

The First Presbyterian Church

16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301-2487
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www.firstpresby.com

Pastor:

Dr. William G. McCoy

Ministers:

All members of the congregation



The Celebration of Worship The First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

10:30 AM

Worship is broadcast at 11 AM on WCHS-580AM

A warm welcome is extended to all who worship here today.
Large print hymnals, Bibles, hearing devices,
and information about child care are available from any usher.



If your hearing aid has a button for telephone use, turn it on now
to receive sound directly to your hearing aid.

All children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.
Clipboards, children's Bibles and books to borrow during worship are located at the entrances.

The asterisks (*) invite you to stand in body or in spirit.

We Gather

TIME FOR PREPARATION

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Jeremiah 33:14-16

PRELUDE

How Great Thou Art Christmas Prelude
Paula Legge, organ

Janet Linker

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

We Praise God

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Moses Family

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill McCoy

*HYMN OF PRAISE 82 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus HYFRYDOL

*PRAYER OF ADORATION Bob Newman

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Ginna Taylor

God of the loving heart, we confess before You those places in our hearts where we have refused You entrance: people we have refused to love; habits we never get around to changing; good things we have left undone; and ways in which we hurt You, ourselves, and others. Come to us in the light of Christ, that we may discover new ways to live as Christ finds a home among us.

Please continue to pray silently.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WELCOME AND CELEBRATION OF FRIENDSHIP Bill McCoy

Please sign the friendship pad placed at pew's end, so you may greet each other by name.

*PASSING THE PEACE (Children in grades 1-5 are dismissed to Children's Bible Study.)

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*HYMN 136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain GO TELL IT

We Declare our Faith

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed Bob Newman

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. ,

And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN 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.*

We Give Thanks to God

OFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE

Offertory Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying J. S. Bach

*Doxology

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Lord, You have begun a good work in us, and we are grateful. Shape us, O God, so that our lives may be consistent with Your intent. Shape what we bring as our offerings to suit Your pleasure, and fashion them to fit Your design. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Word is Proclaimed

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON	Psalm 25:1-10; Pew Bible, OT, p. 502	Ken Tolley
EPISTLE LESSON	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Pew Bible, NT, p. 204	
GOSPEL LESSON	Matthew 13:10-16; Pew Bible, NT, p. 14	Bill McCoy
SERMON	WE WOULD SEE JESUS: Longing and Waiting	Bill McCoy
PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION	Come Just As You Are	Joseph Sabolick

Come just as you are. Hear the Spi - rit call.

Come just as you are. Come and see. come re-ceive, come and live for - ev - er!

Life ev - er - last - ing, and strength for to - day,

Taste the Liv - ing Wa - ter and nev - er thirst a - gain,

Come just as you are. Hear the Spir - it call.

Come just as you are. Come and see. come re-ceive. come and live for - ev - er!

Come and see. come re-ceive. come and live for - ev - er - more.

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SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Salutation: The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Sursum Corda: Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Sanctus:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Hosts!
 Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - - - ry.
 Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord Most High.

Eucharistic Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Bob Newman

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.

Distribution of the Elements

(Gluten-free option is available at each station.)

Anthem for Communion

How Far Is It to Bethlehem?

Chesterton, arr. Parker, Shaw

*How far is it to Bethlehem? Not very far. Shall we find the stable room lit by a star?
 Can we see the Little Child? Is He within? If we lift the wooden latch, may we go in?
 May we stroke the creatures there, ox, ass or sheep? May we peep like them and see Jesus asleep?
 If we touch His tiny hand, will He awake? Will He know we've come so far just for His sake?
 God in His mother's arms, babes in the byre, sleep as they sleep who find their heart's desire.*

The Geneva Choir

*CONCLUDING HYMN 158

Born in the Night, Mary's Child

MARY'S CHILD

*INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND BENEDICTION

Bill McCoy

*HYMN OF PARTING

HYMN 106, v. 1

*Prepare the way, O Zion, Your Christ is drawing near!
 Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
 Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
 O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name!*

*POSTLUDE

Masters in This Hall
 Paula Legge, organ

Ancient French Christmas Carol

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In worship leadership last Sunday: We thank Alicia Raab for chiming the Trinity and Amelia Keller and Skye McCain for serving as acolytes during worship November 25.

Restrooms and water fountains are found through the double doors to the left of the chancel; please accompany children.

Childcare: Nursery and Rooms 112 and 114

Elder visitation: Terry Potesta, Taylor Raab, Karen Reed

Greeters today: Raegan Elmore, Eddie and Joyce Baker, Kristen Harrison

We are thankful for the generous gifts given to the Preschool Program.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO KEEP THIS BULLETIN OR DROP IT IN THE RECYCLING BOX AS YOU EXIT. THANK YOU!

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