



First Presbyterian Church

101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg PA 17579

(717) 687-6030

www.straspres.org / straspres@straspres.org

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

PASTOR: Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

ORGANIST / CHOIRMASTER: Dr. Bruce Gerlach

DIRECTOR OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC: Jon Knauss

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES: Beth Feiler

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH: Kristin Kondratowski

WORSHIP LEADER/READER: 8:30 Sandy Hershey Lowe / 11:00 Andrea Petrokonis

WORSHIP: 8:30 am and 11:00 am

Sunday, November 27, 2022

Welcome!

8:30 AM Worship

*Open your heart and give yourself up to Christ who is here to meet you today.
"Be still and know that I am God." ~ Psalm 46:10*

PRELUDE

"My Comfort By Day, My Song in the Night"

G. Martin

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Stephen Ministry

Bill Potter

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: *Elias Family*

Family: This first Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope.

May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

People: (Sung) **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.**

*HYMN

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

No. 9

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Emmanuel, loving God and source of all life, we give you thanks and praise for this Advent season. We are commanded to actively wait for your second coming, and yet we are impatient and demand that you act now. We have been given the promise of eternal life and yet we establish that we will not obey. Forgive us and take our brokenness and transform it to your purposes. Through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE	[Please share Christ's peace with one another.]	
*HYMN	<i>"Spirit of the Living God"</i> Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.	
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE		David Griffith
FIRST SCRIPTURE		Isaiah 7:10-14
SECOND SCRIPTURE		John 1:1-2, 14
SERMON	SERMON SERIES: THE W's OF CHRISTMAS "What Christmas?"	Rev. Robert Bronkema
*HYMN	<i>"Union With the Three in One"</i>	Insert
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER		
PROFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED		Page 14
*HYMN	<i>"We Gather Together"</i>	No. 559
*BENEDICTION		
*POSTLUDE	<i>"Maestoso on 'Hyfrydol'"</i> (Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus)	G. Young


Please keep the following in your prayers

- Gwen Bortzfield – Lancaster General Hospital
- Cheryl Faltin's father, George Stewart – Lancaster General Hospital
- David Gulliver – Recovering at home
- Lynn Rohrer – Hershey Medical Center
- Jane Ott – Recovering at home
- Don Emig – Rehab in Elizabethtown
- Louise Witmer - Under Hospice Care at The Glen at Willow Valley

In Need of the Prayer Chain?
Call Sandy Bernstorf 717-687-7276 or Janice Bowers 717-687-5676

Deacons for the Month of November
Donna Stettler & Morgan Murphy

Prayer Requests



Please contribute your tithes and offerings using one of the following methods:

- Scan the QR code to the right and follow the prompts
- Click the DONATE button on the church web site
- Mail your check to FPCS, 101 St. Decatur Street, Strasburg, PA 17579



Greeting and Announcements

Minute for Mission Stephen Ministry

Bill Potter

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: *Fulmer Family*

Family: This first Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope.

May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

People: (Sung) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Praise & Worship

*We Have a Savior
10000 Reasons
River of Love*

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message

David Griffith

First Scripture Isaiah 7:10-14

Second Scripture John 1:1-2, 14

SERMON SERIES: THE W's OF CHRISTMAS

Sermon: "What Christmas?"

Rev. Robert Bronkema

*Closing Song *Emmanuel*

*Benediction



NEXT WEEK
Second Sunday of Advent • December 4, 2022
SERMON SERIES: THE W's OF CHRISTMAS
 First Scripture: Genesis 3:23-26
 Second Scripture: Romans 3:23-26
 Sermon: "Why Christmas?" *Rev. Robert K. Bronkema*

ASSISTANCE CORNER

THE NURSERY is in need of volunteers for the first and second Sunday services. If able to lend a helping hand, please contact Amy Stauffer at: astauffer@straspres.org and 717-224-3036

PRESCHOOL NEEDS DONATIONS OF: Paper towels, white paper plates (small & large), napkins, tissues, sanitizing wipes, 5 oz. wax cups, Graham Crackers, pretzels, Animal Crackers, Goldfish Crackers, popcorn. Thank you for your contributions! Donations help to keep the tuition costs down.

FOOD BANK NEW LISTING OF NEEDS: Canned vegetables: carrots, peas, corn, green beans, mixed vegetables, canned whole white potatoes, 4-pack puddings, canned peaches, fruit cocktail, mandarin oranges, pineapple chunks, cereal (kids' brands, Rice Krispies, Raisin Bran, etc), stuffing, chicken gravy, turkey gravy, creamed soups, pasta sauce, Spaghetti-Os, etc.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED – Teachers are needed for the children's classes, kindergarten – 2nd grade and 3rd – 5th grades who can give their time **one Sunday a month** to lead a class. Lesson plans can be prepared for you.

