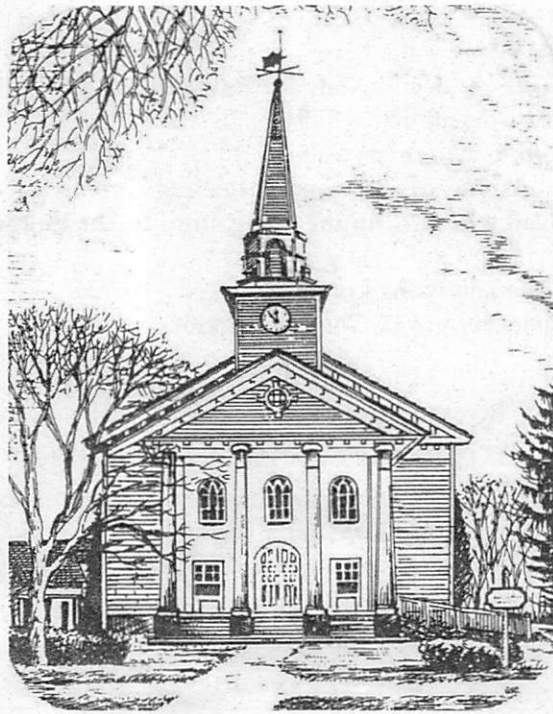


*First Presbyterian Church of East Hampton
The Old Town Church
founded in 1648*



December 24th, 2017

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 24th, 2017

4th Sunday of Advent

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Chimes

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Welcome and Parish Concerns

Prelude

“Christmas Time is Here”

Vince Guaraldi

*Call to Worship (2 Samuel 7, Luke 1, Romans 16)

Leader: May our souls magnify the Lord.

People: **May our spirits rejoice in God, our Savior.**

Leader: God gives rest from all that afflicts us.

People: **God goes with us wherever we go.**

Leader: This is the God of mysteries, of prophecies and promises.

People: **This is the God who lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things.**

Leader: May our souls magnify the Lord.

People: **May our spirits rejoice in God, our Savior.**

*Opening Prayer

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Suzanne and Diana Nicoletti

Response: *(unison)*

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” *(verse 1)*

Veni Emmanuel

***O come, O Come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel;
That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear,
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!***

*Hymn #16

“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”

Basque carol

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

We watch for packages to arrive and Christmas cards to be delivered, but we do not keep our eyes open for your coming, Approaching God. We expect our Christmas 'wish list' to be filled, and for the pile under the tree to grow and grow, but we secretly hope you do not expect to transform our lives too much. We notice where to find the best bargains, and what decorations our neighbors have put on their houses, but we do not notice the little, the least, the lost, the last walking down our streets. Forgive us, Saving God, for our misplaced priorities. May we watch for your coming, may we reach out to those in need, may we wait for hope to come, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, arrives to live in our hearts. Amen.

Silent Confession

**denotes stand as you are able...*

Kyrie (*Hymn 572*)

“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

Merbecke

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: The good news is made known to all people: Christ Jesus was born to save us from our sins.

People: **Glory and praise to the only God, who fills us with healing and hope. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

*Gloria: Hymn 23 (*verse 1*)

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

French carol

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.*

Gloria -----in excelsis Deo. Gloria-----in excelsis Deo.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Old Testament: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

(OT Page 281)

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38, 47-55

(NT Page 56)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

In the House of David

Rev. Scot McCachren

RESPONDING TO GOD WITH THANKSGIVING

*Hymn #48

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

German carol

*Affirmation of Faith – Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.27 (*unison*)

The one sufficient revelation of God is Jesus Christ, the Word of God incarnate, to whom the Holy Spirit bears unique and authoritative witness through the Holy Scriptures, which are received and obeyed as the word of God written. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (*Traditional*)

Hymnal Page 16

Prayer Response

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem

“The First Noel/Pachebel Canon”

arr. by Michael Clawson

*Doxology (Hymn 592) “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Old Hundredth

*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

Mighty God, we offer these gifts to fulfill the great works you do. As you lift up the lowly, as you fill the hungry and fulfill your promises, make us your servants – servants who rejoice in your work. Amen.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn #49	“Once in Royal David’s City”	Henry John Gauntlett
*Benediction		
*Response (#586)	Amen”	Danish
*Recessional, Taking the Light of Christ into the World		
Postlude	“Variation on a Basque Noel”	Cesar Franck

Participating in this morning's service: The Rev. Scot McCachren, Pastor; Jane Hastay, Music Director; Chancel Choir; lay reader; Emily McCachren; Mary Ella Moeller, Donald Smith, Debbie Mansir, ushers.

