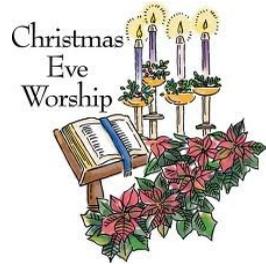


THE NEED TO KNOW COLUMN



Carols and Candlelight Service

December 24, 2016

6:00 p.m.

Flowers in the sanctuary today are given by George and Pat Venner.

Today's Schedule

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship—Choir Leading Lessons and Carols at both services
- 9:30 a.m. - Alleluia Singers (Children's S.S. Class begins at 9:55.)
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages
- 12:30 p.m. - Youth Council Meeting

Monday

- 7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers Rehearsal

Wednesday Night Live is on Christmas Break (will resume January 11, 2016)

Saturday

- 6:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

The Church office will be CLOSED for Christmas on December 23 and December 26

Next Sunday—December 25

- 10:15 a.m. - Refreshments and Fellowship in the hall near the old kitchen
- 11:00 a.m. - Combined Christmas Day Service

We are still receiving **commitments for 2017**. A blank financial card and time/talent commitment folder is available in each pew in the pew rack nearest the center aisle. You may place them in the offering plate during the Reception of Tithes and Offerings.

THOSE WHO SERVE

Harry C. Meissner—Interim Pastor
Casey McCollough—Director of Music
B. J. Mauldin—Organist/Keyboard Musician
Renee Stormer—Administrative Assistant
Thomas G. Wilbanks—Pastor Emeritus



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1028 South Belt line
Mesquite, Texas 75149

972-285-5602 www.fpcmesquite.org

December 18, 2016

4th Sunday of Advent

8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

We hope you find a welcome here worthy of the gracious God we serve. Conventions in this bulletin include: an asterisk () invites you to stand, as health allows, material printed in **bold** is for the congregation to sing or say, a plus sign (+) indicates 11:00 only, and material printed in italics may provide some helpful information. Large print hymnals or music sheets are available from an usher.*

VOLUNTARY

The First Noel

arr. David Lasky

STRIKING THE HOUR OF WORSHIP

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Philippians 1:2, Isaiah 7:14

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And also with you.

Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

*HYMN 140

Once in Royal David's City

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Four lights make a circle to make the wreath complete.

Surround us with your brightness, O Savior sent from God.

The ancient words of the prophets ring in our ears and enlighten our minds.

Surround us with your brightness, O Savior sent from God.

Christ's birth brings joy to people all around the world and fills the spheres above with light.

Surround us with your brightness, O Savior sent from God.

All beginnings and endings in life can be found in the radiant face of this baby born in Bethlehem.

Surround us with your brightness, O Savior sent from God.

In his light we see light, and our spirits are made whole.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

(All singing as the candles are lit:)

**Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the King.**

God of grace, you chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Savior. Now fill us with your grace, that with her, we may rejoice in your salvation, and in all things embrace your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Chelsea Alvarado

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS #

Please find and sign the Registration of Attendance pad and pass it to others on the same pew, so that we may have a record of your attendance at this service. If you are visiting today, we hope you will provide contact information, especially your email address, so that we may share more about the program and activities of this congregation.

*HYMN 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

What Child Is This

arr. Timothy Albrecht

*DOXOLOGY *(Hymn 606)*

**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**

THE FOLLOWING SERVICE OF READINGS AND CAROLS IS BASED UPON

Holy Light by Robert A. Hobby

PROCESSIONAL

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Chancel Choir and Youth Bells

BIDDING PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

READING *(Pew Bible, page 638 OT)*

Isaiah 9:2-7

CAROL

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

READING *(Pew Bible, page 667 OT)*

Isaiah 40:1-11

CAROL

My Lord, What a Morning

READING *(Pew Bible, page 56 NT)*

Luke 1:26-38

CAROL

Bring a Torch Jeannette, Isabella

READING *(Pew Bible, page 58 NT)*

Luke 2:1-7

CAROL

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Chancel Choir and Jubilate Ringers

READING *(Pew Bible, page 58 NT)*

Luke 2:8-20

CAROL

Oh, Come, Little Children

Chancel Choir and Jubilate Ringers

READING *(Pew Bible, page 91 NT)*

John 1:1-18

*CAROL

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Congregation joining with the choir as indicated:

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.**

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

From Heaven Above

arr. Walter L. Pelz

OUR INVITATION

Every service of worship invites us to consider our relationship to Jesus Christ and to his church. If you are not vitally involved in some community of faith, perhaps this congregation is the place where you can worship, find fellowship, grow, and share in our mission and witness to the world. If you would like to discuss this important matter, please indicate your interest on the registration of attendance pad or speak to the minister following the service.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder - (8:45) Larry Thomas, (11:00) Roger Foltz

** Deacon - (8:45) Cindy Jenkins, (11:00) Laney Freeman

Acolyte - Chloee Starnes (11:00)

Advent Candle Lighters - (8:45) Brian, Ashley and Austin Neece
(11:00) Brandon and Adrienne Hall