



First Presbyterian Church

101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg PA 17579

(717) 687-6030

www.straspres.org / straspres@straspres.org



Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 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 Dale Groff / 11:00 Linda Younger

WORSHIP: 8:30 am and 11:00 am

Sunday, December 11, 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

"Soon and Very Soon"

"The First Noel"

~ Donna Burkholder and Bruce Gerlach ~

Piano Duet
Organ & Piano Duet

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: *Nadu Family*

Family: This third Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy. May the joyful promise of Your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.

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

*HYMN

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

No. 37

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Loving God, you chose to take on flesh and be one of us in all of our mess and all of our complexities. We thank you and praise you that you did not hesitate to be in our midst and to reach out and take our hand when we needed it most. Forgive us for thinking you are unreachable. Forgive us for wanting a Savior that is so exalted that He is of no earthly good. You come to our rescue and you love us, we praise you for that. Through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE *[Please share Christ's peace with one another.]*

*HYMN

"Spirit of the Living God"
**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

Beth Feiler

ANTHEM

"Come, Emmanuel" – Chancel Choir

D. Besig

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 53:4-6

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-25

SERMON

SERMON SERIES: THE W's OF CHRISTMAS
"Who Christmas?"

Rev. Robert Bronkema

*HYMN

"What Child Is This"

No. 53

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PROFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED

Page 14

*HYMN

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

No. 2

*BENEDICTION & CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *"Let There Be Peace on Earth"*

**Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth,
 the peace that was meant to be. With God as our Father, brothers all are we.
 Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me,
 let this be the moment now. With every step I take let this be my solemn vow.
 To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
 Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**

*POSTLUDE

"Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying"

P. Nicolai

Please keep the following in your prayers

- Jim Yinger – The Glenn
 - Gwen Bortzfield – Lancaster Rehab Hospital
 - Lynn Rohrer – Harrisburg Rehab Hospital
 - Jane Ott – Recovering at home
 - Don Emig – Recovering at home
 - Louise Witmer - Under Hospice Care at The Glen at Willow Valley
- Comfort in Time of Loss* - Howard & Rhoda Smoker upon the death of their son, Douglas

Prayer Requests



In Need of the Prayer Chain?

Call Sandy Bernstorf 717-687-7276 or Janice Bowers 717-687-5676

Deacons for the Month of December - Donna Stettler & Heidi Zook-Payne

Greeting and Announcements

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: *Marsh Family*

Family: This third Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy. May the joyful promise of Your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.

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

*Praise & Worship

Broken Vessels
Jesus
All the Poor & Powerless

Prayer & Peace

Children’s Message

Beth Feiler

First Scripture Isaiah 53:4-6

Second Scripture Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon: **SERMON SERIES: THE W’s OF CHRISTMAS**
"Who Christmas?"

Rev. Robert Bronkema

*Closing Song *Give Me Jesus*

*Benediction



NEXT WEEK
Fourth Sunday of Advent • December 18, 2022
SERMON SERIES: THE W’s OF CHRISTMAS
 First Scripture: Micah 5:2-5a
 Second Scripture: Luke 2:1-7
 Sermon: “When 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, December 11

- 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 pm **Ignited Student Ministry Christmas Party**
7:00 pm **Silver, Wood & Ivory Concert** • 7 PM • Sanctuary

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

Monday, December 12

- 7 pm Mission & Finance Meeting – Rm 5
7 pm Young Adults S'Molder Group

Tuesday, December 13

- 9 am Ladies Bible Study – Rm 3/4
2 pm Food Bank
5:30 pm Personnel Meeting – Rm 6
7 pm Ladies Bible Study – Rm 3/4

Wednesday, December 14

- 1 pm Knifty Knitters – Rm 6
3 pm Stitchin' Sisters – Rm 3/4
6:30 pm Trustees' Meeting – Room 3/4

Thursday, December 15

- 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 Food Bank Committee Meeting – Fellowship Hall
6 pm Bible Study: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzoMo4VUuahmT0CFUtwZzgg/streams>
7 pm Choir Practice

Friday, December 16

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

Sermon Notes

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



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: Alice Eisenhooth & Joy Corey. Hosts for next week are Ignited Student Ministry. 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.

Flowers are provided this Sunday to the glory of God from Kay Straley in loving memory of husband Ron, brother Jim Filling, other loved ones and in honor of my family.

Flowers are provided this Sunday for the glory of God from Al & Sandy Bernstorf in loving memory of Betsey Bernstorf; Bill Brotzman; son-in-law, Mike Ranson; sister Shirley and Noah Kreider."

"OUR TABLE" NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY • Friday, December 16 - 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!

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.



POINSETTIAS – Last call to order your poinsettia plants! The deadline is **today**. For your convenience some forms are available on the nativity table across from Pastor Bob's office. Forms & payments can be dropped off at the church office or mail slot if the door is closed. Thank you to everyone who purchased poinsettias this year!

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.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT - This culture is *designed* to take you down. Credit cards, car loans, student loans . . . they'll keep you paying way too much money for way too long. But there's one way out of the mess of debt, and it starts right here with *you*. You can change your future today by joining my Financial Peace University class at **First Presbyterian Church**. You'll learn to pay off debt fast, save more money, and build lasting wealth. Class starts on **Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023**, so sign up today at fpu.com/1154920!



Upcoming Thanksgiving, Advent & Christmas Programs



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.

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.

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 9:30 AM • No Sunday School

2022 Santa's Helpers

This is just a friendly reminder to those who signed up to purchase a gift at the giving tree for the Santa's Helpers Program – that all gifts should be placed under the tree by Thursday, **December 15th**. Please be sure to attach the tag to the gift.

📧 If you have any questions, please contact Jo Ann or Terry Sweigart at 717-672-1427 or 717-606-6907.

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.

Thank you to everyone who is participating in this program!