

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 5, 2020 10:30 a.m.

# SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS / COMMUNION SUNDAY

## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Please sign the Welcome Pad and pass it along the pew.

Turn off all cell phones, and refrain from using cameras during worship.

Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God who quickens the faith that brought Magi from the east, Who kindles the hope that brought captives from exile, And who inspires the love that brings strangers together, Let the light that shone in the darkness shine upon us. Let it shine within us, that it might refine our divided hearts. Let it shine around us, that it might illumine The way that leads to our neighbors. And let it shine above us, that it might reveal The Christ who manifests your presence. Amen.

## THE VISION OF GOD

Voluntary: Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern BuxWV 223

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

John Alexander, organ

### \* Call to Worship

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come

People: and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Leader: For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;

People: but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear

over you.

Leader: Nations shall come to your light,

All: and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

- Isaiah 60:1-3

\* Processional Hymn: No. 150 - As with Gladness Men of Old ...... (see page 12)

# THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Eternal God: You have given us Jesus, light of the world, but we choose darkness and cling to sins that hide the brightness of your love. We are frightened disciples who are slow to speak your gospel. Immersed in ourselves, we have not risen to new life. Baptize us with your Holy Spirit, so that, forgiven and renewed, we may preach your word to the nations and tell of your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our light forever. Amen.

A brief period of silence is reserved for personal confession.

# \* Assurance of Pardon

### \* The Peace

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

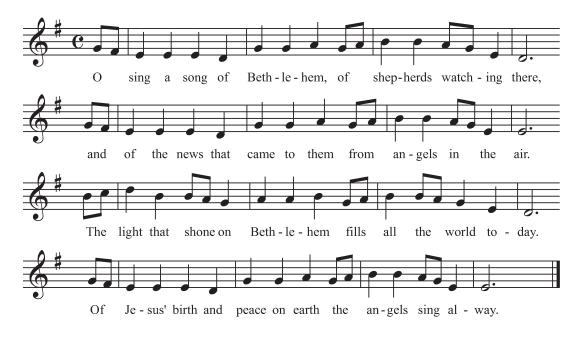
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

As you share the good news of forgiveness in Jesus Christ, please offer one another these words: "The peace of Christ be with you."

<sup>\*</sup> Prayer of Adoration

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: O Sing a Song of Bethlehem......kingsfold



# WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### Prayer for Illumination

The Word Read: Psalm 72:1-14

Reader: Caroline Cochrane

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

May his foes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust.

May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.

May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.

For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.

He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

The Word Read: Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then,

opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Great Thanksgiving......Keith Dove

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

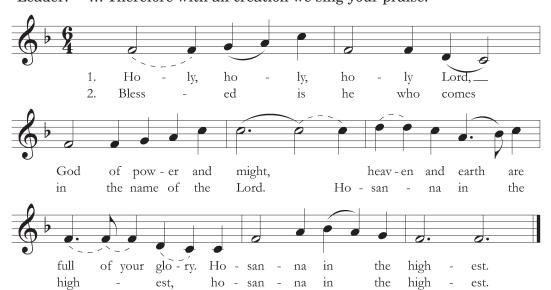
Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Leader: Lift up your hearts. **People:** We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: ... Therefore with all creation we sing your praise.



followed by 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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE
MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Quelle est cette odeur agréable? ..... arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

### Chancel Choir

Quelle est cette odeur agréable, Bergers, qui ravit tous nos sens? S'exhale t'il rien de semblable Au milieu des fleurs du printemps? Quelle est cette odeur agréable Bergers, qui ravit tous nos sens? Mais quelle éclatante lumière Dans la nuit vient frapper nos yeux L'astre de jour, dans sa carrière, Fût-il jamais si radieux! Mais quelle éclatante lumière Dans la nuit vient frapper nos yeux. À Bethléem, dans une crèche Il vient de vous naitre-un Sauveur Allons, que rien ne vous empêche D'adorer votre rédempteur À Bethléem, dans une crèche, Il vient de vous naître-un Sauveur. Dieu tout puissant, gloire éternelle Vous soit rendue jusqu'aux cieux. Que la paix soit universelle Que la grâce abonde en tous lieux. Dieu tout puissant, gloire éternelle Vous soit rendue jusqu'aux cieux.

What is that agreeable fragrance, Shepherds, that delights all our senses? That wafts like nothing similar In the middle of spring flowers? What is that agreeable fragrance, Shepherds, that delights all our senses? But what exploding light In the night just struck our eyes The day star, in its pathway Was never so radiant! But what exploding light In the night just struck our eyes In Bethlehem, in a manger Was just born for us – a Savior Let's go, let nothing prevent you From adoring your redeemer In Bethlehem, in a manger Was just born for us – a Savior God all powerful, eternal glory Will be given to you until the heavens Let peace be universal Let grace abound in every place. God all powerful, eternal glory Will be given to you until the heavens.

