

The First Presbyterian Church Delhi, New York

December 24, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve A Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Piano Prelude

Song – Linda Malcolm

“Candlelight Carol”

by Rutter

Introit - Bells

“He is Born, the Holy Child”

arr. by Krug

*Call to Worship

Leader: As we begin our Christmas celebration, celebrating Jesus' birth, we light the final candle of the Advent wreath. First, we lit the candle for **Hope** because Jesus is our hope. Second, we lit the candle for **Peace** because Jesus is our hope and peace. Third, we lit the candle for **Joy** because Jesus brings joy and **fourth**, the candle the reminds us of the **gift of Love** because Jesus is love. This evening we also light the center candle. This candle reminds us of the gift of the **Christ**. The Christ candle reminds us that Jesus is born. Jesus has come. Jesus is our salvation. Let us read together these words from Galatians:

People: “But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law.”

Leader: Let us pray: Great God of love and light, we thank you now for the light of that special star over two thousand years ago that guided humble shepherds and learned wise men to the holy babe. Lead us now, by the light of your love, that we also may follow you to new life in him. In celebration of the birth of our King and our Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

*Hymn

“Once in Royal David’s City” verses 1 & 2

#140

First Lesson – Genesis 3:8-15

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, ‘Where are you?’ He said, ‘I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.’ He said, ‘Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?’ The man said, ‘The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.’ Then the Lord God said to the woman, ‘What is this that you have done?’ The woman said, ‘The serpent tricked me, and I ate.’ The Lord God said to the serpent, ‘Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.’

Second Lesson – Genesis 22:15-18

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, ‘By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.’

Choir

"All Earth Rejoice with a Gladsome Voice"

by Vivaldi, arr. by Hopson

Third Lesson – Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Carol

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

#121

Fourth Lesson – Isaiah 11:1-4

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Carol

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" verses 1 & 2

#123

Fifth Lesson – Luke 1:26-35

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.'

Presentation of Gifts & Offerings

Call to the Offering

Offerings may be made online at <https://fpcdelhi.org/offering/> or by USPS mail service.

Offertory - Choir

"David's Royal City"

arr. by Larson

Sixth Lesson – Luke 2:1-6

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

Carol

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#133

Seventh Lesson – Luke 2:8-16

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

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Carol

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

#113

Eighth Lesson – 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.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

#347

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

... "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors"

Distribution

Prayer After Communion

***Ninth Lesson – John 1:1-14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

***Sharing the Christ Light**

The leaders will share the light of the Christ candle with the congregation, with the assistance of the ushers who will light the candle of each person standing nearest the aisle. Please tip your candle to receive the light and then turn to your neighbor so they can do the same. When the hymn is over we will stand in silence for a moment and extinguish the candles together as a congregation.

***Hymn**

"Silent Night, Holy Night!"

#122

***Charge to the Congregation**

***Benediction**

***Closing Hymn**

"Joy to the World" verses 1, 3 & 4

#134

Postlude

CCLI License # 275648

Leading us in worship this evening:

Pastor Jamie Tyrrell, Interim

Billy Meredith, Music Director

Thank you to all of our choir members:

Kathy Beveridge

Gia Cantwell

Ed Goff

Nancy Haynes

Nancy Heimbuecher

Barb Leo

Susie Little

Tom Little

Linda Malcolm

Carolyn Massey

Art Maxwell

Renee Maxwell

Helen Rosa

Pastor Jamie Tyrrell

When the office is closed and your need is urgent, I can be contacted at 585-705-0026.

My email is: jtyrrell43@gmail.com - my Facebook page address is James.Tyrrell.12

My YouTube channel is Jamie Tyrrell @jtyrrell43. Go to the search bar and enter that in.



First Presbyterian Church of Delhi, New York December 24, 2023

"Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright." Silent and calm, until a newborn wails and angels illumine the fields! Holy indeed. Merry Christmas, and welcome to worship!

(Prayer) "Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King!" May our hearts, too, prepare your room, dear Jesus.

Your **tithes and offerings** may be made online via PayPal, click the donate button at <https://fpcdelhi.org/offering>, or by regular USPS mail (4 Clinton Street, Delhi, NY 13753).



A CALL has been issued by the Session for a **Meeting of the Congregation** to be held immediately after 10:30 a.m. worship Sunday, January 7, 2023. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect and install officers for 2024. No other business may come before the Congregation at this time. Active members must be present in person in order to participate in the vote.

Our **mission focus for December** includes the Christmas Stocking collection, the Angel Tree and Mitten Tree and the Living Nativity food bank collection. **Christmas Stockings** are due in the office this coming week, or in the Christmas Eve offering.

Darcy is away for the week between Christmas and New Year's Eve. He will be back in the office on Tuesday, January 2nd.

This Thursday, December 28, is the Newsletter Deadline. If you have any articles or content for the Jan-Feb Courier, please submit it to the office by the end of the week.

EDD Adaptive Sports would like to thank the First Presbyterian Church of Delhi for allowing us to host a crafting event for individuals with disabilities. Because of the church's willingness to open its doors to us, 15 local individuals were able to spend a couple of hours creating holiday crafts to take home to their families. We would like to extend a special thanks to Tom Little and Tom Leo for setting the room up and arriving early and staying late for the event. We would also like to thank Darcy for helping us through the process of securing the room and Judy Bauer, Betty Bell and Linda Dewitt for assisting the participants with creating their crafts.

