

First Presbyterian Church

Founded
July 16, 1788

Organized
September 7, 1800



Winchester, Virginia

540-662-3824

fpcwinc.org

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN WINCHESTER

1st Sunday of Christmas • December 29, 2024 11:00 AM

When this symbol (⌄) precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.
Ushers collect blue prayer requests during the first hymn.

Worship Leaders Rev. Amanda Maguire Thomas Rev. Michael Hafele

The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as People of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Cold December Flies Away”

John Ferguson, Wilbur Held

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord, all of creation!

God is exalted in heaven and earth.

In sun and moon and shining stars,

God is exalted in heaven and earth.

In sea creatures, land beasts, and flying birds,

God is exalted in heaven and earth.

From young to old, from princes to peasants,

God is exalted in heaven and earth.

Raise up your horns, lift up your voice,

for God is exalted in heaven and earth! Hallelujah!

⌄ HYMN 119

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

⌄ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who guides and nurtures, we remember that in Jesus Christ you modeled what it means to be fully human. Thank you for the unwritten years of Jesus’ life— the growth that happened in private, the lessons learned in secret, the burgeoning favor and hidden treasure. We admit that we have sometimes stalled in our own journey and growth in faith as we pay attention to other areas of life and dismiss our own nurture. Grant us your grace in this time of worship. Help us welcome and receive the gift of slow growth, that we might be shaped, formed, and reformed in your likeness. Amen. *Silence for personal confession*

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

GLORIA PATRI [Hymn 581]

God Speaks to Us in Scripture, Preaching, and Song

⌄ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

Friends, you are encouraged to pass the peace.

Children Kindergarten and younger may leave for Wee One’s Worship in Room 107.

SCRIPTURE *Luke 2:41-52*

SERMON *“Tween Jesus”* by the Rev. Michael Hafele

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The People of God Respond in Faith

✠ **HYMN 132**

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

IN DULCI JUBILO

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

[...the petitions conclude...] And now as Christ taught us, we are bold to pray... 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 OFFERING OF GIFTS AND TITHES

Friends, our giving is an act of gratitude for what God has given us. Just as we present our words in liturgy, song, and prayer to God, we present a portion of the fruit of our work to God.

OFFERTORY *“Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow”* MiKayla Hatfield, soloist African American spiritual

✠ **THE DOXOLOGY, HYMN 606, AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

The People Depart to Serve

✠ **HYMN 134**

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Wilbur Held

USHERS

Barb Strite, Charles and Kathy Uphaus, Mark Schroeder

Watts Week FPC Feb. 8th – 15th

It's that time again to think about how we can serve Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter (WATTS)! We are hosting February 8–15, and we will need volunteers, meals, food, and donors. Mark your calendars and keep an eye out for the Sign-Up Genius, which will be posted on the homepage of fpcwinc.org. Sunday morning sign ups will be Jan 5, 12, 19!

WATTS Prep on January 26th!

We need your help to prepare for WATTS week! Join us during Sunday School on January 26th as we get ready for this important ministry. It's a great way to serve together and make a difference. We'll be organizing and preparing materials, and your hands and hearts will make all the difference!

One Service Carol-Sing Jan 5th

Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 11 AM for a special service featuring a carol sing—bring your favorite carols to share! Please note: there will be no Sunday School. Before worship, the Congregational Life Council invites you to bring leftover desserts to share. Tables will be set up in the Gathering Hall. We look forward to seeing you there!

Office Announcements

- If you've recently made or plan to make a stock transfer or IRA distribution, please notify Jennifer in the church office to ensure your gift is credited accurately.
- Offering envelopes are available in the Gathering Hall on the table below the name tags.
- If you haven't turned in your pledge card yet, please do so soon. Cards are in the pews and common areas.
- 2024 offerings need to be dropped off at the church office by Dec. 31 at noon or postmarked by Dec. 31 in order to be included in your '24 Tax Statements.
- All 2024 expense reimbursements must be submitted to the office by Friday, January 3.

CCAP | Thank you!

Thanks to the generous members of the First Presbyterian Church the holidays will shine brighter for the people who are served by CCAP. Your generosity this holiday season was unmatched as well as throughout the year. Please remember that need does not stop at Christmas so I look forward to seeing your donations in the blue bins throughout 2025. May you all have a blessed Christmas.

- Lynn McCauley, CCAP Rep.

Let's Be Friends

You can find us on Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram at [@fpcwinc](https://www.instagram.com/fpcwinc). We'd love for you to like our Facebook page or leave a review on Google to help others find us!

Mission Trip Announcement

Next summer, we'll be returning to New Bern, NC, for our Mission Trip, and the registration deadline is February 14th. This trip is open to all rising 9th graders and up, and chaperones must be 21 or older. We are in need of chaperones, and if you're interested in attending as one, the church will provide a full scholarship. There will also be fundraising opportunities to help cover some of the trip costs. To register, a \$100 deposit is required for each youth participant. If you're interested in attending, please let me know!