

Fincastle Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

2nd Sunday of Christmas

January 3, 2021 – 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: Evelyn Renshaw, Organist

Welcome and Announcements:

Call to Worship: Isaiah 40:31 (unison)

Let us worship God. Those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Praise the Lord! The Lord's name be praised!

Prayer of Invocation: The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, D.Min

Hymn: #165 (v1 & 3) "I Wonder as I Wander"

Call to Confession: (unison)

Let us ask God to forgive us of our sins.

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Eternal God,

You make all things new, and forgive old wrongs we can't forget. We confess we have spent time without loving, and years without purpose; and the calendar condemns us. Daily we have done wrong, and failed to do what you demand. Forgive the past; do not let evil cripple or shame us. Lead us into the future, free from sin, free to love, and ready to work for your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the 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)

O God, our eternal Judge and Savior, help us to embrace your forgiveness in Jesus Christ. In your purpose may our lives be lived. By your grace our hopes are bright. Be with us in the coming year, forgiving, leading, and saving. By you Holy Spirit may we walk without fear, in the way of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Gloria Patri: #805

Glory be to the Father, and 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 & The Lord's Prayer:

Hymn: #612 "How Firm a Foundation"

Prayer of Illumination: The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, D.Min

Scripture Reading:
Jeremiah 31:7-14 Old Testament Reading
John 1:1-18 New Testament Reading

Sermon: "The Word, the Life, the Light that Shines in the Darkness"
The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, D.Min

*Profession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

Hymn: #166 "While by the Sheep We Watched"

*Charge and Blessing

*Postlude: Evelyn Renshaw, Organist

Announcements

Prayer Concerns: Laura Holt McCann, Jean Branscom, Jackie Ferrel, Mary Lee Reese, Mary Black, Clyde & Nathalie Givens, Kaki Peaslee, Doug Ross, Dianne & John Poynor, Marilyn Koch (Lisa's Mother), Alexis Porter (Porter's Granddaughter), Molly Rose (Valerie Lucas's Cousin), Family of Gwen Griffith, Gretchen Greiner, Lisa Curlee (Sarah Bulmer's Sister), Phyllis Tenser, Marc Evans (Nephew of Peggy's Friend), Michael Miracle (Kip & Lyn's Nephew), Family of Paul Fitzgerald

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

New Church Email Address: fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com

Members: Please like Fincastle Presbyterian Church on Facebook.

Please email: Any contact and address changes to fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com

Birthdays: Carolyn Kniceley 1/5, Julia Richardson 1/12, Mike Goad 1/13, Mark Schade 1/17, Becky DesChamps 1/23

First Scripture Reading:

Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷ For thus says the Lord: "Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'The Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel.' ⁸ Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her who is in travail, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will make them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I am a father to Israel, and E'phraim is my first-born. ¹⁰ "Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands afar off; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.' ¹¹ For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall be like a watered garden, and they shall languish no more. ¹³ Then shall the maidens rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴ I will feast the soul of the priests with abundance, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, says the Lord."

Second Scripture Reading:

John 1:1-18

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God; ³ all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. ⁹ The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. ¹¹ He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. ¹⁵ (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") ¹⁶ And from his fulness have we all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.

Hymns:

I Wonder as I Wander

1 I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the Saviour did come for to die for poor ordinary people like you and like I; I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

3 If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, a star in the sky or a bird on the wing, or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing, he surely could have it 'cause he was the King.

How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

5 "The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake!"

While by the Sheep We Watched

1 While by the sheep we watched at night, glad tidings brought an angel bright: How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!

4 This gift of God we'll cherish well, that every joy our hearts shall fill. How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!