The last Sunday of every month is a BOUNTIFUL GIVING SUNDAY. The Delhi Food Pantry is accepting **non-perishable food items**. You can also donate via <https://fpcdelhi.org/content/offering> or give cash or check donations designated for the food bank. Please make checks out to First Presbyterian Church. Checks may also be mailed via regular mail to the church at 4 Clinton Street, Delhi NY 13753.

The **TRUSTEES** responsible for counting today are Art Maxwell and Tom Little. The Trustees responsible for counting on December 31 are Alex Cantwell and Cullen LaFever.

Devotional booklets (Upper Room and Daily Bread) are available outside the office and in the new narthex. Please take one for your daily devotions!

THOUGHTS ON GIVING *“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!” – Luke 1:28.* After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God’s call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ’s light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That like Mary, our lives, too reflect Christ’s light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

The **Per Capita** amount for 2023 has been set at \$43.95 per member.

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 12-17-2023</i>	53 - 45 in sanctuary + approx. 8 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,653.00*
General amount given week of 12-17-2023	\$2,065.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$84,303.00
General amount given YTD as of 12-17-2023	\$87,874.41
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$423.62
Fuel Fund given week of 12-17-2023	\$60.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$21,604.62
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 12-17-2023	\$3,165.00
Kirk Receipts 12-10-23 to 12-16-23	\$1,928.75
Mission giving week of 12-17-2023	\$15.00
Mission giving YTD as of 12-17-2023	\$2,260.50
Apportionment Needed 2023	\$7,163.85
Apportionment received YTD as of 12-17-2023	\$2,112.06

*General amount needed each week is total expenses minus budgeted savings transfers and fuel expenses.

SUNDAY December 24	<i>Christmas Eve</i> 9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm – 6:45 pm Christmas Eve Open House at the Manse 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
MONDAY December 25	<i>Christmas Day – Office Closed</i>
TUESDAY December 26	<i>Darcy is Away</i>
WEDNESDAY December 27	<i>Darcy is Away</i> 10:30 am Gentle Yoga (Chapel) 4:00 pm Kirk Meeting 5:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
THURSDAY December 28	<i>Darcy is Away - Newsletter Deadline</i>
FRIDAY December 29	10:30 am Adult Ballet Class (Chapel)
SATURDAY December 30	10:15 am Yoga
SUNDAY December 31	<i>Bountiful Giving Sunday & New Year’s Eve</i> 9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship



Poinsettias



IN MEMORY OF	IN HONOR OF	GIVEN BY
Loved Ones		The Althaus Family
	Our Delhi Church Family	The Althaus Family
Karl Baier and Gert Bell		Betty Jean & Harry Bell
Kathleen Martin		Betty Jean & Harry Bell
Karl Baier		Jeff & Lucas Baier
Karl Baier and Robert Mackey Jr.		Barb & Bob Mackey
Karl Baier		Jeana & Jamie Roberts
Stoshie Pawlikowski		Betty Jean & Harry Bell
Joan L. Pawlikowski		Kathy & Charley Beveridge
Ben Horton		Peggy A. Finch
	Michael Swartz	Peggy A. Finch
Ida and Douglas Hume		Margie Hume
Dr. Howard & Evelyn Dickson		Margaret Jones
	Margie Hume	Tom & Barb Leo
Kathy Martin		Tom & Barb Leo
	Ailish Elowynn Cobbe	Gwenn & John Nealis
Their Parents: Mabel & Frank Brown, Lydia & Raymond Nealis		Gwenn & John Nealis
Joe Rosa		David & Heather Rosa
Bill & Ida Sanderson		David & Heather Rosa
Dottie Wilklow		David & Heather Rosa
Joseph & Gladys Rosa and Leland & Verna Wood		Helen Rosa
Joseph Rosa		Helen Rosa
Robert & Kathryn Thomson		The Sullivan Family



Poinsettias



IN MEMORY OF	IN MEMORY OF	IN MEMORY OF
Philip & Joan Sullivan		The Sullivan Family
Gerald F. Tyrrell		Jamie & Bessie Tyrrell
Virginia Lee Tyrrell		Jamie & Bessie Tyrrell
Gerald G. Tyrrell		Jamie & Bessie Tyrrell
Robert Snyder		Jamie & Bessie Tyrrell
Deborah Snyder		Jamie & Bessie Tyrrell
John Speed		Jamie & Bessie Tyrrell
Ida & Bill Sanderson		Shirley Warren
Wes Warren		Shirley Warren
My husband, Richard Wickham		Marilyn Wickham



Wreaths in the Choir Loft



IN MEMORY OF	GIVEN BY
Harry & Lucy Hebbard	Jane & Don Hymers
Alfred & Helen Hymers	Jane & Don Hymers
The white bows on these wreaths were generously donated by Kathy Beveridge.	

The Fontanini Nativity figures are given as a gift to celebrate the birth of Jesus. This gift is in memory of Conrad Larsen and is given by Betty Larsen and Linda and Bruce Burr.



Monetary Gifts Toward Wreaths and Decorations



IN MEMORY OF	GIVEN BY
Velma Liskow, Melody's mother For the Advent wreath - the stand was given in Velma's memory (1988)	Rev. Dr. Robert and Melody Barrett and family
Evelyn Bedient	The Cantwell & Tucker Families
Gwendolyn Pugh	The Cantwell & Tucker Families
Leland & Verna Wood	David & Heather Rosa
Helen and Kay Hoffman	Their children, grandchildren, & great grandchildren
Richard Wickham	Marilyn Wickham