

\*indicates standing, if able.
This service is being recorded by video and audio means.





## ~ We Gather ~

Welcome Rev. Matt Nieman

Prelude Glory Revealed Candi Pearson Shelton

Musical Ensemble

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Lighting of the Advent Candle

Come to the Manger: Peace for Advent Brian Davison and Paul Johnson

Written by Andrew Kooman. Performed by special permission from Skit Guys, Inc.

\*Call to Worship

Wilderness living calls us to seek God in the voice that cries out, "Valleys will be lifted up and mountains will be made low," to seek God in the sound of the one who speaks of peace, "The day of the Lord is coming," to seek God in the loud noise that foretells what will be made new. In the wilderness, let us listen only for God's voice.

Let us worship God!

\*Opening Songs

Angels from the Realms of Glory and Prepare the Way

(words and music printed on following pages)





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### \*Prayer of Confession

Great God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness.

We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed; we have not been at peace.

We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love.

Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins,

That we may walk in righteousness to the glory of your name.

\*Declaration of Forgiveness

\*The Peace

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



# ~Children's Christmas Pageant~

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Congregation (seated)

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!

Joy to the World Congregation (seated)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

We Three Kings of Orient Are Congregation (seated)

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar; field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding guide us to thy perfect light!

## Angels We Have Heard on High

Congregation (seated)

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.

> Away in a Manger Children

Go Tell It on the Mountain Children with CiCi Teasley, soloist



CAST AND CREW:	
Mary	Cheyanne Feldhausen
Joseph	
Innkeeper	
Angel	
Shepherds, Wisemen, Angels, Star	FPC children
Narrators	LisaKay Matchen
	Savannah Mashue
Youth Readers	. Thomas Houlihan
	Micah Bohlken
	Landon Eiffert
	Julianna Snelling-Brandon
Authors	Sarah Mashue & LisaKay Matchen
Costumes	LisaKay Matchen, Mary Ellen Haig,
	Helen Nalley & Nancy Pevey
Set	
Flute	
Piano	
Soloist	CiCi Teasley

# ~We Respond~

Reflection Rev. Matt Nieman

Call for Giving

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.

## ~We Go Out Into the World~



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## **Special thanks to today's Music Ensemble:**

Sandra Bohlken, guitar and vocals ~ Joey Nieman, guitar and vocals ~ Mindy Houlihan, vocals Tim Mashue, bass guitar ~ Kevin Zetina, percussion

If you would like the church office to record your attendance today, you can:

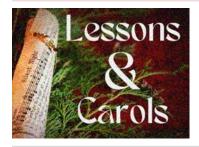


Scan this QR code and click on the generated google doc link, or

- Go to https://tinyurl.com/record-FPC-attendance, or
- Email the office at office@fpctn.org, or
- Sign the pew attendance pad.

# Please join us for a COOKIE RECEPTION after the service in the narthex.





Next Sunday, December 17 at a 10:00 service, we will have our twenty-sixth annual **SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS** followed by a heavy hors-d'œuvre reception! The Service of Lessons and Carols is a traditional seasonal service of scripture and music. It is a very special and intimate service celebrating the true meaning of the season. Come sing the Christmas carols you know and love and be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to join us!

**SHEPHERD OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY:** We have been asked to provide specific items for holiday meals in December for food pantry families. We are collecting boxes/bags of stuffing mix, cake mixes, and ready-to-use cans of frosting. You can place your donations in the Shepherd of Hope shopping cart in the narthex. <u>Last day to donate is Sunday, December 17</u>.



A <u>BIG THANK YOU</u> for the generosity of everyone who participated in the Christmas Drive for Sunset Gap. You have made Christmas a little merrier for 40 children. Their sponsorship this year is for 220 children in Cocke Co.

Thank you to those who donated hats, mittens and scarves for the community. These will be available to anyone who needs them through February.

Thank you also to those who donated food for the food pantry. They served 593 families in November, even though they took Thanksgiving week off.

The <u>CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING</u> is one of four annual special offerings. The Special Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and they profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church. This offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. We will be collecting this offering on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> or you can give anytime using pew envelopes, by mail, or online at <a href="https://www.fpctn.org">www.fpctn.org</a>.

**BLESSINGS:** Kent and Joyce Williams have a new grandson *Joseph William Malone* born on December 6th at 7lb 9oz. Their daughter Kara and her husband Turner Malone are the proud parents.





My name is Turner Neely, and I am a member of Boy Scout Troop 444 and Farragut Presbyterian Church, sponsor of the troop. I am currently working on my <a href="Eagle Scout project for SOS Beagle">Eagle Scout Project for SOS Beagle</a> Rescue located in Knoxville.