### OFFERING

### Chancel Choir

Nowell, sing nowell good people gathered here. Offer thanks, ye faithful, to the news give ear. Sing we nowell, a new King born today. Nowell, sing nowell good people gathered here.

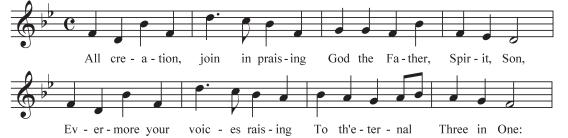
Unto humble shepherds came the angel near; 'Hence,' said he, 'to Bethlem, be ye of good cheer. Seek there the Lamb of God, love's own pure ray.' Nowell, sing nowell good people gathered here.

When to Bethlehem they came in lowly fear, Found they gentle Mary with her son so dear. Heav'n's mighty Lord all cradled in the hay, Nowell, sing nowell good people gathered here.

Eastern sages seek him, in the darkness drear By a star illumined shining forth so clear, Guiding them to Bethlem far away. Nowell, sing nowell good people gathered here.

Now doth our Saviour Jesus Christ appear, Bringing salvation promised many a year By his redeeming blood this happy day. Nowell, sing nowell good people gathered here.

\* Congregational Response: Angels from the Realms of Glory ............ regent square





\* Prayer of Dedication

\* Hymn of Sending: No. 152 – What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright.... (see page 14)

As we bear the Word into the world, we turn to face the back doors of the church as we hear the charge & benediction

\* Benediction and Charge .......Danny Massie

Go into the world remembering that you are the people of God and you bear the name of Jesus Christ.

Bear that name carefully, for you are not your own.

Bear that name gratefully, for you have been redeemed at a price.

And bear that name joyfully for he enlists each of us in his service.



### Today's Worship Leaders

Danny Massie, Interim Pastor | Dolly Jacobs, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care Keith Dove, Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Resident | Caroline Cochrane, Lay Reader John Alexander, Director of Music and Principal Organist Robert Wells, Director of Chancel Choir | Chancel Choir

"As with Gladness Men of Old" Text: William Chatterton Dix; Music: Conrad Kocher.

"O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" Text: Louis FitzGerald Benson; Music: English Country Songs.

"What Child Is This?" Text: William Chatterton Dix; Music: English ballad.

"Angels from the Realms of Glory" Text: Salisbury Hymnal Book; Music: Henry Thomas Smart.

"What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright" Text: Charles Coffin; Music: Trier ms. 15th century.

\* Let us rise in body or spirit.

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TODAY IS COMMUNION SUNDAY: All are welcome at our table. Our Communion breads are nut free, with gluten-free options available. 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.

**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.

FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE – You can honor or remember a friend or family member by donating flowers for our Sunday morning worship service in the Sanctuary. The flowers are accompanied by a note in the bulletin explaining their significance. The following dates are open: March 22 & 29; May 17; June 28; July 26; August 23; December 20 & 27. Contact Carolyn Yow, 336-478-4768 or cyow@fpcgreensboro.org to learn more.

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).

**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.

**REVIVE US AGAIN!** Last year our average worship attendance, from October through December, was 395. Our revival attendance goal is 650, which includes all three Sunday services and Wednesday night Vespers. Attendance for week of December 15: 709. Average revival season attendance: 598.

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.

FPC 101: If you are thinking about exploring your faith with us, attend this four-week series on what it means to be a disciple of Christ in our faith community. Sundays, January 19 & 26 and February 2 & 9, 9:15-10:15 am, in Cannon's Solarium. RSVP: 336.478.4799 or receptionist@ fpcgreensboro.org. Note: Emails from @bellsouth, @yahoo, or @att will not reach our email server; please call instead.

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.

THE PARKING ASSISTANCE MINISTRY TEAM (PAM) has spaces on both sides of Greene Street reserved for our members and visitors with special needs. PAM volunteers can assist with guiding you to appropriate parking. If you are being driven to church, you may be dropped off at the Greene Street entrance while your driver parks.

**OVERFLOW PARKING:** Our neighbor Hanes Lineberry allows us to use its parking lot for overflow on Sunday mornings and other occasions. Please do not park there if you see yellow "Funeral Parking" signs at the access points; that means a service or event is scheduled at the funeral home

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. You'll find nominating forms & envelopes in the Welcome pads. Suggestions are due today.

**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.*)

### IN MEMORIAM

Churchill Perkins Brown, Jr. December 31, 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

January 12, 9:15 a.m.

- TED Talks Faith meets in Spencer Love Room, Memorial 200. Bring your coffee from fellowship time to watch & discuss a short talk, curated by our Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Residents and Discipleship director Matt Logan.
- Rev. Gerald W. Donnelly continues a series of discussions on Jesus' Parable of the Prodigal Son. In addition to the parable itself, this class will draw inspiration from Rembrandt's painting, The Return of the Prodigal Son, and from Henri Nouwen's book of the same name. YMBC meets in Redhead Hall.
- Confirmation Parents meet in Memorial 300, and Dolly Jacobs will lead the discussion, "How do we know and trust God?"
- In the Homebuilders and Faith Matters Class, Leisa Wagstaff will discuss her PCUSA missionary service to Africa. Myers Loyalty Room, Smith 242.
- Sandie Gravett continues a discussion on "Lessons from the Book of Malachi" in the Agape Class, meeting in the Garden Room, down the hall from the Welcome Center
- Seekers Class continues a study of Exodus in Vaughn Conference Room, Main 125.

