

Welcome to all who gather here today.

Located in your pew you will find:

- ✦ Index cards for submitting prayer requests during Joys and Concerns; please place your index cards in the offering plate.
- ✦ Visitor cards to be placed in the offering plate
- ✦ A pew envelope for an offering

We hope the service enables you to worship God meaningfully.

** = Please stand as you are able or remain upright in spirit*
PH = Presbyterian Hymnal; Congregational responses in bold type.

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

TOLLING THE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETINGS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE **Mary, Mary, What Cha Gonna Name that Baby** Arr. Robert Lowden

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE—PROCLAIM (Isaiah 12:2-6)

Corinne Agins and Megan Guicheteau with their daughters

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the holy name of the most high God.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Proclaim the mercy of the One who comes as one of us.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Trust and do not be afraid.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of peace.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation. Hallelujah! Amen.

***HYMN**

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

PH 41

**WE CONFESS OUR SINS
CALL TO CONFESSION**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear Lord, sometimes we get so caught up in all of the Christmas parties and celebrations, that we forget to remember the real reason we celebrate Christmas. We forget to remember and give thanks for Your Son, Jesus Christ, who came down to Earth to save us. Instead of being grateful for all that he gave, we get frustrated because our Christmas trees are lopsided, and our pies don't look picture perfect. Please, help us to remember the true meaning of Christmas and give us the strength and wisdom to be able to share the Christmas spirit with others. Amen.

Silent Prayer

DECLARATION OF PARDON

SUNG RESPONSE

PH 9, Refrain

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel Shall Come to thee O Israel!”

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:6 (Pew Bible p. 638 in the Old Testament)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Ding Dong! Merrily on High

The Chimers

Words by George Woodward/Music: Traditional

SECOND READING: Luke 2:10-11 (Pew Bible p. 58 in the New Testament)

SERMON

“How Well Do You Know Your Christmas Carols?”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN**

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

PH 60

**Sunday School will sing first verse, Congregation please join on verses 2-4.*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(The Apostles Creed)*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into Hell; the third day he
rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the
right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to
judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life
everlasting. Amen.**

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

PH 579

THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING IN MUSIC

Silent Night

Percussion Ensemble

Franz Gruber/Arr. Elliott-Shaw/Huber

***THE DOXOLOGY**

PH 592

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Prayers of the People

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.

GOING FORTH IN GOD’S NAME TO SERVE THE LORD

***HYMN**

“Joy to the World!”

PH 40

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Cradle Prayer

Words and Music by:
Rebecca St. James and Charles Garrett

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

SERVING THIS LORD’S DAY

A big thank you to all of our Sunday School teachers, and volunteers for working with our youth to make sure they were ready for their pageant today. Thank you to Cathy and Wendy for working with our amazing percussion ensemble and thank you to Bob for all of his accompanying. Thank you to all parents who work hard to keep schedules straight and get their darlings here on time for practice and of course to all our budding musicians and actors who worked so hard to make this a great Pageant Sunday!

Director of Music Gwendolyn Huber
Accompanist..... Dr. Robert Lowden
Deacon of the Month Pat Andrus – 499-1038
Fellowship Kathie Ackerman and Donna Potts

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

From the “Mission Yearbook for Prayer and Study”: *Hunger Action Congregations; Mission Partnership; ‘What is Sabbath?’; University of Dubuque Theological Seminary; Youth; Young Adult Volunteer; What does your church look like?*

Joys

Jonathan Andrus received his MBA degree from University of Alabama in Huntsville, Alabama this past Thursday; Simmee’s friend Dominic came through his leg surgery very well, has one more to go; our choir’s beautiful music this morning; Bob’s wonderful piano concert last night.

Concerns

Winston and Victoria’s cousin-in-law, Maimo, who is sick with stage four breast cancer; Liana undergoing major surgery on Wednesday the 12th in Seattle; John as he has extensive leg surgery at Penn Presbyterian on the 17th; Helena, Jodi’s 8 year old neighbor, who dislocated her elbow; family, friends, students and co-workers of Cindy (a Bordentown Middle School Science teacher) who passed away suddenly; Marlie’s cat, Catty, not doing well and currently in the veterinary hospital; Sergio, Tricia’s step-grandfather, who passed away this week in Jersey City Medical Center; Joe’s father, Jimmie, who is in the hospital on life support; healing of a relationship; Jeremy’s daughter, Hannah; support for Jodi’s step-son, Matthew, as his life begins a new direction; Kim, former pastor whose mother died recently, and their family; emotional support for Sara; for Victoria.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you - Please accept my dearest and warmest thanks for the support you showed me at the December 8th concert. You are not only a loving and caring congregation, but a generous one as well. May you have a very blessed Merry Christmas, and a happy and healthy 2019. Many thanks, Bob Lowden.

St. Mary's Food Pantry Current Needs: *canned meats--razors--toilet paper--empty 12 count egg cartons.* Please place items in the right side basket in the rear of the church. Thank you for your continued support and generosity. To learn more, visit their website: <http://stmarysbordentown.org/food-pantry/>



*Our church now can accept online giving!
Check out the "Give Now" button in the top right
corner on our website.*

← QR Code for online giving

*Our office manager Sheri Devlin's hours are 10:30 am to 2:00 pm.
September through June: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.
July and August: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.*

CALENDAR

THIS WEEK

Sun 12/16	Children's Chimes	8:55 am
	Church School	9:15 am
	Worship - Pageant.....	10:30 am
Mon 12/17	Women's AA	7:30 pm
Thurs 12/20	<i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>
	Men's Breakfast	8:00 am
	AA.....	7:00 pm

NEXT WEEK

Sun 12/23	Worship.....	10:30 am
Mon 12/24	Women's AA	7:30 pm
	Pre-Service Concert.....	7:00 pm
	Christmas Eve Worship Service & Communion	8:00 pm
Thurs 12/27	AA.....	7:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church

*Worship on the Lord's Day
December 16, 2018, 10:30 am*



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