentuate the message of holy Scripture. You are invited to sing and participate in worship as you are able, even taking time to simply soak in the message and beauty of the season. This is not just a story told yearly as tradition, but the very story in which all people have a place!

Gathering Music

Away in a Manger
I Saw Three Ships
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!
O Come, Little Children
It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Carl Bingle, FPC Organist
Anna Laura Page
Gustav Holst
A. L. Page
Dale Wood
A. L. Page

Pastor's Greeting and Words of Welcome

Bidding Prayer

Beloved in Christ, it is our duty and delight
to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels,
and to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem,
and see this thing which has come to pass,
and the babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us hear again from the holy scriptures
the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first
days of our sin until the glorious redemption
brought us by this holy child;
and let us make this house of prayer glad
with our carols of praise.

But first, because this of all things would rejoice Jesus' heart,
let us pray to him for the needs of the whole world,
and all his people...

for peace upon the earth he came to save...
for love and unity within the one Church he did build...
for goodwill among all peoples...

And particularly at this time, let us remember the poor,
the cold, the hungry, the oppressed;
the sick and them that mourn;
the lonely and the unloved;
the aged and the little children;
and all who do not know the Lord Jesus,
or do not love him, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember all those who rejoice with us,
but upon another shore and in a greater light,
that multitude which no one can number,
whose hope was in the Word made flesh,
and with whom, in this Lord Jesus,
we forevermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up
to the throne of heaven,
in the words that Christ himself has taught us: Our Father . . .

***Opening Hymn #249**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. Adam and Eve Disobey God

Genesis 3:8-13

Carol #250

O Little Town of Bethlehem, stanzas 1 & 4

2. God's Promise to Abraham

Genesis 22:1-2, 9-18

Carol #245

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, stanzas 1, 2, 4

3. A Great Light In the Darkness

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Carol #251

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

4. A Little Child Will Lead Them

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

Carol #255

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

5. An Angel Appears to Mary

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Carol #277

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!

6. Mary Gives Birth in Bethlehem

Luke 2:1-7

Carol #262

Away in a Manger

7. Angels Announce the Messiah

Luke 2:8-14

Carol #278

Angels We Have Heard on High

8. Magi Come from the East

Matthew 2:1-4, 10-11

Carol #288

We Three Kings

COMMUNITY CONNECT

At this time in worship we share information on how you can connect even better with the community at FPC Watertown. During this time we also share our joys and concerns, as well as any other relevant information to our life together.

Offering



Donations can be made by either scanning the QR code from the Venmo app or by searching for

OFFERTORY

Variations on the Canon by Pachelbel
Andrew Long, piano

arr. George Winston

***THE DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above ye heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***9. The Word Made Flesh**

John 1:1-5, 14

***Closing Carol #273**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

***Blessing and Charge**

May the Christ, who, by his incarnation, gathered into one the things of heaven and earth, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Alleluia!

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please safely share some sign of
Christ's peace with your neighbor.

During this time of public concern over health and wellness, please be respectful of those who may want to avoid physical contact while sharing The Peace; flashing the 'peace sign' is a perfectly appropriate way to share Christ's peace. 'Fist bumps,' 'elbow bumps,' or slick dance moves can also extend Christ's peace to your neighbors.

Postlude

Creator of the Stars of Night
(Based on a 7th century Latin hymn)

Grimoaldo Macchia

This morning's **Radio Broadcast** is a gift from the congregation of First Presbyterian Church.

These Days, a Daily devotional, is now available in large print. Pick up your copy. You will find them in various areas around the church.

THIS WEEK

Staff Meeting - Tuesday, January 4th, 12 noon, Room 6

Men's Breakfast - Wednesday, January 5th, 7:30 a.m., **Fellowship Hall**

Deacons' Meeting - Thursday, January 6th, 5:00 p.m., Room 1 (formerly 14)

Adult Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Thursday, January 6th, 6:30 p.,m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Thursday, January 6th, 7:30 p.m.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE - Friday, January 7th

Happy Birthday to:

January 2	Liam MacDonald
January 3	Eric Green
January 5	John Jeffries
January 5	Jane Schweitzer
January 6	Marcia Bulger

We pray for...

Linda and Ken, Shane, Gerda, Ed, Robert, Jamie, Barbara, Gini, Mary, Josh, Brasie Corners UPC of Macomb, Northern New York Presbytery, Synod of the Northeast, the sick, all essential workers, students and teachers, medical professionals, all serving in the military, peace and justice, people in all positions of power and leadership.

**Staff emails: Church Office (Sue): wfpcsec@gmail.com
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Pastor Andrew's cell phone: (410) 916-1673

This service is being broadcast over radio station **WATN 1240**,
Facebook: **www.facebook.com/watertownfpc**, and
Livestreamed from our website: **www.watertownfirstpres.org**

On entering the house,
they saw the child with
Mary his mother;
and they knelt
down and paid
him homage.

Matthew 2:11,
NRSV

