

First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro

Music Leader: Moona Yu; Elder of the Month: Meg Mayo

Pastor: Rev. Meg Jackson Clark

*All are invited to rise in body or spirit.

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Moona Yu

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meg Mayo

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Behold, I give you good tidings of great joy; Christ the Lord has been born to us.

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news.

Break forth together into singing, for the Lord has comforted his people.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who live in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined.

The prophets' promises are made flesh before the eyes of all nations.

All the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth, peace and goodwill among all!

*HYMN 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Congregation

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Carla Pinkney & Paul Smith

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of blessing,

Forgive us for looking back at failures and disappointments,
rather than looking forward to what may yet be.

Forgive us when we fail to trust you to bring us consolation,
or grow impatient waiting for you.

Forgive us for refusing your blessing in Christ,
and for withholding our blessing from others.

Open our hearts to your Holy Spirit, and help us to stay faithful.

Open our eyes to see your salvation.

(Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God so loved the world that God gave his only Son,

that whoever believes in him may not perish, but have eternal life.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

You are invited to greet one another saying "The Peace of Christ be with you," or responding "and also with you".

*581 GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Meg Mayo

Scripture

Isaiah 52:7-10

(p. 683, Pew Bible)

Scripture

Luke 2:22-32

(p. 59, Pew Bible)

Sermon

Song of Simeon

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (p. 34, Hymnal)

Nicene Creed

Congregation

*HYMN 140

Once in Royal David's City

Congregation

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Moona Yu

*606 DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of mystery and love,

help us move from the sweet experience of the birth of the Christ Child

into the reality of the powerful witness of Jesus who will be Messiah for us all.

Remind us again that this season is not only about presents, feasts and family;

it is about preparing us-your people-for a mission and ministry

of hope and peace for this aching and angry world.

Empower us to be people of great faith, placing our trust in you,

believing that peace is not only possible,

it truly can happen if we will work with you and with one another.

As we have spoken, in our hearts and with our voices,

our concerns for those near and dear to us,

remind us that you hear these prayers and you respond with love to each one.

We pray for one another, for our church and our community,

for our nation and our world, for all earth's people and creatures,

that we may be those who promote peace.

Give us courage and strength.

Help us reach across areas that divide,

offering compassionate assistance wherever it is needed.

(We keep silence as we lift up in prayer all who are on our hearts.)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (p. 35, Hymnal)

***HYMN 545**

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

Congregation

***BENEDICTION**

And all God's children say...**Alleluia! Amen!**

POSTLUDE

Moona Yu

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the birthday of Mary Bowers by Buzz Bowers.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you!

Thanks to all of you for your generosity in supporting our missions and ministry, as well as for your gracious Christmas gifts to your pastor and her family! We are grateful for you.

Coming Up:

Saturday, January 4, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Our day to host **Our Father's Kitchen**

Sunday, January 5, 12 Noon Called Session Meeting

Sunday, January 12 Ordination of Elders

&

12 Noon Pizza with the Pastor - if you are new to the Presbyterian Church or to First Presbyterian, please join us to learn more about our church. RSVP to fpcgreensboroga@gmail.com.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Carol McGahee

Chuck Thorp

Colin Clark

David Blough

Fran & Duane Blough

Hal Lipsey

Hayley Burns

James Collins

Jane Klaviter

Jay Mayo

Jimmy Moore

Jo Ann Nelson

Johnnie Satterfield

Julia Russell

Nancy Rabun

Rayne Ann Wood

Sandy Simon

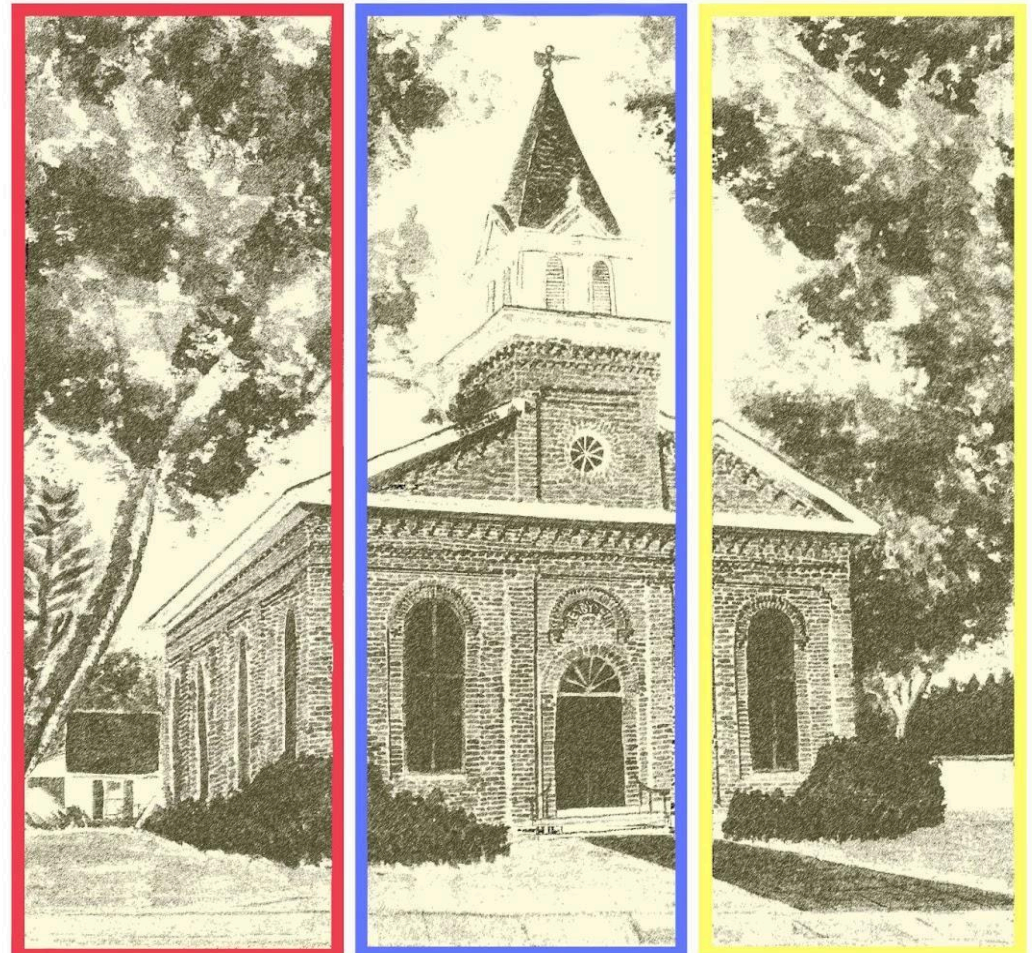
Nation & World Leaders

People of Israel & Palestine

Ukrainian People

Veterans & Military Members

Each week we pray for one of our church's families. This week we offer prayers for: *Verley Dotson*



Welcome to First Presbyterian!

We are a historic, mission-minded church with Christ-centered, traditional, and relevant worship, eager to include everyone in our church family.

Life Goes Better with Church!

December 29, 2024

First Sunday of Christmas