



The First Presbyterian Church

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

Pastors:

Dr. William G. McCoy
Dr. James W. Roberts

Ministers:

All members
of the congregation

The Celebration of Worship 2nd Sunday of Advent Membership Sunday

December 4, 2011

8:45 and 11:00 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 and hearing devices, as well as information about child care and other church programs are available from any usher.

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 if it is comfortable for you to do so.

We Gather

TIME FOR PREPARATION

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Isaiah 40:1-5

VOLUNTARY

Blow, Ye Winds, Softly
Fred Gaul, organist

Ruth Keys Kennerly

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

We Praise God

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Members of "the class" 8:45
Members of "Transitions Class" 11:00

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill McCoy

*HYMN OF PRAISE 2

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Jim Roberts

*RESPONSE

Emmanuel

Bob McGee

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el, His name is called Em - man - u - el. God with us, re-vealed in us. His name is called Em - man - u - el.

© 1976 C.A. Music
Used by permission. CCLI license #2580656

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Barbara Hopta

Forgive us, Lord, for times when we, like Zechariah, fail to recognize Your presence in others.
Forgive us when we rely only on what we know to be true, rather than on Your revelations.
Help us, we pray, to stay open and receptive to You.

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.
Visitors are invited to wear the button found in the friendship pad.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Church Growth Committee

(Children may come forward for the baptism.)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

For Lewis Wayne Stevens, son of Elise and Frank Stevens.

Leader: Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye:
Hide me, hide me in the shadow of Thy wings.

People:

Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of the eye: *Fine*
hide me, hide me in the sha - dow of Thy wings.

Leader: Keep me,

People:

Keep me,

Leader: Hide me;

People:

Hide me;

Welcome by congregation

Lewis, with joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church.
As we are all one in Christ, we promise to love, cherish and support you, to share
the good news of the Gospel with you, and to help you to know and follow Christ.

*PASSING THE PEACE

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

*HYMN 507

I Come with Joy

DOVE OF PEACE

We Declare our Faith

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Barbara Hopta

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 579

*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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jim Roberts

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.

OFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE

Offertory

In A Stable Bare

Lani Smith

*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.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Barbara Hopta

God, You have blessed us beyond all deserving. Use us and our gifts to bless others, we pray, in
ways that are pleasing to You, that we might make a difference for good, according to Your plan.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Word is Proclaimed

ANTHEM (11:00)

Good King Wenceslas

arr. David Willcocks

Good King Wenceslas looked out on the Feast of Stephen, when the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even. Brightly shone the moon that night, though the frost was cruel, when a poor man came in sight gathering winter fuel.

“Hither, page, and stand by me if thou know’st it telling, yonder peasant, who is he? Where and what his dwelling?”

“Sire, he lives a good league hence, underneath the mountain, right against the forest fence, by St. Agnes’ fountain.”

“Bring me flesh and bring me wine. Bring me pinelogs hither. Thou and I will see him dine when we bear them thither.” Page and monarch, forth they went, forth they went together though the rude wind’s wild lament and the bitter weather.

“Sire, the night is darker now and the wind blows stronger. Fails my heart, I know not how. I can go no longer.”

“Mark my footsteps, good my page. Tread thou in them boldly. Thou shalt find the winter’s rage freeze thy blood less coldly.”

In his master’s steps he trod where the snow lay dinted. Heat was in the very sod which the saint had printed.

Therefore, Christian men, be sure, wealth or rank possessing: Ye who now will bless the poor shall yourselves find blessing.

The Geneva Choir

SCRIPTURE READING	Luke 1:5-20, Pew Bible, NT, p. 56	Bill McCoy
SERMON	THE SCANDAL OF SPECIFICITY: Priestly Scandal	Bill McCoy
*CONCLUDING HYMN 25	Away in a Manger	MUELLER
*INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND BLESSING		Bill McCoy
*HYMN OF PARTING		HYMN 13

*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 that came in God’s most holy name!*

*VOLUNTARY	Jubilate Amen Fred Gaul, organist	Chester Nordman
------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------

The asterisks (*) invite you to stand if it is comfortable for you to do so.
Reminder: please return your hearing devices at the end of the service this morning.

.....

• *In worship leadership last Sunday:* We thank LOGOS participants Ruth Odin and Taylor Hightower for chiming the Trinity to begin our worship services last Sunday, November 27.

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

• *Childcare:* Nursery and Rooms 113 and 114

• *Elder Visitation:* Donna Noland, Terry Potesta, Terry Raab, Bill Raney

• *Greeters today are:* Mary Craig, Barbara Gessner, Mark Holmes, Marty Martin

•

• PLEASE DROP THIS BULLETIN IN THE RECYCLING BOX AS YOU EXIT. THANK YOU!

.....