

The First Presbyterian Church
in Pitman, NJ
Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 24, 2017 | 10 AM | Rev. Drew Harrison

For Prayer & Contemplation

If holiness and the awful power and majesty of God were present in this least auspicious of all events, this birth of a peasant's child, then there is no place or time so lowly and earthbound but that holiness can be present there too.

- Frederick Buechner

Prelude Tyler Bell Choir – “West Indies Carol” – arr. Tucker

Opening Hymn #140 “Once in Royal David’s City”

Welcome

Bidding Prayer

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.

Advent Candle Lighting

Who are we, Lord God,
that you should come to us?

**Yet you have redeemed your people
and redeemed us in your son.**

As we prepare to celebrate his birth,
**make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word,
and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.**

The First Lesson

Genesis 2:18-23

Anthem Sanctuary Choir - “Adam Lay Ybounden” - Ord

The Second Lesson

2 Kings 22:8-22, 23:1-4, 21-25

Anthem Sunshine Singers - “The Savior Comes”
Franck, arr. Hopson

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9

***Hymn No. 141** “On This Day Earth Shall Ring”

The Fourth Lesson

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Anthem Tyler Bell Choir – “Fum, Fum, Fum” – Spanish carol, arr. Ingram

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

Presentation of Tithes/Offering

Offertory “The Angel Gabriel” – arr. Eggert

***Doxology # 606**

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.

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

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

The Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Anthem Women’s Ensemble - "There is No Rose" – Anonymous, c. 1420

The Seventh Lesson

Luke 2:8-20

***Hymn No. 133** "O Come All Ye Faithful"

The Eighth Lesson

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

Closing Prayer

Benediction Hymn No. 134 “Joy to the World”
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.

Organ Postlude "Joy to the World" - arr. Phillips

**Please stand as you are able*

Please be advised that our worship service is filmed from the balcony. Though the camera's focus is primarily on the chancel, there are wide shots that may include parts of the congregation sitting near the front.



Every Sunday, please join us in the Social Hall following worship service for coffee and fellowship at "Coffee Hour". All are welcome.

Ushers & Greeters



Thank you to our Worship Servers	
Greeter	Peggy Price
Ushers	Linda Waller, Carol Schoepske, John Fitzpatrick, Margaret Ginter
Tellers	Terri Lovelace, Carol Schoepske, John Fitzpatrick
Advent Candle Lighting	the Russell Family



Music Notes

Today's offertory is John Eggert's 2012 setting of "Gabriel's Message," an 18th century folk tune with origins in the Basque region of France. The postlude is Craig Phillips' toccata based on the tune "Antioch" by George Frederick Handel. We thank the Sunshine Singers, Sanctuary Choir and Tyler Bell Choir for sharing

special music with us this morning, and we thank our readers of lessons: Matthew Gerace, Jennifer Grenier, Stephen Hwang, Dave Nicastro, Emily Polhamus and Betsy Wriggins.

God bless you on your birthday.

- December 24 David Owens
- December 27 Mildred Haines
Marilyn Rabbai
- December 29 Carol Schoepske
- December 30 Don Zimmerman



~ Calendar ~

- December 24 7pm Christmas Pageant – Non-perishable food items collected for Food Pantry
11pm Communion Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service
- December 31 940am Christmas Carols Hymn Sing
10am Worship Service
11am Taking Down the Greens

THE FIRST
 PRESBYTERIAN
 CHURCH IN PITMAN

"God's Open House"

10 Wildwood Avenue
 Pitman, NJ 08071
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**Communion on the first Sunday of the month
 Sunday School every week, 10:20-11:05 AM**

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