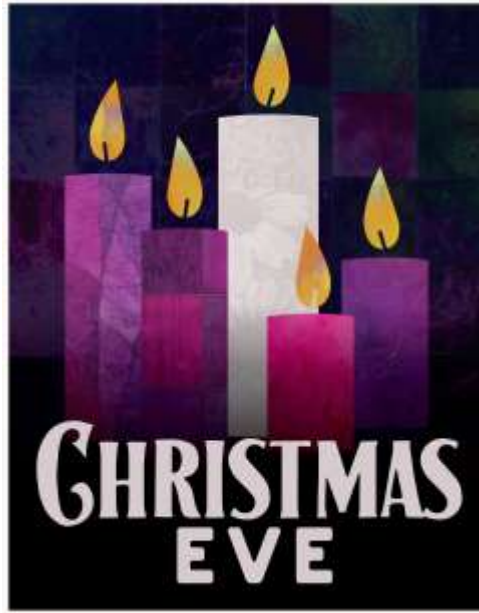


**First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York**

December 24, 2025

Christmas Eve

7:00 p.m.



Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Special Music

**You are invited to stand for the Call to Worship and the Opening Hymn, "Once in Royal David's City", "Angels We Have Heard on High," the Reading from the Gospel of John, and the passing of the light as we sing "Silent Night."*

Introit – Bell Choir

"Christmas Introit"

arr. by Stephenson

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

Pastor Jamie & Bessie Tyrrell

Pastor Jamie: Father, just as You sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus, help me to clear the path in my heart, too.

Bessie: Show each of us the distractions in our lives that are blocking us from being in your presence.

Pastor Jamie: As we light the candle of Hope, let us release all discouragement to Your loving care.

Bessie: As we light the candle of Peace, let us release all resentment and all anxiety. In the freedom of an unburdened heart, may You dwell richly in our hearts.

Pastor Jamie: As we light the candle of Joy, let us remember how we have met You, have served You and have Celebrated You in our lives.

Bessie: As we light the candle of Love, may we rejoice in Emmanuel, for You are now truly with us.

Pastor Jamie: As we light the Christ Candle, may Your light shine through all we have and all we are.

Unison: Lord, I await Your coming! As I celebrate Your birth, I look toward the day where I will see You face to face. I imagine what it will be like. Give me a heart, Lord, that looks for Your coming on a daily basis. Show me this evening how I need to be refined, purified, forgiven. Give me the strength to ask for forgiveness and to then change my ways. I am grateful that You are my God, that You have lived among us and by Your Spirit You are with us now.

***Opening Carol**

"Once in Royal David's City"

#140

Christmas Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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

First Lesson

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head. (Genesis 3)

Carol "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" verse 1 #88

Second Lesson

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed. (Genesis 22)

Carol "Joy to the World" verses 1 & 4 #134

Presentation of Christmas Gifts and Offerings

Call to the Offering

Offertory

Third Lesson

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior. (Isaiah 9)

Anthem "Joyful Tidings: A Christmas Medley" arr. by Nix

Fourth Lesson

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown. (Isaiah 11)

Carol "O Come, All Ye Faithful" verses 1, 2 & 3 #133

Fifth Lesson

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary. (St. Luke 1)

Carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" verse 1 #121

Sixth Lesson

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. (St. Luke 2)

Carol "What Child Is This" verses 1 & 3 #145

Seventh Lesson

The shepherds go to the manger. (St. Luke 2)

*Carol "Angels We Have Heard on High" #113

Eighth Lesson

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus. (St. Matthew 2)

Carol "We Three Kings of Orient Are" verses 1 & 5 #151

*Ninth Lesson

ST. JOHN UNFOLDS THE GREAT MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION (St. John 1)

*You are invited to stand for the reading from John

*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.