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Lectionary Liturgies at www.lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com, by Thom M. Shuman.

Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of East Hampton! Whether today is your first time worshipping with us or you are part of one of our founding families, we welcome you. If you are visiting, we would appreciate your completing the "Welcome" card found in the pew rack and placing it in the offering box.

Flowers on the communion table have been provided by the Deacons Flower Fund to the Glory of God.

To offer flowers in memory or honor of a loved one, please contact Summer Borsack, 631-903-0778, or summerborsack@gmail.com.

"Care Notes" are available in the Narthex--please help yourself. Send a note to someone to brighten the day.....

The Rev. Scot McCachren, Pastor • (631) 324-0711
rev.scot.mcc@gmail.com

Jane Hastay, Director of Music • (631) 332-2550
MusicDirector@fpceh.org

Church Office • (631) 324-0711 • fpsecy@optonline.net
Office hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9am-2pm
Christine Cadarette, Office Administrator

The Rev. Dr. John Ames, Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Fred Schulz, Pastor Emeritus

Elder of the Month—Debbie Mansir/Alice Wood
Deacon of the Month—Victoria Roarick

IS THE DOOR LOCKED? The church doors do not always properly close on their own. If you are the last one out, please push the door closed and then try to open again to ensure that it is locked. We thank you!

LAUNDRY LOVE, a local on-going mission effort “to help people who are struggling financially by assisting them with doing their laundry.” See the labeled container in the Narthex. All monies are accepted, but quarters are especially helpful. Thank you! (*Deacons*)

CALENDAR

This Week: (*Italics indicate non-church event*)

Sunday, December 24th – Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 am Worship

Sunday, December 24th Christmas Eve services

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Family Service

8:00 pm Traditional Christmas Eve Service

Monday, December 25th - Merry Christmas!

Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26th [Christine on vacation until January 3rd]

7:30 am Men's Club

Thursday, December 28th

12:30 pm *Al-Anon, Session House*

7:00 pm Choir rehearsal

Saturday, December 30th

10:00-2:00pm – *Baby shower, Session House.*

Next Week:

Sunday, December 31st

10:00 am Worship

Monday, January 1st *Office Closed*

12:30 pm *Al-Anon, Session House*

Tuesday, January 2nd

7:30 am Men's Club

Thursday, January 4th

12:00 pm Bible Study

12:30 pm *Al-Anon, Session House (downstairs)*

7:00 pm Choir rehearsal

Saturday, January 6th

11:00 am Taking Down of the Greens, sanctuary

Unceasing Prayer

"...in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6b-7)

You will find in your pew racks a "Request for Prayer" card. Please use these cards to request

- a prayer to be included in "Prayers of the People" this morning (please give to Pastor before the service begins)
- prayers by the Pastor, Deacons &/or Elders of the church (if confidential)
- names to be included in the prayer list below
- names to be included in our EPrayer Chain

Unless otherwise requested, names on this prayer list will be included in the prayers of our congregation and pastor for the next four weeks. Requests can always be renewed.

Trusting that God knows each person and need, please hold in your prayers...

Congregation members hospitalized or shut-in:

Jean Symer

Greg Fariel

Sherry Wolfe

Others for whom prayer has been requested:

The family of Jen Balnis

Paul Vogel

The family of Bruce Bluedorn

Bill Stowell

The family of Alan Dixon

The Lind family

The family of Harriet Peele

PARISH CONCERNS

TONIGHT'S CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Christmas Eve Family service – 5 pm

Christmas Eve Traditional service – 8 pm.

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY WILL NOT MEET DURING THE BUSY ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON. We will reconvene on Thursday, January 4th, 2018.

PRAYER SHAWL KNITTING will resume on Tuesday, January 4th, 2018 at 1:00 pm.

TAKING DOWN OF THE GREENS will take place on Saturday, January 6th at 11:00 am.

SAVE THE DATE for our much anticipated **CABARET NIGHT/WINTER DINNER BUFFET**, Saturday, January 13th at 6:00 pm in the Session House, featuring all your favorite crooners and tunes. \$35 tickets on sale 12/24, 12/31 and 1/7 in the narthex. Tables reserved for groups of 6-8. Contact Hilary Malecki at osbornhilary@hotmail.com; 631-324-9734.

FOOD PANTRY ITEM TO BRING NEXT SUNDAY: Rice and Beans

DID YOU KNOW? You can access recent sermon recordings, bulletins and the newsletter on our website? It's perfect to use in Care & Outreach for those who are unable to attend church – or for you to catch up if you miss a Sunday! You can find them at fpech.org/sermon.htm.