Contact Beth Feiler: bfeiler@straspres.org

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, November 27

- 8:30 am **Worship** (Traditional)
9:30 am **Coffee Hour**
10 am **Sunday School Class** for all ages – In person only
Children’s Sunday School (Grades K – 5) – Rm 12
Youth (Grades 6-12) – Student Ministry Rm Young Adults – Choir Rm
Wired Word – Rm 6 Young at Heart – Rm 3/4
11 am **Worship** (Contemporary)
4:30 pm Confirmation Class
5:30 pm Nativity Open House & Caroling (Until 7 pm)
5:30 pm **Ignited Student Ministry** Dinner • 6 pm Gathering in FH
-

Recurring Daily – Nursery Time • Monday – Friday • 9 am – 1 pm

Monday, November 28

- 9 am Mission Opportunities for Sewing – Rm 3/4
7 pm Young Adults S’Molder Group

Tuesday, November 29

- 9 am Ladies Bible Study – Rm 3/4
2 pm Food Bank
7 pm Ladies Bible Study – Rm 3/4

Wednesday, November 30

- 1 pm Knifty Knitters – Rm 6
3 pm Stitchin’ Sisters – Rm 3/4

Thursday, December 1

- 6:30 am Men’s Prayer Breakfast – The Well Bring your own coffee/breakfast items
9:30 am Creative Landmarks: Visual Art Journaling Through Scripture – Rm 5
6 pm Bible Study – <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzoMo4VUuahmT0CFUtwZzgg>
7 pm Choir Practice

Friday, December 2

- 9 am Toddler Gym – Fellowship Hall
2 pm Food Bank
6 pm “Our Table” New Worshipping Community – Fellowship Hall

Memorial Poinsettias

Name: _____

Number of Pots _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Deadline for Ordering: Sunday, December 12, 2022

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME! We are glad to see you here! Check out our website: www.straspres.org under the "Happenings" tab for current church events and please be sure to like us on Facebook. Children's Church is available for kids K-5th grades. Children will go to room 11 after the children's sermon.



COFFEE HOUR - Join us today in Fellowship Hall & each Sunday at 9:30 am for coffee and fellowship with old and new friends. Hosts for today: Ignited Student Ministry. Hosts for next week are Ron & Sandy Lowe. Volunteers are needed. If you would like to help with Coffee Hour, please call Theresa Rineer at 717-682-9954 or email rineertheresa@yahoo.com. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please choose the date(s) that work best for you.

STEPHEN MINISTRY - A ministry in which trained and supervised laypersons provide one-to-one Christian care to individuals facing life challenges or difficulties. If you, or someone you know, could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, talk with Pastor Bob, with Stephen Leaders Bill or Joyce Potter, or with Stephen Ministers Lorraine Oliver, Ed Bredin, or Alice Eisenhooth. A Stephen Ministry brochure can be found in the pew racks or at the literature tables.

WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY -- A new study entitled "*Our Hope Has Come*" by Lifeway Women has begun. This 5 week study celebrates the promise of Advent. Classes are held in the morning @ 9:00 or in the evening @ 7:00. All are welcome! For any questions please contact Lorraine Oliver, Stacy Bronkema, or Sandy Wenger.

"OUR TABLE" NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY • Friday, December 2 - Doors open at 6 pm and dinner starts at 6:15 pm. Got friends? Bring 'em along! Everyone is welcome at Our Table! The meal is followed by an interactive Bible study, worship songs, and prayer. Eat and run or stay for the fun; we're just happy you showed up. There's always room at Our Table!

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held on **Sunday, December 4, 2022** at 12:15pm in the Sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to elect new officers, approve the 2023 Pastor Terms of Call, and to review and receive the 2023 Ministry Budget.

The 2023 Slate of Officers are as follows (Three-Year Terms, unless otherwise noted)

Ruling Elders: Alice Eisenhooth; Dale Groff; Andrea Petrokonis; Sandy Wenger; Phil Geiger (2 years); Wayne Carr (2 years); Walter Kondratowski (2 years)

Deacons: Lynda Cornelia; Janice Bowers; David Griffith; Bette Davis (2 years); Robin Kendlehart (2 Years); Joyce Charles (2 years); Gavin Elias (Junior Deacon - 1 year)

Trustees: Ron Lowe; Mark Feiler; Leroy Welk; Bill Potter

NEW YOUNG ADULTS S'MOLDER GROUP - Meet every Monday night, at a different person's house, from 7 PM - 9 PM. To find out more about this group or where they will be meeting this week, please contact Kristin at kristin@straspres.org or 908-581-5050.