*Closing Carol "Silent Night, Holy Night!" #122

*Benediction

Postlude

CCLI License # 275648

*You may stand

Leading us in worship this evening:

Pastor Jamie Tyrrell, Interim

Billy Meredith, Music Director

Bessie Tyrrell, Liturgist

Thank you to all those who provided for our music tonight:

Special Music: The Gibson Family and Linda Malcolm

Bell Choir: Kathy Beveridge, Gia Cantwell, Diane Maxwell, Renee Maxwell, Susie Little, Tom Little, and Pastor Jamie Tyrrell

Chancel Choir: Ed Chytalo, Ed Goff, Nancy Haynes, Nancy Heimbuecher, Susie Little, Tom Little, Linda Malcolm, Art Maxwell, Renee Maxwell, and Helen Rosa

Note on the History of the Service: This service originated at Kings College, Cambridge. It was planned by Eric Milner White, who, at the age of thirty-four, had just been appointed Dean of King's. Breaking with tradition he wanted to introduce a service that was simple, yet involved both the college and the town.

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was first held on Christmas Eve 1918. It always opens with "Once in David's Royal City" and generally closes with Silent Night and the lighting of candles. Having been a military chaplain in the trenches of WW I, he sought to give voice to our common yearning for peace and healing of old wounds.

My father sang in the choir for this service three times in the early 1930's. He attended the neighboring College of Maudlen, also a part of Cambridge University. He introduced this service to the church I was raised in in 1950.



Poinsettias



| IN MEMORY OF | IN HONOR OF | GIVEN BY |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Karl Baier | | Betty Jean & Harry Bell |
| 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 |
| Joan L. Pawlikowski (Mom) | | Kathy Beveridge |
| Mr. & Mrs. Charles & Dorothy Burgin | | Mr. & Mrs. Matthew & Lorena Burgin |
| Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Donna Burgin | | Mr. & Mrs. Matthew & Lorena Burgin |
| Dorothy Smith | | Bonnie Fleming |
| Ida & Douglas Hume | | Margie Hume |
| Dr. Howard & Evelyn Dickson | | Margaret Jones |
| Madeline & Stanley Borow | | Kevin & Nancy Lee |
| Esther & Robert Lee | | Kevin & Nancy Lee |
| Abby Borow Ezero, MD | | Kevin & Nancy Lee |
| | Margie Hume | Tom & Barb Leo |
| Mabel & Frank Brown | | John & Gwenn Nealis |
| Lydia & Raymond Nealis | | John & Gwenn Nealis |
| Joe Rosa | | David & Heather Rosa |
| Bill & Ida Sanderson | | David & Heather Rosa |
| Dottie & Bob Wilklow | | David & Heather Rosa |
| Joseph & Gladys Rosa | | Helen Rosa |
| Joseph Rosa | | Helen Rosa |
| Lee & Verna Wood | | Helen Rosa |
| Jennie & Wilbur Doig | | Anne Valentine |
| Glenn M. Valentine | | Anne Valentine |



Wreath in the Choir Loft



| IN MEMORY OF | GIVEN BY |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Harry & Lucy Hebbard | Jane & Don Hymers |
| Alfred & Helen Hymers | |

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 | IN HONOR OF | GIVEN BY |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| | Our FPC Church Family... We miss you! | David & Nancy Althaus |
| Velma Liskow and Rev. Dr. Bob Barrett For the Advent wreath - the stand was given in Velma's memory (1988) | | Melody Barrett & Family |
| Evelyn & Bill Bedient | | In loving memory, the Cantwell Family: Gia, Joe, Megan, Jameson, Erica, Troy, Scarlett, Jones, Kyle, Gigi, Lily and Alex. |
| Gwendolyn & Hugh Pugh | | In loving memory, the Cantwell Family: Gia, Joe, Megan, Jameson, Erica, Troy, Scarlett, Jones, Kyle, Gigi, Lily and Alex. |
| Leland & Verna Wood | | David & Heather Rosa |
| Helen and Kay Hoffman | | Their children, grandchildren, & great grandchildren |
| Jim Doig | | Anne Valentine |