

# Fincastle Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020 – 10:30am – Live Streaming



## Mission Statement

Striving to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ growing in God through uplifting and inspiring spiritual experiences and serving our community in love

Prelude: "Savior of the Heathen, Come" J.S. Bach  
Evelyn Renshaw, Organist

Welcome and Announcements:

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Patsy & David Dickerson

### Opening

Scripture: Matthew. 25:1-13

Meditation Music: O Christ who art the Light of the World Dupré

### Reading Part 1

Congregational Hymn: #135 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

### Reading Part 2

### Prayer

Call to Confession: (unison)

**The proof of God's amazing love is this; while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare with confidence to approach God. Let us ask God to forgive us.**

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

### Almighty God,

**You love us, but we have not loved you; you call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped up in our own concerns. We have gone along with evil, with prejudice, warfare, and greed. God our Father, help us to face up to ourselves, so that, as you move toward us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Silent Confession: Amen

Kyrie: #823

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Pardon: (unison)

**Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Friends, let us believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\*Gloria Patri: #805

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: #540

"Take Time to Be Holy"

Prayer of Illumination:

The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, D.Min

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 64:1-9

Mark 13:24-37

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

Sermon:

"Where is God"

The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, D.Min

\*Profession of Faith:

The Apostles' Creed

Hymn: #519

"It Is Well with My Soul"

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Postlude: "Fugue in a minor"

J.S. Bach

Evelyn Renshaw, Organist

## Announcements

**Prayer Concerns:** Laura Holt McCann, Jackie Ferrel, Family of Ruth Schaaf (Bev's Mother), Mary Lee Reese, Mary Black, Clyde & Nathalie Givens, Kaki Peaslee, Doug Ross, Dianne & John Poynor, Marilyn Koch (Lisa's Mother), Family of Janet Woolwine (Carolyn's Sister), Alexis Porter (Porter's Granddaughter), Molly Rose (Valerie Lucas's Cousin), Gwen Griffith, Gretchen Greiner, The Family of Ann Whitehurst (Evelyn's Friend), Lisa Curlee (Sarah Bulmer's Sister), Phyllis Tenser, Marc Evans (Nephew of Peggy's Friend), Rebecca Cook (Evelyn's Cousin), Luke Waldrop (Father of Dr. Kathy Kerkering), Michael Miracle (Kip & Lyn's Nephew), Family of Rosalie Schade (Mark Schade's Mom), Family of Mary Myers, Family of Holly Myers, Family of Roberta Meredith (Sue Porter's Sister)

**Angel Tree 2020 will be done differently:** We are taking donations which will be forwarded to the Social Services Christmas/Outreach fund. This fund will be used to buy gifts and provide food to families not adopted. They foresee a much bigger need this year. Donations can be made out to Fincastle Presbyterian Church with ANGEL TREE in the memo line and mailed to the church. We feel this is a safe and effective way to support this Christmas outreach. Thanks, Becky DesChamps, Ginnie Philippe and Verna Shuey.

**Tithes can be received by the following:** Mail check to PO Box 144 Fincastle, VA 24090. If you have any questions please contact Beth at [fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com)

**New Church Email Address:** [fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com)

**Members:** Please like Fincastle Presbyterian Church on Facebook.

**Please email:** Any contact and address changes to [fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com)

**Birthdays:** Garland Jones 11/3, Nick DesChamps 11/12, Jim Porter 11/26

## First Scripture Reading:

### Isaiah 64:1-9

<sup>1</sup>O that thou wouldst rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at thy presence <sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil to make thy name known to thy adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at thy presence! <sup>3</sup>When thou didst terrible things which we looked not for, thou camest down, the mountains quaked at thy presence. <sup>4</sup>From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides thee, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup>Thou meetest him that joyfully works righteousness, those that remember thee in thy ways. Behold, thou wast angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? <sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. <sup>7</sup>There is no one that calls upon thy name, that bestirs himself to take hold of thee; for thou hast hid thy face from us, and hast delivered us into the hand of our iniquities. <sup>8</sup>Yet, O Lord, thou art our Father; we are the clay, and thou art our potter; we are all the work of thy hand. <sup>9</sup>Be not exceedingly angry, O Lord, and remember not iniquity for ever. Behold, consider, we are all thy people.

## Second Scripture Reading:

### Mark 13:24-37

<sup>24</sup>“But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>And then they will see the Son of man coming in clouds with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>And then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. <sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away before all these things take place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>32</sup>“But of that day or that hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Take heed, watch; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Watch therefore—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning— <sup>36</sup>lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Watch.”

## Hymns:

### Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

2 Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king, born to reign in us for ever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

### Take Time to Be Holy

1 Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord; abide in him always, and feed on his Word. Make friends of God's children; help those who are weak, forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.

4 Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul, each thought and each motive beneath his control; thus led by his Spirit to fountains of love, thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.

### It is Well with My Soul

1 When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain:

It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

4 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend: "Even so"— it is well with my soul."

(Refrain )

### First Sunday of Advent

Matthew 25:1-13

Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you; I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour

### I will Light Candles This Christmas

by: Howard Thurman

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I will Light candles this Christmas,  
Candles of joy despite all the sadness,  
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,  
Candles of Courage for fears ever present,  
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days  
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,  
Candles o love to inspire all my living,  
Candles that will burn all year long.