MINISTERIUM COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND: The Community Impact Committee is accepting applications for financial relief for help in either rent, utilities or emergency needs. If you are interested in applying for this assistance please contact Alicia Eltman at aeltman@straspres.org.



2022 SANTA'S HELPERS



This year FPS will again participate in the Santa's Helpers Program by having interested members of the congregation purchase a specific gift for a child in need. The Santa's Helpers program began over 30 years ago when the founders discovered a family that could not afford to buy Christmas gifts nor a Christmas meal for their family. The program has grown into a non-profit organization which partners with the L-S School District to provide Christmas for over 100 needy families. Our congregation joined this effort in 2011 and has purchased over 800 toys for children of needy families in our area since our participation began. To play a part in this valuable program all you need to do is:

- ❏ Sign-up to purchase a gift at the giving tree located next to the receptionist desk on either **Sunday, December 4 or Sunday, December 11.**
- ❏ You sign-up by picking a tag from the tree which will include the number of a child along with the specific gift.
- ❏ Your name and the number of your child will be registered by a volunteer at the sign-up table.
- ❏ Please spend between \$15 to \$20 for the gift.
- ❏ Gifts do not need to be wrapped; all wrapping will be done by the Santa's Helpers organization.

Please attach the tag to the gift and place under the tree by **December 15th.**
If you have any questions, please contact Jo Ann or Terry Sweigart at 717-672-1427 or 717-606-6907.

Sermon Notes



Upcoming Thanksgiving, Advent & Christmas Programs



CHURCH DECORATING DAY • Saturday, November 26th • 9 AM

We will be decking the halls with lots of holly and other Christmas decorations in preparation for the Advent / Christmas season. All are welcome to lend a helping hand!

NATIVITY OPEN HOUSE & CAROLING • Sunday, November 27th • Church members are invited to bring their family nativity set for everyone to enjoy. Drop off nativities in Rm 5 on Nov. 26th or before 3pm on the 27th. Complete the information card to include with your nativity. Caroling begins at 5:30 PM. Then, come back & enjoy everyone's nativity displays on **November 27th from 5:30 PM-7 PM**. Nativities can be picked up on November 28th or 29th. A sign-up sheet is located at the welcome desk. For questions, please contact Beth Feiler.

Perfect Harmony Music Concert • December 4 • 7 PM • Sanctuary

Perfect Harmony is a dynamic vocal trio specializing in storytelling through music and based out of Lancaster, PA. A love offering will be taken. For more information: www.leepproductionsllc.com/perfect-harmony

Family Movie Night • Saturday, December 10 • 6 PM Featuring: "Elf"

Wear your PJs and bring a pillow and your favorite blanket or sleeping bag! Oh, and bring a dozen cookies to share along with your Christmas cheer!

Silver, Ivory and Wood Concert • Sunday, December 11 • 7 PM Silver, Wood & Ivory: Two women, 19 flutes and recorders, piano, Celtic harp, keyboards, and a whole lot of friendship. Recording artists, Tracy Dietrich, flutist, and Cindy Wittenberg pianist, create an amazing soundscape of traditional, eclectic and modern sounds. For more information: www.silverwoodandivory.com

Advent Family Night • Sunday, December 18 • 6 PM • Fellowship Hall

The Christian Education Committee invites the church family for an evening of fellowship that includes ornament making and refreshments such as cookies and hot cocoa. This evening will also include sharing of family nativity displays.

Christmas Eve Schedule

December 24

Children's Christmas Pageant • 4:30 PM
Candlelight Worship Services • 8 PM & 11 PM

December 25 One Worship Service at 10 AM • Coffee Hour at 9:30 AM • No Sunday School

Union With the Three in One

words and music by
Dr. Bruce A. Gerlach

♩ = 90

In the Fath - er, in the Son — and in the Spir - it, — three, yet One;
So in Him I live and move — and have my be - ing, — all is well!
He, the Light that shines on all of us, from His full-ness — grace on grace.

Dwel - ling in the Light e - ter - nal, I have found in Him my home.
Now re - vealed the Truth un - end - ing: God with us, E - man - u - el.
He, the Life and all cre - a - tion shall be - hold Him face to face!

chorus

3rd x plural version

God is in me, all a - round me. God re - veals His life and love. In my joy I've
us us our joy we've

joined the dance of Un - ion with the Three in One.