

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City (PCUSA)

14391 Minnieville Road Woodbridge, VA 22193

703.670.7834 fupcdc.org LIKE us on Facebook Find us on Instagram @ fupcdc



Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

December 24, 2022

7:30 PM

The Reverend Adam C. Bowling - Pastor

Adam.Bowling@fupcdc.org

828.448.8914

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Felix Mendelssohn, Arr. Larry Shackley

Justin Streletz, Pianist

CHRISTMAS WELCOME

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

BELLS

The three tolls call us to worship and symbolize our belief in the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In quiet reverence, we prepare for worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us go, in heart and mind, to see what has come to pass.

Let us go with the shepherds:

Let us go to find the Savior!

Let us go with the wise ones:

Let us go to find God's promise, born for us!

Let us go with the poor and humble:

Let us go to find our King, born in a lowly manger.

Let us go with all the world, with all the peoples of the nations.

Come, let us worship; come, let us adore him:

Christ the Lord!

OPENING HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

133

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Turay Family

Tonight we light the Christ candle in celebration that Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love have been born to us and in us through the coming of our Savior. On this eve so long ago an angel proclaimed the greatest truth:

"Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

 **CHRISTMAS PRAYER**

 **RESPONSE** *Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child*

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 **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of Christ's peace with those around you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR CHILDREN

HYMN *Away in a Manger*

115

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of light, you have revealed your very self to us in your son Jesus Christ, your one Word made flesh, who lived among us, full of grace and truth. Open us to your revelation once again, that in the words of your holy scripture we might know your presence and follow in your light always.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7 NRSV

The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
 on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied exultation;
 you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden
 and the bar across their shoulders,
 the rod of their oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
 and all the garments rolled in blood
 shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Great will be his authority,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Prepare!
FUPCDC Chancel Choir

Diane Hannibal, Douglas Nolan

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Titus 2:11-14 NRSV

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:1-20 NRSV

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

The Biggest Baby Ever

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

If you would like to speak with someone about becoming a Christian, about church membership, or about a special prayer need, please speak with Pastor Adam or someone at the Welcome Table right outside the sanctuary. For those worshipping online, please email Pastor Adam at adam.bowling@fupcdc.org. Know that ALL are welcome in this place!

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

 **HYMN OF RESPONSE** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

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SERVICE OF GIVING

(Unless designated, tonight’s offering is a Christmas Joy Gift and is not part of regular pledged giving. If your offering is for the church budget, please designate that it is part of your pledge or is a gift to the church on your envelope or check.)

Music at the Offering

O Holy Night
Justin Streletz, Pianist

Adolph’s C. Adam, Arr. John Carter



*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*



PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of wonder, we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy. Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know the riches of your love in the Word-made-flesh.

Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Instructions: Please come by way of the center aisle when an usher indicates to receive communion. All the bread is gluten free. Please partake of the elements when you receive them, and dispose of your cups in the baskets provided. You may return to your seats by way of the outside aisles. If you cannot come forward please notify an usher, and a server will bring communion to you in your row, or you may pick up a prefilled communion cup in the Welcome Center. Know that all are welcome to the Table of the Lord.

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise. . .

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(Sung)*

Albert Hay Malotte

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION



COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Music during Communion

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing/ Jesus, the Light of the World
Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

127

143

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

WE GO IN GOD’S NAME


SERVICE OF LIGHT


The Pastor will light the choir’s candles with the flame from the Christ candle. Choir members in turn give light to the worshipers nearest the aisle, who will pass it on to the others in that row. Please tip the UNLIT candle toward the LIT candle to avoid spilling hot wax.


HYMN *Silent Night, Holy Night! (verse 3 a cappella)* 122

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES

 **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Joy to the World* 134

 **POSTLUDE** *Sing We Now of Christmas*
TRADITIONAL FRENCH CAROL, Arr. Mark Hayes
Justin Streletz, Pianist

 *Please stand, in body or in spirit.*

WHEN LEAVING THE PARKING LOT . . . for safety, please turn right when exiting the church parking lot and make a U-turn at the traffic light instead of turning left onto Minnieville Road.

Have a very Merry Christmas!
We invite you to join us for worship TOMORROW, December 25th
10:00 AM - one worship service

Church Office Hours: 10AM -2:30PM, weekdays, 703-670-7834

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City, Woodbridge, VA
Ministers.....People of the Church
Pastor.....Rev. Adam C. Bowling
Parish Assistant..... Pastor Michael Slayter
Chancel Choir Director..... Dana Van Slyke
Pianist/Organist.....Justin Streletz
Nursery Supervisor..... Joann Paige
Sexton..... Homer Detrich
Office Manager..... Kim Parker



*Poinsettias were given
to the Glory of God . . .*



*Barbara Baker and Chic Milam, in memory of
Donald Baker and Nellis Milam
Bob and Sandy Chamberlin, in honor of
our four daughters and their beautiful families
Bob and Sandy Chamberlin, in memory of
our parents, Joe and Ruth Chamberlin and Ed and Georgie Stratton
Jeff and Kathy Cobb, in memory of Charles Irvin
Jeff and Kathy Cobb, in honor of our family
Pam Cox, in loving memory of Lisa Chrzan
Claudia Cunningham, in memory of my parents,
Florence and Sam Cunningham and my sister, Anne C. Woodfin
Caroline Garrett Diaz, in loving memory of
my dad, Robert and my sisters, Carol and Cathy
Tom and Karen Elliott, in memory of
Tom Elliott, Sr. and our son, Mark
Brian and Diane Fulton, in memory of
Jacob and Scott Fulton
Sofie Garrett, in loving memory of
my husband, Robert and my daughters, Carol and Cathy
Bruce and Betsy Gilbert, in honor of our families
Jeanette Gregory, in memory of my parents and John
Kathy McNeely, in honor of
Cathy Albrecht and Jeannie Scott
(for helping me with my home infusions)
Bob and Sara Porter, in memory of
The Reverend William N. Clark, Jr. and Jane Clark
Doug and Ann Randles, in honor of
our children and their families
Melissa Reidy Nordstrom, in loving memory of
my parents, Carol and Pat Reidy
Melissa Reidy Nordstrom, in loving memory of
my father-in-law, Ron Glass
Barbara Wilson, in memory of Lynn P. Wilson*

Your poinsettias may be picked up after the 10 AM worship service on December 25th. Thank you!

