

First Presbyterian Church

101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg PA 17579

(717) 687-6030

www.straspres.org / straspres@straspres.org



December 4, 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 Angie McVey / 11:00 Andrea Petrokonis

WORSHIP: 8:30 am and 11:00 am

Sunday, December 4, 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

*"Pastorale on 'Ivory Palaces'"
"Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light"*

Young
arr. Price

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: *Lau Family*

Family: This Second Sunday of Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way.
May the Word sent from God through the prophets lead us to the way of salvation.

People: (Sung) *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.*

Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

*HYMN

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"

No. 22

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Forgiving, patient, long-suffering, and gracious God, we come to you with all of our sin and ask for mercy. We know that our sin separates us from you, and yet we still count the cost of what it would take to give up what we want. Forgive us for not following you at all costs. Teach us again what it means to love you, even as you love us unconditionally. Help us to understand that you came not so that we would be good, but so that we would be in love with you. 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

Tina Dansereau

ANTHEM

"Christus Paradox" – Chancel Choir

Dunstan / Fedak

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Genesis 3:6-7

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Romans 3:23-26

SERMON

SERMON SERIES: THE W's OF CHRISTMAS

"Why Christmas?"

Rev. Robert Bronkema

*HYMN

"Joy to the World"

No. 40

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Welcome

Distribution

*ALLELUIA

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

"We Praise Thee"

Sergisson

Please keep the following in your prayers

- Gwen Bortzfield – Lancaster Rehab Hospital
- Lynn Rohrer – Harrisburg Rehab Hospital
- Jane Ott – Recovering at home
- Don Emig – Rehab in Elizabethtown
- Louise Witmer - Under Hospice Care at The Glen at Willow Valley

Comfort in Time of Loss

- Betty Davis on the passing of her daughter, Faith Bey.

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

Prayer Requests



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.

Greeting and Announcements

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: The Davis Family

Family: This Second Sunday of Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way.
May the Word sent from God through the prophets lead us to the way of salvation.

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

*Praise & Worship

*Even So Come
God With Us
Getting Ready*

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message

Tina Dansereau

First Scripture Genesis 3:6-7

Second Scripture Romans 3:23-26

SERMON SERIES: THE W's OF CHRISTMAS

Sermon: "Why Christmas?"

Rev. Robert Bronkema

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*Closing Song *He Shall Reign Forevermore*

*Benediction



NEXT WEEK

Third Sunday of Advent • December 11, 2022

SERMON SERIES: THE W's OF CHRISTMAS

First Scripture: Isaiah 53:4-6

Second Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon: "Who 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 4

- 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)
12:15 pm **Congregational Meeting** • Sanctuary
4:30 pm Confirmation Class
5:30 pm **Ignited Student Ministry**
7:00 pm Perfect Harmony Music Concert • 7 PM • Sanctuary

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

Monday, December 5

- 7 pm Young Adults S'Molder Group

Saturday, December 10

- 6 pm Family Movie Night - ELF

Tuesday, December 6

- 9 am Ladies Bible Study – Rm 3/4
2 pm Food Bank
6 pm CE Committee Meeting – Fellowship Hall
7 pm Ladies Bible Study – Rm 3/4
7 pm Worship Committee – The Well

Wednesday, December 7

- 1 pm Knifty Knitters – Rm 6
3 pm Stitchin' Sisters – Rm 3/4
6 pm Kid's Clubhouse
7 pm Deacons' Meeting – Room 3/4

Thursday, December 8

- 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 9

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

Sermon Notes

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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: Ron & Sandy Lowe. Host for next week is Alice Eisenhooth. 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.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held today, **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

“OUR TABLE” NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY • Friday, December 9 - 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!

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.

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



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.



Memorial Poinsettias

Orders are being taken for memorial poinsettias for the upcoming Christmas season. Cost is \$10 per pot.

Name: _____

Number of Pots _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Deadline for Ordering: Sunday, December 12, 2022



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 either today, **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.



Upcoming Advent & Christmas Programs



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, if you are able, to share along with your Christmas cheer!

Silver, Ivory and Wood Concert • Sunday, December 11 • 7 PM Silver, Wood & Ivory: Two women, 19 dflutes 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.

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