

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 30, 2018

10:30 a.m.

SEMINARY STUDENT SUNDAY

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*Please sign the Welcome Pad and pass it along the pew.
Turn off all cell phones, and refrain from using cameras during worship.*

VOLUNTARY

John Alexander, organ

WELCOME, CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & EXTENDING HOSPITALITYNeil Dunnivant

* CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Nick and Savannah Demuynck

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People: **those who lived in a land of deep darkness –
on them light has shined.**

Leader: For unto us a child is born, a son is given.

People: **Authority rests on his shoulders, and he is named wonderful
counselor, mighty God, prince of peace.**

Leader: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.

All: **We light the Christmas candle as we sing glory to God in the
highest and peace to God's people on earth.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 136 – Go, Tell It on the Mountain GO TELL IT

* PRAYER OF THE DAY Savannah Demuynck

**Almighty God,
you wonderfully created,
and yet more wonderfully restored,
the dignity of human nature.
In your mercy,
let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ
who came to share our humanity,
and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

A brief period of silence is reserved for personal confession

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Angels We Have Heard on High GLORIA

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and common time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: 'Come to Beth-le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing; Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King. Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.'

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON: *Colossians 3:12-17* (PEW BIBLE, PAGE 201)

Reader: Savannah Demuynck

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive

each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

A TIME FOR CHILDRENNeil Dunnivant

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SECOND LESSON: *Luke 2:42-52* (PEW BIBLE, PAGE 59)

And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: SearchingNick Demuyne

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 147 – The First NowellTHE FIRST NOWELL

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITHSavannah Demuynck

**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;
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.**

– The Apostles' Creed

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

concluding with 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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

John Alexander, organ

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Angels from the Realms of Glory REGENT SQUARE

All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,
Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing To th'e - ter - nal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King!

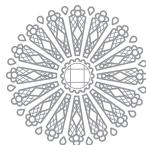
* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* BENEDICTION Nick Demuyneck

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Joy to the World! ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns: Let us our
songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re peat the sound - ing
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.

VOLUNTARY: Toccata on 'Joy to the World!'Craig Philips
John Alexander, organ



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Neil Dunnavant, Executive Pastor and Associate for Outreach Ministry
Nick Demuynck, student at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
Savannah Demuynck, student at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
John Alexander, Director of Music and Principal Organist

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain" Text: Text: John W. Work; Music: African American Spiritual.
"Angels We Have Heard on High" Text: French carol; Music: French carol.
"The First Nowell" Text: English carol; Music: English carol.
"Angels from the Realms of Glory" Text: Salisbury Hymnal Book; Music: Henry Thomas Smart.
"Joy to the World!" Text: Isaac Watts; Music: Geroge Frederick Handel .

* Please stand as you are able.

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TODAY IS SEMINARY STUDENT SUNDAY: One of FPC's traditions is observed each year on the first Sunday after Christmas, when seminary students lead worship. Today our preacher is Nick Demuynck. Nick, our former interim director of youth ministry, is a student at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He is married to Savannah Demuynck, who grew up at FPC and also is at Austin seminary. Nick and Savannah are the latest among more than two dozen pastors and ministry leaders who have been nurtured at FPC. The church's Rapp Endowment for Theological Education, given by Bob Rapp in memory of his parents, provides financial support for seminary students. If you are feeling a call to ministry, contact Neil Dunnivant, Executive Pastor, at ndunnivant@fpcgreensboro.org or 336.478.4707.

ABOUT THIS MORNING'S FLOWERS: The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Edythe and Pete Wyrick by Melinda and Jim Ogburn.

THE LITURGICAL COLOR *WHITE* seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors' stoles signifies the special days of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

DON'T ASSUME ... that the pastors know that you or other members are in the hospital or home with a lengthy illness. Please call the church offices at 336.373.0445 and let us know so that we can extend a hand in prayer and care.

BECOMING A MEMBER: We welcome anyone who trusts in Jesus Christ to join our community of growing disciples. Those interested in membership who have an active membership at another Christian church can transfer their membership to FPC. New believers who are making a first time profession of faith or people who have been confirmed and would like to make a reaffirmation of faith are received after completing Explore FPC, a class about our church and its ministries. The class will be offered again Sunday, January 27, 8:30 -10:15 a.m. in Cannon's Solarium. To RSVP to the class (including child-care requests) or to inquire about a member transfer, contact our receptionist at receptionist@fpcgreensboro.org or 336.478.4799.