I will be constructing a retaining wall in the puppy run to fix erosion issues. This will allow the puppies to play in a dirt and mud free environment where potential adopters can interact with the puppies and choose which one to adopt. I expect this project will cost at least \$300-\$500 for supplies of stone, gravel, and grass. If anyone would like to donate to my project, it would be greatly appreciated. Any funds raised above the cost of the project will be donated to SOS Beagle Rescue. For more information on how to donate, see me or go to <a href="https://tinyurl.com/TNeagleproject">https://tinyurl.com/TNeagleproject</a>. Thank you for your support.



#### **2023 Year-End Giving Reminders**

- To be counted as a **2023** contribution:
  - Checks or cash must be received at FPC or mailed items postmarked by 12/31/23.
  - Donations by credit card are deductible in the year the donor makes the charge (transaction posting
  - o ACH, EFT, stock transfers or other online donations are deductible in the year the bank transfers the stock or funds to FPC. Please make sure your <u>online giving is initiated</u> by Tuesday, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> in time for the transaction to post on Friday, Dec. 29, 2023. The donation confirmation page on our website will confirm the date your account is debited for online giving transactions.
- Don't file your 2023 tax return before receiving your FPC 2023 year-end giving statement, so that you have IRS-compliant documentation of any gifts of cash or checks to FPC that are \$250 or more.
- Year-end donation statements will be mailed by Jan 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

#### PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Andy Andrew, Candice Blake, Sue Burton, Kathy Emmerson, Frank Guess, Paul Hanson, Jimmy and Beth Loyless, Irma McGuffey, Tami Newsom, Steve Tinder, Helen Weaver

A <u>memorial service</u> will be held today, Sunday, December 10 at 3pm in the sanctuary to honor the life of FPC member Dianna Lynn Daw.



# HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

If you would like to help us offset the cost of decorating the church for the holidays by making a contribution in honor or memory of a loved one, just fill out this form and include your check made payable to <a href="Farragut Presbyterian Church">Farragut Presbyterian Church</a>, with "Holiday Decorations" designated in the memo line. Place your check and this form in the sanctuary basket, drop them off in the church office or mail them to the church. Our cost per poinsettia is \$10.00, however, your gift may be in any amount. An insert will be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin listing the dedications.

I am making a gift towards holiday decorations, to the Glory of God, and:

Please Print Clearly
In Honor/Memory of(Circle One)
In Honor/Memory of(Circle One)
In Honor/Memory of
In Honor/Memory of(Circle One)
In Honor/Memory of
**************************************
Donated by:

Sun, Dec 10	10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Children's Christmas Pageant		
	11:00	a.m.	Christmas Cookie Reception/Narthex
	3:00	p.m.	Memorial Service for Dianna Lynn Daw/Sanctuary
	6:00	p.m.	Youth Group/Parlor
Mon, Dec 11	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Narthex
	11:45	a.m.	Big Fish Music/Room A and Sanctuary
	6:00	p.m.	STEM Scouts/Fellowship Hall
	7:00	p.m.	Christian Education Committee/Zoom
Tues, Dec 12	7:00	p.m.	Stephen Ministry Group/Library
	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #1/Room A
	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #2/Library
	11:45	a.m.	Big Fish Chapel/Sanctuary
Wed, Dec 13	7:00	p.m.	Session/Library
	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #3/Library
	11:45	a.m.	Big Fish Chapel/Sanctuary
Thur, Dec 14	6:00	p.m.	FPC Ringers Rehearsal/Sanctuary
	7:30	p.m.	Chancel Choir/Room A
	8:00	a.m.	Men's Bible Study/Narthex
	9:30	a.m.	Big Fish Christmas Program/Sanctuary, Narthex
	6:30	p.m.	Cub Scouts #444/Fellowship Hall
Fri, Dec 15	7:00	p.m.	Thursday Night Bible Study/Zoom
	9:30	a.m.	Big Fish Christmas Program/Sanctuary, Narthex
	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Room A
Sat, Dec 16	10:00	a.m.	Rehearsal for Lessons and Carols/Sanctuary

# Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Class	Room	Topic
Adult Bible Study	Outside or in Room D in bad weather	This class discusses the Lectionary text from the sermon, and still meets under the trees in good weather
		and in Room D in not-so-good weather.
Pastor Matt's Class	Library	Come join this Bible study group led by Pastor Matt and others at 9:00 in the Library. The class study is currently based largely on reflections of author and pastor Brian McClaren in his book <i>A Generous Orthodoxy</i> .
Youth	Café (Parlor)	The youth Sunday School class meets to "DIVE IN to the Old Testament!" Each week throughout the school year, youth explore a specific book of the Old Testament utilizing videos and discussion.





# FARRAGUT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Email: office@fpctn.org ~ Website: www.fpctn.org

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday: 9am to 3pm ~ Friday: 9am to 1pm