FELLOWSHIP IN CANNON'S SOLARIUM with coffee & snacks: 8:45-10:30 a.m., hosted by Men's Bible Study, John Atkinson.

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# As with Gladness Men of Old 150



The first three stanzas here use an as/so structure to draw parallels between the coming of the Magi and the spiritual lives of the singers, summed up in the prayer of the fourth stanza. Even though this adapted German tune was named for him, the author did not care for it.



This Victorian text gains scope and power by having the original second halves of stanzas two and three restored. They give a stark forward glimpse of what lies ahead for this "babe, the son of Mary!" The tune is much older, dating from Tudor England.

# What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright



This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.



ATFIRSTPRESBYTERIAN

JANUARY 5-JANUARY 12, 2020 • MORE AT FPCGREENSBORO.ORG

TUES

ALE-LELUIA: Join Matt Logan & pastoral residents for conversation at the crossroads of faith & current events. 7 pm at Double Oaks, 204 N. Mendenhall St.

# WEDNESDAY

VESPERS

**RSVP due** for Daughters of Abraham lunch (see January 13, back side, for more info)

**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** 5 pm in Mullin Life Center: Lasagna, mixed greens & homemade dressings, vegetable medley, brownie with salted caramel sauce & candied pecans. Children's alternative available. Tickets: receptionist@fpcgreensboro.org or 336.478.4799.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Donna Chase continues a study of Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship,* 6:30 pm in Main 125.

6 pm, Memorial Chapel.

# SATURDAY



Join a group of First Preszers for a guided tour of the INTERNATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM. Meet in the museum gift shop a few minutes before our 11 am tour to connect with our docent. The tour will take about an hour and a half. Contact Jackie Wilson, jackiewilson9544@gmail.com.

# **NEXT SUNDAY**

# BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8:30 & sanctuary danny massie rejoice! neil dunnavant



Grades K-5 begin **Milestones in the Faith** classes – Bible, worship, communion, catechism, spiritual practices – at 9:15 am. INFO: ybaxter@fpcgreensboro.org.

**ELEMENTAL:** AS REFLECTED IN PIANO MUSIC, concert by Stephanie Emberley. 2 pm, free. Work that speaks to Spirit, Fire, Water, and Earth, by Bach, Liszt, Schumann and more. Free.

# IN THE WEEKS AHEAD

#### **JANUARY 13**

- Daughters of Abraham multifaith lunch: Women are invited to join guests from the Muslim and Jewish faiths at a luncheon sponsored by Presbyterian Women, noon in Mullin Life Center. Bring friends! RSVP by Wednesday, receptionist@fpcgreensboro. org or 336-478-4799.
- Weekday Preschool Center starts priority registration for 2020-2021 for Church members and current families.
- Monday Book Club 10:30, Solarium, Tara Westover's Educated: A Memoir, facilitated by Nancy Mitchell.

### **JANUARY 14**

**Tuesday Book Club** 1:30, Garden Room, Charles Frazier's *Varina*, facilitated by Penne Prigge.

#### **JANUARY 16**

Men are invited to join Neil Dunnavant, Nate Sell & Matt Logan for a winter evening discussing Nate's favorite novel,

Jayber Crow, by Wendell Berry. Set in the 1930s-1960s, the novel has been described

Perhaps all the good that ever has come here has come because people prayed it into the world.

as "an almost perfect fiction." Led by Dr. Richard Smith, English teacher & local running coach. 5:30-7 pm, Double Oaks on Mendenhall Street. Hors d'oeuvres & beverages served.

FPC 101 Interested in membership? Attend FPC 101, a four-week series on what it means to be a disciple of Christ in our faith community.

Sundays, January 19 & 26 and February 2 & 9 9:15-10:15 am, Cannon's Solarium

RSVP: 336.478.4799 or receptionist@fpcgreensboro.org. *Emails from @bellsouth, @yahoo, or @att will not reach our email server; please call instead.* 

### JANUARY 19

Ten Thousand Villages pop-up store in Welcome Center.

JANUARY 20 Church offices closed for MLK, Jr. Day



### **JANUARY 25**

Parents' Night Out. Play, pizza, devotion & Frozen, for infants through fifth grade. \$10/child, \$15/ages 2 & under, \$30/family max. RSVP by January 21: lwitherspoon@fpcgreensboro.org.

SAVE THE DATE:

**February 23 is Mullin Forum Sunday** with guest preacher Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, dean of Duke University Chapel.