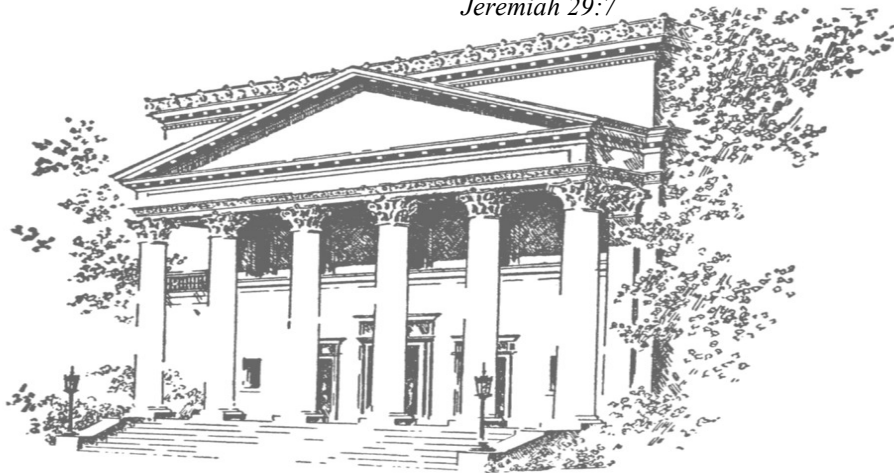


*Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...
And pray to the Lord on its behalf*

Jeremiah 29:7



First Presbyterian Church

16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301-2487
304/343-8961
www.firstpresby.com

Pastor:
The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers

Ministers:
All members of the congregation

The Worship of Our Lord Second Sunday of Christmas January 2, 2022

Welcome to First Presby! We are grateful you chose to worship with us today. Please take a moment to sign in via the Friendship Pads located at the end of the pews. We use this information for contact tracing and to keep in touch about church events. We hope you will take a moment to read the electronic newsletter "First Presby Press" and the weekly Green Sheet. Please share news and notes with your friends and neighbors. Thank you!

REFLECTION FOR WORSHIP

The following scriptures and reflection are provided for silent Meditation during the Prelude

Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-2

one of the great liabilities of life is that all too many people find themselves living amid a great period of social change, and yet they fail to develop the new attitudes, the new mental responses, that the new situation demands. They end up sleeping through a revolution.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

* indicates congregation standing, as able

PRELUDE Dance on "We Three Kings" arr. John A. Stallsmith

WELCOME Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Arise, Shine! Your light has come!

All: Arise, shine! The glory of the Lord has appeared among us!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #349 "Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us WACHET AUF

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison) Pastor Myers

One: Isaiah proclaims: Darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and God's glory will appear over you.

All: Let us arise, seek God's forgiveness, and follow the Light as we pray together!

God of wonder, God of night,
You are holy light in dark places;
You are holy darkness when all is too bright.

Forgive us, O God, when we turn away from your light:
when we follow our own ambitions instead of your call,
when we respond to your presence with fear rather than joy.
Forgive us, O God,
when we do not comprehend the depth of your Christmas love,
the meaning of your powerful story,
or the call you place on each of our lives.
Forgive us, O God,
and by your forgiveness, empower us to follow the star once more.

(Silence is kept for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come! The glory of God has risen upon us. Tell the good news throughout the earth! In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: The saving grace of Jesus Christ is for all! Thanks be to God!

SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning* (vss. 1 & 4) MORNING STAR
*Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the east, the horizons adorning, Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*

*Vainly we offer each ample oblation, Vainly with gifts would His favor secure;
Richer by far is the heart's adoration, Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6 (Page 690)

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*What star is this, with beams so bright,
More lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king,
Glad tidings of our God to bring.*

*'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed,
"From Jacob shall a star proceed;"
And lo! The eastern sages stand
To read in heaven the Lord's command.*

*While outward signs the star displays,
An inward light the Lord conveys
And urges them, with tender might,
To seek the giver of the light.*

*O Jesus, while the star of grace
Impels us on to seek your face,
Let not our slothful hearts refuse
The guidance of your light to use.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-2 (Page 2)

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

(Children in grades 1-5 are dismissed to Children's Church in Room E-117 or they may remain in the sanctuary with their parents.)

SERMON "Awake and Arise!" Pastor Myers

*HYMN #744 Arise, Your Light Is Come! FESTAL SONG

JOYS AND CONCERNS

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD Pastor Myers
Offertory Morceau No. 16 J.L. Battmann

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (insert) Pastor Myers

Invitation to the Lord's Table
The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving
The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

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.

The Words of Institution
Sharing the Bread and the Cup

This morning we share the bread and the cup together, gathered and scattered, united in Christ at the Table.

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion (unison)
Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #151 We Three Kings of Orient Are (vss. 1 & 5) KINGS OF ORIENT

*BENEDICTION Pastor Myers

POSTLUDE Excerpt from "L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2" Georges Bizet, arr. Stewart Landon

A warm welcome is extended to all who worship today.
May the gift of worship we offer today honor God and serve as a blessing to you.
Worship is broadcast at 11 AM on WCHS-580AM
Worship is also available on our YouTube channel

After the Time with Children, children ages 4 through grade 5 are invited to children's church. Your teachers will be available to walk your children to their classroom. Pick up is in room E-117 after the worship service. Our volunteers are required to be vaccinated and wear masks during their time with your children. All children are also welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.

WORSHIP LEADERS

10:30 a.m.

The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers

THE MUSIC TODAY

10:30 a.m.

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music and Organist

ALSO SERVING TODAY

Chiming the Trinity: David Cottrell
Greeters:

Sound: David Cottrell and Byron Goodew
Custodial Services: David Feibelmann

WORSHIP NOTES

Please remember that we worship every Sunday Sabbath Day, and that is available via YouTube and the radio broadcast. Thank you for connecting for worship with First Presby.

Please remember to comply with the process for in-person, onsite worship, including masks for all. More information can be found at www.firstpresby.com.

Staff of First Presbyterian Church

William Myers, Pastor/Head of Staff
Christina Belcher, Assist. Director of the Preschool
Emily Burdette, Office Manager
Jayson Keeton, Organist & Director of Music
Tim Kidd, Custodian

Alfred Montgomery, Kitchen Manager
John Pettry, Facilities Manager
Anne Moses, Director of the Preschool
Jenny Pitchford, Financial Services Manager
Bernard Wooten, Preschool Custodian