

First Presbyterian Church

Whiteville,
North Carolina

"To be a light in our
community reflecting
Christ's love and
compassion..."

*Third Sunday of
Advent*

December 16, 2018



Rev. Dr. Joseph D.
Washburn

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

The Humphreys

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of
Christ.

Blessed is the community of Christ-followers.

Make way for the coming of Christ.

We wait, we prepare, we give thanks!

*Hymn of Praise

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"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Gore Family

Congregational Response

**O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us
adore Him; O come, let us adore Him, Christ
the Lord!**

Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

**We are mindful of the ways we walk in
darkness, avoiding the light, Light of the
World. We choose to live with harmful habits
rather than count on you to bring us to
health. We choose to stay the same rather
than accept the new life to which you draw
us. Forgive us for our unwillingness to
change. Create in us a desire for the
adventure of life lived in the light. Amen.**

*Song of Assurance

92

"While We Are Waiting, Come"

*Assurance of Forgiveness

The Lord does not take delight in sacrifices and
burnt offerings. We do not need to bring any
animal or gift to God in order to receive
forgiveness.

**We have been forgiven through the sacrifice
of God's Son, Jesus Christ, whose birth we
await once more. Amen.**

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer 35

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.

*Passing of the Peace

Proclaiming the Word

Time with the Children

Choral Anthem

"Songs of the Angels"

Purifoy

Prayer for Understanding

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:8-14

This is the Word of the Lord;
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Joseph D. Washburn

"Faces at the Manger...the Angels"

Responding to the Word

*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

35

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.

Call for the Offering

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

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*Doxology

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.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Commitment "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

*Charge and Benediction

* Benediction Response "Christmas Isn't Christmas" Choir and Congregation
Christmas isn't Christmas 'til it happens in your heart,
Somewhere deep inside you is where Christmas really starts;
So, give your heart to Jesus, you'll discover when you do
That it's Christmas, really Christmas for you.

Music in Preparation for Service to the World

**Please stand if you are able.*

Next Week:

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: "Faces at the Manger...the Magi"

<p><u>Community</u> <u>Advent</u> <u>Service</u> Wednesday, December 19 12:00 pm Grace Episcopal Church</p>	<p>Reminder: 2018 Pledges</p>  <p>Must be finalized by December 31, 2018 All money given after this date will be applied towards 2019 totals. <small>Please contact the church office at 612-2253 if you have any questions or concerns.</small></p>	 <p>A Message from The Session: If you would like to give a gift to our staff members, Pastor Joe, Doug Spivey, or Karen Ware, you may give a gift directly or write a check to "First Presbyterian Church" with "staff gifts" in the memo; all monies collected by December 24th will be split evenly between them.</p>
 <p>Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm</p>	<p><u>Church Office Closed</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, December 21 • Tuesday, December 25 – • Wednesday, December 26 <p><i>Have a safe and Merry Christmas!</i></p>	

WELCOME! We welcome you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! May today's worship open you to God. *Your entire family is welcome*, but we do offer a nursery for children birth to 3 years of age located in the education building behind the sanctuary.

Prayer Concerns: Geraldine Becker; Kathryn Clark; John Hall; Dolores Harris; Bob High; Rita & R. L. Lewis; Miriam Marks; Grace Palmer; Sally Smith; Walter Strickland; Nancy Thurston.

Assisted Care: Arlene Blaha; Anna Jane Collier; Charlene Hinnant; Kenneth Smith; Ellen Thurston.

Friends: Pat Allen; Sara and Rob Armstrong; Annette Caldwell; Billie Joe Conrad; Shari Dutton; Betty Faircloth; Rick Hedgecock; Shelby Hodge; Barry Housend; Fred Meekins, Sr.; Daphne McLeod; Jerome McPherson; Gail Moye; Angie Pinkston; Hollis Salyer; Barbara Shepherd; Ken Smith; Arthur Sweum; Tori Tarro; Ronnie Thayer; Gail Townsend; Melba Ward.

Please notify the office when names can be removed.

Nursery Team:	December 16: Ethan Scott	December 23: Kaye Pope
Sound Team:	December 16: Josh Horne	December 23: Jonathan Medford
Backpack Ministry:	December 16: Youth	December 23: MVE Committee
Head Usher:	December: Sara Cartrette	January: Coke Gray III

CHURCH CALENDAR:

Sunday, December 16:	Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary - 6:00 pm
Monday, December 17:	Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall - 6:30 pm
	Al-Anon, Reformed Rebels Classroom - 7:00 pm
	Oratorio Concert, Sanctuary - 7:30 pm
Tuesday, December 18:	Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
	MVE Committee Meeting, Parlor - 5:30 pm
	Cub Scout Pack Meeting, Fellowship Hall - 6:00 pm
Wednesday, December 19:	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room - 5:30 pm
	Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Thursday, December 20:	Chicks with Sticks, Parlor - 10:30 am
	Scout Roundtable, Fellowship Hall - 6:30 pm
	Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Friday, December 21:	Office Closed
Sunday, December 23:	Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary - 5:30 pm
Monday, December 24:	Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary - 5:00 pm
	Al-Anon, Reformed Rebels Classroom - 7:00 pm
	Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Tuesday, December 25:	Merry Christmas! - Office Closed
Wednesday, December 26:	Office Closed
	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room - 5:30 pm
	Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm

Contact the church office: 910-642-2253	OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm, M-F
Pastor Joe: pastorjoe@fpcwhiteville.org	Karen: karen@fpcwhiteville.org
Cell: 910-625-8023	Website: www.fpcwhiteville.org
Live-Stream of Service: www.facebook.com/fpcwhiteville or Channel 1304 (Spectrum)	
<i>Check us out on Twitter @FPCWhiteville or Facebook @fpcwhiteville</i>	