

Welcome to all who gather here today.

We hope the service enables you to worship God meaningfully.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Pachelbel's Canon in D (*Bob Lowden on piano; Cathy Elliott-Shaw, Donna Potts, and Simmee Darpino on Hand Bells*)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*sung by Marjorie Tafel*)

Breath of Heaven by Chris Eaton and Amy Grant (*sung by Dana Maiuro*)

The Holly and the Ivy Arr. Richard Walters (*Sung by Dana Maiuro & Trish Bangit*)

Angels We Have Heard on High Arr. Richard Walters (*sung by Dana Maiuro & Gwendolyn Huber*)

Gesu Bambino (*sung by Gwendolyn Huber*)

Where Are You Christmas? by Mariah Carey (*sung by Casey McEniry*)

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Carol of the Bells Processional
(*Hand Bell Choir*)

Arr. Burkhardt

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Church Members Home for Christmas

SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Refrain

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

The image shows two systems of musical notation for a congregational response. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The first system has the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.' and the second system has the lyrics 'Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!'. The music is in 2/2 time and G major.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Mendelssohn Arr. Thompson
(*Hand Bell Choir*)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Good news of great joy!

People who walked in darkness now live in great light.

Good news of great joy!

Oppression and war will not have the last word.

Good news of great joy! God is coming into our world!

A Savior is born, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.

*HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

PH 28

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Love Incarnate, we confess that, like the shepherds, we are afraid. For we see plainly what is wrong in the world: how oppression still enslaves; how garments of war are still stained with blood; how those seeking refuge still find no place of safety. We also see what is wrong in us: how passionately we pursue the things of this world, but forget to ponder the mystery of faith; how we do not practice the peace you intend in our relationships, our community, or even in the church. Forgive us, we pray, and help us not to be afraid. Like the shepherds, we want to follow and find you. In the Savior's name we pray. Amen.

Silent Prayer

DECLARATION OF PARDON

SUNG RESPONSE

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Refrain: "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING: Luke 2:1-11 (Pew Bible p. 58 in the New Testament)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

"Christmas Parade"

Rev. William Stell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

PH 44

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(The Apostles Creed)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his 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 O Holy Night Adolphe
(Sung by Gwendolyn Huber)

*THE DOXOLOGY

PH 592

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

I Wonder As I Wander John Jacob Niles (*sung by Casey McEniry*)
You're Here Battistelli/Benglover (*sung by Dana Maiuro*)
Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth arr. Crosby and Bowie
(*Sung by Margaret Crozer and Jeremy Mills*)

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**

Silent Night

PH 60

**Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das traute hoch heilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlafe in himmlischer Ruh!
Schlafe in himmlischer Ruh!**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

PIANO POSTLUDE

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Arr. Lowden

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

SERVING THIS LORD’S DAY

Pastor Rev. William Stell
Director of Music Gwendolyn Huber
Accompanist..... Dr. Robert Lowden
Deacon of the Month Lisa Van Pelt, 324-9149

SILENT NIGHT

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child
Holy infant, so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing, “Alleluia!”
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born

Silent night, holy night
Son of God, Love’s pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth

Silent night, holy night
Wondrous star, lend thy light
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pick up your envelopes for 2018; they will be on the back counter on Sunday, December 31st.

Interested in becoming a member of our church? We'll be welcoming new members in January! If you're interested and want to learn more, sign up on the yellow sheet at the back of the sanctuary, or talk to Pastor William.

Yoga Church resumes on Sunday, January 7th! Join us in the new year for our introductory-level yoga class, Sundays from 5 to 6pm. There's no set cost—pay whatever you can. Bring your own mat or towel.

St. Mary's Food Pantry Current Needs: shampoo; toothpaste; body lotion; razors. Please place items in the basket in the rear of the church. Thank you for your continued support and generosity. To learn more, go to: ***Facebook.com/St.MarysFoodPantry.***

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

CALENDAR

THIS WEEK

Sun 12/24	<i>Christmas Eve</i>	
	Worship	10:30 am
	Worship and Communion	8:00 pm
Mon 12/25	<i>Merry Christmas!</i>	
	Women's AA	7:30 pm
Thurs 12/28	AA	7:30 pm

NEXT WEEK

Sun 12/31	Worship	10:30 am
Mon 1/1/18	<i>Happy New Year!</i>	
	Women's AA	7:30 pm
Thurs 1/4	Percussion Ensemble	6:00 pm
	Choir	7:00 pm
	AA	7:30 pm
	Handbells.....	8:15 pm
Sun 1/7	Children's Chime Choir	8:55 am
	Church School.....	9:15 am
	Worship	10:30 am
	Yoga Church	5:00-6:00 pm
	Youth Group	6:00 pm

Rev. Stell's office hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 am to 1 pm. In addition, he hosts "office hours" at Starbucks on Dunns Mill Road from 8:00 am to 10:00 am on Fridays. You may also make an appointment with him on other days. To reach him, please email him at PastorWilliam@bordentownpresbyterian.org or call him at (609) 316-7165.

First Presbyterian Church

*Worship on the Lord's Day
December 24, 2017, 8:00 pm*



Hanna Varghese's God Is with Us

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Rev. William Stell, Pastor

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