



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2021

5:30 pm and 11 pm

First Presbyterian Church



***The One who came, in a manger laid,
came for us the way to pave
that we'd be born again by grace
and one day see Him face to face.***

Mary Kay Glunt 2015

***O Come Let Us Adore Him
Christ the Lord!***

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Carols

**Bold items signify
congregational participation**

Readings from the New International Readers Version (NIRV)

❖ Please stand if you are able

Prelude

❖ **LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES**

❖ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Light of Light, shine in our hearts and renew our hope.

People: Joy to the world, Emmanuel has come.

Leader: Light of Light, shine in our hearts and grant us peace.

People: Joy to the world, Emmanuel has come.

Leader: Light of Light, shine in our hearts and bring us true joy.

People: Joy to the world, Emmanuel has come.

Leader: Light of Light, shine in our hearts and fill us with love.

People: Joy to the world, Emmanuel has come.

Candle Lighting

Tonight we light all five candles - the candles of hope, peace, joy, love, and finally, the Christ Candle, celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior. The candle of hope reminds us that in sending Christ, God sent hope to the earth. The candle of peace reminds us that peace will one day reign. The candle of joy is a reminder that we have been given eternal life and have no reason to be fearful. And the candle of love represents God's redeeming love for us, brought to earth in the form of a tiny child.

God of light, tonight we celebrate the birth of Jesus. We thank you for this, the most precious of Christmas gifts, and we ask that you keep the hope, peace, joy and love of this season in our hearts, now and throughout the coming year. Emmanuel- God is with us, now and forevermore. Amen.

FEASTING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

Pastor: On this silent night, God is with you!

People: God is also with you.

Pastor: On this holy night, God's Grace comes to us.

**People: Our hearts rejoice in his becoming one of us,
that we might become one with God.**

*Pastor: On this night of nights, the shadows of the world
melt away before God's Light.*

**People: We join the choirs of angels in singing to the
universe the good news of the birth of Jesus.**

Pastor: This is the night . . . the good news which is ours:

**ALL: Gloria! Gloria! In excelsis deo!
Creation joins in the angelic chorus of joy.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One born for us this night.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor: Holiness is who you are, God of Christmas, . . . mystery we call faith:

**ALL: Born in the shadows of night, Christ is our light;
dying on a rough cross, Christ is our life;
rising from a cold tomb, Christ is our hope;
returning to us once more,
Christ is your promise.**

Pastor: Pour out your Spirit upon us, . . . our blessed Savior. Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Feast

Prayer after Communion

Special Music (11 pm only) "Silent Night" Youth Chime Choir

Passing of the Light

*(Hold unlit candle at angle to lit candle to eliminate drips)
(Please stand after receiving the light)*

- ❖ **Benediction:** *We depart with the shepherds and wise men, pledging to carry forth the light of Christ and praising God. Please depart silently, leaving your candles and communion cups in the baskets at the door.*

***Thank you for joining us.
May your heart be always filled
with the joy of Christmas!***

Service liturgy © 2009 Kathie Wilkinson. Published with permission by Discipleship Ministries,
PO Box 340003; Nashville TN 37203-0003
Great Thanksgiving by Thom M. Shuman, LectionaryLiturgies.blogspot.com

Because of the prevalence of viruses, we are not passing the offering plates. However, they are located on the windowsills at the front of the church. Feel free to place your offerings in the plates during the offertory or as you enter or leave the service. You can also give using the Give Now button on our website, www.fpresbv.org or using the GiveNow app.

In addition to your regular or onetime support of the church, we will receive your Christmas Joy Offering. The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which assists retired ministers in need, and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Tonight, we will receive your offerings for this cherished, long-time ministry of the Presbyterian Church USA. Please mark your envelopes “Christmas Joy.”



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for joining us today as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We wish you a very merry Christmas and a new year filled with the knowledge of the Lord!

Online giving church: You may make online donations with the GivePlus website and mobile app. Go to our website at www.fpresbv.org and check it out!

Worship Online: Our worship streams live at Facebook.com/FirstPresBV and on YouTube.com, First Presbyterian Belle Vernon. We are now on Zoom, too! Call the church office or go to our website to get login information. Please give us feedback to help our streams be the best they can be.

OFFERINGS: Due to COVID, we cannot pass the offering plate. The offering plates are located at the front on the windowsills. Thank you for your continued support of our ministries and the outreach of FPC.

NEW YEARS EVE POTLUCK: Join us on New Year's Eve at 5 pm and bring your favorite covered dish and beverage and we will provide lemonade, coffee, and water.

BIBLE STUDY: Bible Study will resume on January 4th in person with the study "Twelve Women of the Bible. **NEED A BOOK?** Beginning January 4th our Tuesday Bible study (2 pm in person, 6 pm Zoom) will be studying *Twelve Women Of The Bible: Life Changing Stories For Women Today*. The study guide is \$8.99. You can order on Amazon.com or Christianbook.com. If you want the office to order your copy, please let us know as soon as possible so we can get them in time for the first session. See Pastor Mary Kay for more information. All are invited. Invite your friends!

The church office will be closed on Monday, December 27 for the Christmas Holiday. Pastor will be available on her cell phone at 724-243-2871.





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

501 Fayette Avenue, Rostraver Twp., PA 15012

Church Offices: 511 Fayette Avenue

Office Hours: M - F: 9:00 to 1:00

Church Phone: 724- 929-7616 **Fax:** 724-929-0209

Pastor's Cell Phone: 724-243-2871

Web: www.fpresbv.org **e-mail:** office@fpresbv.org

Pastor:	Mary Kay Glunt	243-2871
Clerk of Session:	Sharon Zunic	929-4463
Church Secretary:	Natalie Brewer	929-7616
Chairman of Deacons:	Susan Aten	929-6406
Head Usher:	Bill Callaway	929-5176
Organist/Choir Director:	Donna Santoro	929-9401
Custodian:	Patty Gillon	929-7616
H. O. A:	Linda Aten	929-6406

E L D E R S

Class of 2021

Ray Helster*
Nancy Komlos*

Class of 2022

Natalie Brewer
Dee Hepple
Mike Moravec

Class of 2023

Sharon Zunic
Jane Bonari
Mary Beth Burkley

D E A C O N S

Class of 2021

Diane Boatman*
Janet Garlits
Judy Latchem

Class of 2022

Susan Aten
Anne McCorkle
Kerry McCorkle
Barb Peters

Class of 2023

Marguerite Patterson
Dennis Peters
Patty Gillon
Eileen Kunca