



*Second Sunday of Christmas • January 5, 2025
and Epiphany Sunday*

Glorify God, Make Disciples of Jesus Christ, and Meet Human Needs

GATHERING

Loving God, each new day you fill the world with light for our work and recreation. As we go to our daily tasks, teach us to live as your faithful children whose eyes are open to the light of Christ. Where there is uncertainty or falsehood, help us see your truth. Where there is division or conflict, keep us in your love. Through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Word became flesh and lived among us

And we have seen His glory.

The true light that enlightens everyone has come into the world.

Glory to God who has blessed us in Christ.

Glory to God forever.

* **HYMN 143**

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we are a distracted people and forgetful of your love. We make selfish choices, hurt each other, and perpetuate injustice in your world. We have sinned against you and are deeply sorry and repent of our disregard of you, each other, and your creation. By the power of your Spirit, forgive, restore, and strengthen us to live in your light and walk in your truth; through Jesus Christ we pray. Now, O Lord, transform us as we continue our confession in silence.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, Believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* **ACT OF PRAISE**

Gloria Patri

Hymn 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148 (NRSV)

OT pg. 582

ANTHEM (11 A.M.)

Glory to God (Gloria, gloria)
Andrew Netardus, cantor

J. Berthier and A. Netardus

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, alleluia! Glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to God, alleluia!

Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above. Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts. Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars. Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies. Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding, you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds, kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth, young men and women, old men and children. Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)

Sarah Whitfield

(Afterward, children in kindergarten through 2nd grade will be dismissed to Kids-4-God.)

* HYMN 117

While Shepherds Watched Their Flock

WINCHESTER OLD

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:8-14 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

NT pg. 58

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Very First Christmas Carol

Rev. Dr. Don McGarity

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONDING

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

The Three Kings

P. Cornelius

Andrew Netardus, baritone

Three kings have travell'd from lands afar to Jordan, led by the pointing star: and this the quest of the travelers three, where the newborn King of the Jews may be. Full royal gifts they bear for the King; gold, incense, myrrh, are their offering. The star shines out with a steadfast ray; the kings to Bethlehem make their way, and there in worship they bend the knee, as Mary's child in her lap they see; their royal gifts they show to the King, gold, incense, myrrh, their offering. O child of man, lo, to Bethlehem the kings are trav'ling, travel with them! The star of mercy, the star of grace, will shine on the way to His resting place, and tho' no gift you bear for the King, give Him your heart as offering! Give Him your heart!

* DOXOLOGY

Hymn 606

*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.*

* 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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (8:30 A.M.)

(Gluten-Free Bread)

SENDING

* **HYMN 113**

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

* **BENEDICTION**

TODAY IN WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Fred Lundy, Rev. Dr. Don McGarity, Scott Stuart, Sarah Whitfield

ELDER ON DUTY: Sarah Whitfield

ACOLYTE: Annabel Stuart

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST: Mitch Rorick

CHAPEL USHER: Rose Anna Rutledge; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** Young Adult & Family Ministry

A/V TEAM: Owen Best, Alex Conerly, Zack Conerly, Geoff Spiegel, John Rayl

THE FLOWERS IN WORSHIP are given to the glory of God and in memory of Pauline Hipple by the FitzGerald family.

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We pray that you experience Christ's presence in our midst and that His presence will sustain you in the week ahead. Visitors are welcome to participate in the worship and the work of First Presbyterian Church. You can find a "Three Steps to Membership" card with information about how to join the church in the pew racks. If you feel a call to commit your life to Jesus Christ and His Church, please speak to the pastor or an elder after worship.

Prayer of Belief: *Lord Jesus Christ, I admit I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment, and offering forgiveness. I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior. Amen.* (If you are saying this prayer for the first time today, please let the pastor or elders on duty know.)

Let Us Remember in Prayer and Correspondence: Marilyn Ast, Leon & Jayne Fox, and Carol Hayes-Christiansen. Our men and women in the services: Ashley Dace, Matt Gowdy, Brian Hill, and Dan Williams; and first responders: Nick Gonzalez and Paul Samala.

