



**The First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York**

December 15, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

"No guest room for him." Luke 2:7

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

"He Came Down"

***Call to Worship – Lighting the Advent Candles**

Leader: Holy God of Joy, we rejoice in the reality of who you are.

People: We live within the joy of your love for us. Our contentment comes and goes.

Leader: Our happiness ebbs and flows. Our feelings depend upon our circumstances, our physical health, our brain chemistry.

Unison: But our joy is deeply rooted in our identity as your beloved children. And we give you thanks. Amen.

***Hymn**

"Away in a Manger"

#115

Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God, You have known us and searched us. Before we were ever born, You had a plan for us—a place in your family and room for us in eternity. So, You are our God. When we get so busy we don't take time to see You at work, forgive us. When we are too busy to see the possibilities, forgive us. When we remember to remember that You are Emmanuel, God with us, welcome us back. And thank You for the "walk together" moments we have. In Christ's Name, Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. (*Romans 8:1-2*)

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Choral Response**

"Gloria Patri"

#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, amen.*

***Sharing the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Anthem

"Come, Follow That Star"

by Price/Besig

Time for Small Disciples – Rainbow Bells

Prayer for Illumination

By Your Spirit, move us from where we are into Your Presence. Show us Your Truth as we open Your Word. In Christ's Name, Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. In that day you will say: "Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

#119

Message Reading – Luke 2:6-7

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Leader: God's Word for Today.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Today's Light, Tomorrow's Joy"

Pastor Jamie Tyrrell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Presentation of Gifts & Offerings

Call to the Offering

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

Offertory

*Choral Response

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

#606

*Prayer of Dedication

You have given us the gift of joy. And so we come together and we laugh and sing. We give and we are grateful for the desire to give. You are the great God, a wonder to know. Accept these gifts and our lives. We offer all to Your service. In Christ's Name, Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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

*Closing Hymn

"Joy to the World"

#134

*Charge to the Congregation

*Benediction

Postlude

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Thought for the Day: *"It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas, when its mighty Founder was a child himself."* —Charles Dickens

Leading us in worship this morning:

Pastor Jamie Tyrrell, Interim

Billy Meredith, Music Director

Deacon Mary Conklin, Liturgist

Lighting the Advent Wreath – Ryan & Val Sullivan

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 15, 2024**

Welcome! Isaiah declares: "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation." May we be nourished by God's gift of salvation as we worship.

(Prayer) Paul says: "Rejoice in the Lord always," but what if we don't feel joyful today? We will "present our requests to God" and wait for God's peace beyond understanding.

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).

We will be having a dish-to-pass Christmas Luncheon after church today. Please plan to join us for fun and fellowship!

The Andes Church Community Choir is performing a **Christmas Cantata** at the Andes Presbyterian Church tonight (Sunday, Dec 15) at 7pm.

Wreath orders are due tomorrow (Monday, Dec 16). Darcy will be away, so if you need to drop off wreath orders on Tuesday morning that will be okay.

Joe and Toni Weaver are holding an **open house** on Saturday, December 21 from 2pm to 8pm to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. All are welcome to drop by!

We are presenting our **Living Nativity** again this year on **Monday, Dec 23 from 5:30 to 7:30**. If you would like to help out there is a sign-up sheet outside the office. You can also speak with Joe and Gia Cantwell for details.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held on Christmas Eve (Tuesday) at 7pm.

The fourth Sunday of every month is a BOUNTIFUL GIVING SUNDAY. The Delhi Food Pantry accepts 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.

The **TRUSTEES** responsible for counting today are Alex Cantwell and Tom Leo. The Trustees responsible for counting on December 22 are Art Maxwell and Tom Little.

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 *"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God."* (Philippians 4:6). Paul reminds us that God is an abundant God – he is the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. Remember, that we are created in God's image and likeness. We, too, are made to be generous with all of our gifts as well. Placing our trust in God frees us from being a slave to possessions. It allows us to gratefully and generously share ourselves and our goods with others.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we may take time every day to show our gratitude to God, who is the ultimate giver of all gifts.

The **Per Capita** amount for 2024 has been set at \$45.90 per member.

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 12-8-2024</i>	46 - 42 in sanctuary + approx. 4 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,759.08*
General amount given week of 12-8-2024	\$3,814.80
General amount needed year-to-date	\$86,194.92
General amount given YTD as of 12-8-2024	\$90,722.51
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$336.54
Fuel Fund given week of 12-8-2024	\$390.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$16,490.46
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 12-8-2024	\$3,534.00
Kirk Receipts 12-1-24 to 12-7-24	\$2,464.80
Mission giving week of 12-8-2024	\$15.00
Mission giving YTD as of 12-8-2024	\$1,221.00
Apportionment Needed 2024	\$6,930.90
Apportionment received YTD as of 12-8-2024	\$2,084.30

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

SUNDAY December 15	9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Christmas Luncheon
MONDAY December 16	<i>Darcy Away / Wreath Orders Due</i> 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day 3:00 pm Girl Scouts
TUESDAY December 17	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations
WEDNESDAY December 18	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Gentle Yoga 5:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Trustees Meeting
THURSDAY December 19	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY December 20	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Shoppe Open 10:30 am Adult Ballet Class
SATURDAY December 21	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Shoppe Open 10:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY December 22	<i>Bountiful Giving Sunday</i> 9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship