



WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN WINCHESTER

Youth Led Christmas Eve Service • December 24, 2025 7:00 PM

When this symbol (✠) precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

Video “Hope is Born”

Special Music “Mary Did You Know” Caroline Aikens

Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene

Welcome and Announcements Brynn Washburn

Introit “Oh Holy Night” Grace Terzian

Aldolphe Adam

Lighting of Advent Candles Ella Morrison, lighting Blake Morrison, reading

Call to Worship Brogan Rau, reading Charlotte Bruening, author

We come to worship on a day that has been holy for generations

Prepare our hearts for this awaited day

Listen to the spirit calling us to this peaceful place

We rejoice together in the house of the Lord

We bask in the wonder and excitement of this holiday season

Fill our hearts with hope and joy

We gather to celebrate this good news

Unite us to worship on this holy night

Special Music “Twas in the Moon of Wintertime” Ella Morrison and Lily Peterson

French folk melody

Prayer of Invocation: Ethan Judd

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✠ **Hymn:** “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord

2 True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Very God, begotten, not created!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord

3 Sing, choirs of angels;
sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all
glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!

✠ **Hymn: “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”**

**1 Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels since, “Glory to the newborn king!”**

**3 Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”**

Call to Confession Jillian Lineweaver, reading Charlotte Bruening, author

Lord, we know that we fall short of your glory time and time again.

**Search our hearts,
Forgive our wrongdoings,
Let your mercy wash over us.**

We forget the joy of being in your presence, and often turn towards our own desires.

**Hear our cries,
Allow our hearts and souls to be renewed,
Remind us that your grace is enough.**

We rush through our days, forgetting that this is the time you have called us to be in.

**Slow us down in this busy season,
Forgive and heal us,
Turn our hearts towards You.**

We treat others selfishly instead of with Your unconditional love.

**Help us rejoice in your glory,
Allow your mercy to shine through us,
So that we can be lights to others.**

Prayer of Confession Leah Scully, reading Brooklyn Campbell, author

We confess that we have been vain and have lost our patience and control, thus depriving others of God’s glory

Almighty God, grant us renewing grace, washing us clean from our sinful ways.

We acknowledge our lack of discipleship during the holiday season and our forgetfulness about the true cost of the gospel

Almighty God, grant us renewing grace, washing us clean from our sinful ways.

We humbly confess that our self-interest has consumed our being and that serving others has fallen astray from our priorities

Almighty God, grant us renewing grace, washing us clean from our sinful ways.

We admit to our careless and judgemental words about other, failing to give true compassion in our actions and everyday lives

Almighty God, grant us renewing grace, washing us clean from our sinful ways.

Eternal God, we have laid our sins before you. Free us from the chains holding us back from being disciples of your word. It is through your sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins that we ask you this. Descend your spirit among us in this time of worship, and help us to remember that although the grass may wither, and flowers may fall, your word will endure forever. **Amen**

Time of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Brynlee Griffith, reading Brooklyn Campbell, author

✠ **Hymn:** “The First Noel”

**1 The first noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in
Fields as they lay, in fields where they
Lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel.**

**3 And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the start wherever it went.
Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel.**

**2 They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel.**

Scripture Readings:

Penelope Peterson *Luke 2: 1-7*, Trevor Clark *Luke 2: 8-14*, Arden Willingham *Luke 2: 15-20*

Brass Band: “Away In A Manger”

arr. Jeff D Anderson

Sermon: “Joy in Emmanuel because Jesus is Truly With Us” by Peter Warner

Special Music: “Christmas Lullaby” Lily Peterson Avery Miller, accompanist

by Jason Robert Brown

Prayer by Brooklyn Campbell

Offering: Jenna Bowman

Offerings for tonight’s service will go to Blue Ridge Hospice. Checks can be made out to First Presbyterian Church or, use the QR code on the wall to donate online! If using PayPal, please designate “Youth Service” in the comment section. Thank you for your generosity!

Offertory: “It’s Christmas” Youth Praise Band

Chris Tomlin & Ed Cash

Prayer of Dedication: Seamus Rau

Special Music: “Nocturne op. 9-2” Lily Robb

Chopin

Lighting of the Christmas Candles: Gavin Decker

Please join in the responsive reading.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

We have beheld his glory. Alleluia!

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Alleluia!

A candle is but one small light. One small light in a dark room will only light so much of it. In the same way, one little baby born in a stable went unnoticed by the rest of the city – but those who were called to that stable took the light they witnessed back into the world with them. So let us take a small piece of this light in our hearts. Let us show it to others so we can make it grow. Jesus began as one small light in a dark stable in a dark town. He brought light into our lives. God, let us take that light now. Amen.

Please take up your candles and be ready to accept and share the light with those around you.

Let us sing together “Silent Night.”

✦ **Hymn:** “Silent Night”

1 Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
‘Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

2 Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: “Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.”

3 Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love’s pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Benediction: Peter Warner

Accompanist:

Amy Bowman

Ushers:

Addy Decker, Cooper Kuhn, Claire Swiger, Bibi Willingham

Bulletin Artwork:

Created by Sydney Volkmann

Hot Chocolate Station:

Elliot Clark, Henry Terizan, Katie Terzian, Molly Peterson, Winnie Peterson, Brayden Washburn, Brock Washburn, Jaclyn Washburn

Youth Praise Band: Directed by Amy Bowman

Caroline Aikens, Jenna Bowman, Brynlee Griffith, Ethan Judd, Ella Morrison,
Lily Peterson, Penelope Peterson, Winnie Peterson, Naomi Pifer, Grace Terzian, Brynn Washburn

Youth Brass Band: Directed by Amy Bowman

Kyle Bowman, Gabriel Dellinger, Xander Dellinger, Ellie Miller, Chase Piasecki, Brogan Rau, Seamus Rau

*Special thanks to Amy Bowman for accompanying our hymns, Shaun Galang for running AV tonight,
and Barry Morrison for playing for the Youth Praise Band.*

Special thanks to all the adults involved in the lives of our youth, especially our Sunday School Teachers, Dana Carlton, Bob Cleaver, Sandy Cleaver, Pam Hughes, Christy Judd, Patti Keeton, Dennis Painter, Rossi Selzer, Charles Uphaus, Jennifer Volkmann, Courtney Warner, John Warner and all of our Youth Fellowship volunteers.

For information about Youth ministry at First Presbyterian Church,
visit www.fpcwinc.org or email colleen@fpcwinc.org

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Thy children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)

We invite you to make First Presbyterian Church your spiritual home.

Pastor: The Rev. Amanda Maguire Thomas amanda@fpcwinc.org



Connect with us!

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The back cover of this bulletin features a snowflake coloring page. We invite you to take this page home and decorate it, celebrating the many unique ways we each add beauty to our community.