HOLIDAY CLOSING: Church offices will be closed on New Year's Day.

PASTOR ON CALL: When church offices are closed and you have an emergency, call 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.

WINTER IS UPON US! To begin receiving FPC alerts for weather and closings, text FPCGSO to 41411 and follow the instructions to opt in. (Standard text rates may be applicable based on your individual carrier.)

NEXT WEEK IS COMMUNION SUNDAY: Our regular worship schedule returns with Danny Massie as our preacher. Sanctuary services begin at 8:30 and 10:30, and Rejoice! at 10:30. After worship, elders will take communion to church members in care communities and private homes who are unable to attend services. For information, contact Debby Foster, 336.478.4702 or dfoster@fpcgreensboro.org.

OUR 10:30 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP SERVICE IS LIVE-STREAMED on the web, and can be accessed at fpcgreensboro.org/streaming-live, or via our Facebook page. You can also sign up for reminders and alerts at livestream.com/fpcgreensboro, and you can stream the service on mobile devices by installing the Livestream app (free account sign-in required).

WHAT'S GOING ON: Connect with our media to keep in touch with upcoming programs and events. Start at fpcgreensboro.org/connect/our-media.

SEEKING SMILING FACES AND HELPING HANDS: Worshipers with mobility challenges are met on Greene Street by volunteers with our Parking Assistance Ministry. If you can help greet these folks and give them a hand into the Sanctuary once a month, please contact Jerry Leimenstoll, jleimenstoll@triad.rr.com or 336.209.2834..

THE SAFETY OF FPC members and visitors is a priority for our ushers and greeters, who receive training in Session-adopted procedures. Please let them know if you observe anything that might require their attention.

KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN SPOT A LEADER?

The Appointments Committee needs your help. Who would you like to see on your next Nominating Committee? Nominating creates the slate of elders elected each spring. You have the opportunity to elect eight members of Nominating (another seven are selected by Session). The committee should reflect our church's gender, age and experience. Look for nominating forms & envelopes in the Welcome notebooks. Suggestions are due next Sunday, January 6, 2019.

WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith. We are a church of growing disciples believing that worship is at the center of all we are and do as Christians.

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR, we encourage you to wear a name tag, available in the blue Welcome notebooks on your pew.

VISITORS AND MEMBERS, please sign the attendance pad in the Welcome notebooks. We care about how folks are doing and try to pay attention when our members haven't worshiped with us in a while. And please note the names of others on your pew and say "Hello!"

FAMILIES can find comfortable seating, a nursing screen, and a live feed of the service in the Myers Loyalty Room behind the Sanctuary. Parents must supervise children.

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN, we offer ways to make worship meaningful for them:

Nursery care is provided for infants through age 4 on the **first floor of Mullin Life Center**. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

Children in Worship bags: Young children are invited to choose from an assortment of crayons, coloring books, and other activities to create their own worship bag for the service. These items are located on a cart in the Tower Room. Please ask an usher for assistance, if needed. Bags should be returned to the cart after the service.

Worship Enrichment: After the children's message, ages 4 to 7 are invited to follow adult leaders to the Children's Space in the Welcome Center for Worship Enrichment. Children will return to the sanctuary after the sermon.

Restrooms, including a family room, are located off the hallway behind the pulpit and chancel. We encourage young children to be accompanied by parents any time they leave the Sanctuary.

NEXT WEEK IN CHURCH

SCHOOL 9:30 a.m.

- **"Reconsidering the Parables of Jesus"**
– discussion led by Sandie Gravett in the Agape Class. Meets in the Garden Room, down the hall from the Welcome Center.
- **100 Things to Know About Being a Christian** – led by Matt Logan and Nate Sell. Class meets in Biblemax Theater, third floor of the Corl building.
- **Old Testament Bible Characters** – Neil Dunnivant leads a series of discussions on Old Testament characters, starting with Moses. Hosted by the Homebuilders/Faith Matters calls in Myers Loyalty Room, Smith 242.
- **Big God, Big Questions for Parents** – special class for confirmand parents, but open to all. Meets in Memorial Youth Room.
- **Exodus** – A deep study of the the second book of the Bible, led by Gerard Davidson. Seekers class meets in Vaughn Conference Room, Main 125.
- **YMBC** – meets in Redhead Hall.