

The First Presbyterian Church in Pitman, NJ

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25, 2016 @ 10 AM – Rev. Paul Grenier

For Prayer & Contemplation

“O shining day-break of piety and famously wonderful works, Nicholas the Holy high priest of Christ is presented to all of us gathered here to give glory to God. I see that as we annually celebrate him, he guides us like a glowing and clear beam of light from the Son of Justice, and so he radiates through the clouds as one of gold, while showering sparks of his virtues.”

-Preface to *A Life of St. Nicholas* by Michael the Archimandrite 700 AD

Welcome & Sharing Information Please sign the Fellowship Pad.

Prelude “Christmas Bells” – Elvey

Call to Worship

One: Come all you people, it’s here! Our savior is born!

All: **We come with gladness and joy!**

One: Come and see the work of the Lord!

All: **A child is born in a manger, with the power to save the world.**

One: We come and join the shepherds on their knees and the wise men with their gifts.

All: **We come with humility and praise, hosanna in the highest!**

*Hymn No. 134 “Joy to the World”

Prayer of Renewal

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Moment of Silence

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Hymn No. 582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be Amen.

Passing of Peace

Anthem “Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head” - arr. Edmunds
Don Zimmerman, trumpet

[Provisional] Time with Children (No Sunday School)

Scripture Luke 2:8-20
NT 58
LP 71

Sermon “Christmas Stories” (An interactive Sermon)
–*Rev. C. Paul Grenier*

Presentation of Tithes/Offering

Offertory “Go, Tell It On the Mountain” - arr. Larson
Ed Mitchell, piano

*Doxology No. 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

Glory to you, Giver of all good gifts! We present our tithes and offerings to you with glad thanks and praise for every blessing from your love, and especially for the best gift of yourself in the child Jesus. May you bless our humble offering so that it spreads your good tidings throughout the world! Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Dolores Cheesman and family, the family of Debbie Rose, the family of Kay Euler, Tom Hahn, the family of Dan Romano, the family of Helen Fitzpatrick, Linda Brown, Ken Swain, Bobbi Wilkins, Helena Roberts, the family of Eric King, Joe Carmichael, Bill McFarland, Fred & Doris Oltmann, the family of Betty Mixner, Carol Owens, the family of Kevin & Liz Gianfortune, Colleen Printy, Gary Wriggins, Cathy Russo, Debby Guarni, the family of Leslie Smathers, Jackie Kummer, Jennette Roesly, Jim McNabb, Marie Roberts, Deborah McLaverty, the family of Earl Warner, Robert Kressly, John Tignor, Nic Albadine, Dot Clay, Dorothy Weir, Rachel Ledden-Albadine, Betzaida Plaza, Kyle Hayes, Lorraine Kaltreider, Renee Farrell, Glenn Raudenbush, George Gruber, Erin Fitzpatrick, Montana Lovelace-LaPierre

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.

*Hymn No. 136 “Go Tell It On the Mountain”

Benediction

Benediction Hymn No. 748 “Go with Us, Lord”
Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you. Note: *Our benediction choral response is sung to a tune called “Tallis’ Canon.” Composed by Thomas Tallis, it is called a canon because it is written in a style of imitation also known as a round. The organ accompaniment supports congregational singing of the tune starting on the first beat, and a secondary entrance of the same tune 4 beats later. You are welcome to join in at either time!*

Postlude “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” - arr. Carter
Don Zimmerman, trumpet

**Please stand as you are able.*

Thank you to our Worship Servers	
Acolyte	Matthew Hwang
Liturgist	John Polhamus
Greeters	Ed & Ginnie Mitchell
Tellers	Dan Enright, Liz Degori, Darlene Powell

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.

All are welcome to join in fellowship for Coffee Hour in the Social Hall.



Music Notes

Today's prelude was written especially for Christmas Day services at St. George's Windsor church by English organist and composer Sir George Job Elvey, born in 1816. Our special music is a folk carol originating from the Appalachian Mountains. We thank Don Zimmerman and Ed Mitchell for sharing special music with us this morning.

Birthdays of the Week

December 25 to January 1

- 27** Mildred Haines, Marilyn Rabbai
- 29** Carol Schoepske
- 30** Don Zimmerman
- 1** John Donofrio, Emily Owens

Happy Birthday!

This Week's Calendar

December 25 to January 1

Sunday 25	Christmas Day 10 AM Worship
Monday 26	Church Office Closed 7 PM Worship Meeting – Up Kitchen
Tuesday 27	7:15 PM Stephen Ministries – Up Kitchen
Wednesday 28	7 PM PNC – ML
Thursday 29	7 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 8 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Friday 30	
Saturday 31	9 AM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 9:30 AM Grace Circle
Sunday 1	New Year's Day 10 AM Worship (no communion) 6 PM Youth Group – Social Hall

The First Presbyterian Church in Pitman

"God's Open House"

10 Wildwood Avenue

Pitman, NJ 08071

(856) 589-1050



Sunday Worship Service @ 10 AM
Communion on the first Sunday of the month
Sunday School every week, 10:20-11:05 AM

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Merry & Christmas