Senior Pastor

Rev. Mark Hults - pastor@1stpc.org

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Mitch Rorick - music@1stpc.org

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Fred Lundy - youngadult@1stpc.org

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Andrew Netardus - events@1stpc.org

Head Sexton - Tony Cogdill

Sexton - Margaret Hill

Property Coordinator

John Rayl - png.1stpc@gmail.com

143 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; you, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing;
 beam a - far; seek the great de - sire of na - tions;
 Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 yon - der shines the in - fant light: come and wor - ship,
 you have seen his na - tal star:
 to the e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king!

This familiar carol was first published as a poem in the Christmas Eve 1816 issue of a newspaper the author edited in Sheffield, England. The tune name celebrates the location of a prominent Presbyterian Church in London, sometimes called the "Presbyterian cathedral."

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 148 (NRSV)

¹Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights! ²Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! ³Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! ⁴Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! ⁵Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created. ⁶He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. ⁷Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, ⁸fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! ⁹Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! ¹⁰Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! ¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! ¹²Young men and women alike, old and young together! ¹³Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. ¹⁴He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 2:8-14 (NRSV)

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

117 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

1 While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all
 2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had
 3 "To you, in Da - vid's town this day, is
 4 "The heaven - ly babe you there shall find to

seat - ed on the ground, the an - gel of the
 seized their trou - bled mind: "Glad ti - dings of great
 born of Da - vid's line the Sav - ior, who is
 hu - man view dis - played, all hum - bly wrapped in

Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.
 joy I bring to you and hu - man - kind.
 Christ the Lord, and this shall be the sign:
 swath - ing bands, and in a man - ger laid."

- 5 Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith
 appeared a shining throng
 of angels praising God, who thus
 addressed their joyful song:
- 6 "All glory be to God on high,
 and to the earth be peace;
 good will to all from highest heaven
 begin and never cease!"

This was one of the first metrical texts to deal with a New Testament narrative rather than paraphrase one of the Psalms. It is set here to a psalm tune that is more than a century older than the words, though the two were not firmly joined until the mid-19th century.

113 Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some ti - dings be which in-spire your heaven-ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo -

- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Ministry Highlights

Visit our growing website
for more about our church
and ministries.



Free Appliances

The church has three used appliances available on a first-come, first-served basis for anyone who can come pick them up - a washer & dryer and a refrigerator. Please contact John Rayl at png.1stpc@gmail.com if interested.



Start the New Year with Service

Many of you came out to help decorate the church for Advent. As the celebrations come to an end, please join us on Monday, January 6 at 9:00 a.m. to help take the Christmas decorations down.



Concert for a Cause

Sunday, January 12 at 4 p.m., join the Dance Alive National Ballet, Anew, a festival chorus, and instrumentalists for a concert highlighting the struggle, freedom finding, and the journey to restoration for those impacted by human trafficking. Come to this event to be moved and engaged in our community, but also to find hope.



January is a Great Time to Join a Choir at First Presbyterian Church!

There are choirs and handbell groups for a variety of ages. Please contact Mitch Rorick at music@1stpc.org with questions or to find the right group for you.



Ministry Dates

Sunday, January 12 - College Cafe

Tuesday, January 14 - Trajectory College Bible Study

Wednesday, January 15 - LOGOS, Joyful Ringers, and Jubilate Ringers

Thursday, January 16 - Carol Ringers and Chancel Choir

Children's worship guides are available at all entrances.

Staff

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Online Contributions



Visit our website, www.1stpc.org, to make an online donation. Click the GIVE button at the top of the page. You can contribute to the General Budget or use the drop-down menu, change to Other, and specify the designated ministry in the memo section. Text contributions, bill pay through your bank, and electronic funds transfers are also options. Contact Trudy Bonerba.



T-Coil installed in the sanctuary, and Hearing Assist devices available in the Narthex.

Tune in to Cox Channel 11 **now from 9-10 a.m.** for our televised broadcast or MyTV 28.2 for over the air broadcasts

Current Worship video and audio
as well as archives at 1stpc.org

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