

For the Advent of Christmas, Christmas Music for Organ by French Composers, edited by Robert Leech Bedell, Edition Musicus, New York. **Prepare the Way of the Lord & Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah & Savior of the Nations Come & Prepare the Way, O Zion** Glory to God Hymnal, 2013 Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, Kentucky. **Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts**, The Diane Bish Christmas Collection, Service Music for Organ, JG-681, Gentry Publications, 1984. **The Worshiping Hymnal**, 1990. Hope Publishing Co., #133, O come, O Come Emmanuel, 21 How Great Thou Art, #558, Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, #823 Kyrie, #805 Gloria Patri, #809 Doxology.

Church Directory

PO Box 144, Fincastle VA 24090
(540) 473-2042
www.fincastlepresbyterian.org

The Session

Clerk of Session: John Kilby

2021: Lynne Bolton, Alan Brenner, John Griffith, Becky Downs

2022: Sandy Gates, Lyn Burton

2023: Cathy Goad, Paul Phillippe, Bo Trumbo

Trustees

Bob Omer, Garland Jones, Peggy Davis

The Church Staff

Interim Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, D.Min.

Treasurer: Hal Bailey

Organist & Choir Director: Rose Ann Burgess

Bookkeeper: Beth Clark

Please contact Beth at (540) 473-2042 or fincastlepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com by Tuesday at 9am with items you want included in the bulletin.

The Church Calendar

Morning Worship..... 10:30am

Session..... 4th Thursday of each month

The Presbyterian Church at Fincastle, Virginia, whose congregation dates to 1763, is a continuation of the Sinking Spring and Spreading Spring congregations formed prior to 1760 and the Mt. Union congregation organized in 1832. The original building was erected in 1771 for the established Church of England in Botetourt County. Presbyterians have worshipped here continuously since the Revolutionary War.

Service for the Lord's Day

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 12th, 2021 – 10:30am (In Person & Live Streaming)

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude: "For the Advent of Christmas" (Advent Carol with three variations) Balbâtre
Rose Ann Burgess, organist

Welcome and Announcements:

Introit: "Prepare the Way of the Lord" Taizè Community 1964

Call to Worship: Isaiah 35: 3-4

One: "Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

Many: Say to those who are a fearful heart, "Be Strong, do not fear!"

All: Here is your God. He will come... He will come and save you!"

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

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Alan Brenner & Grandchildren Joy
Light three candles for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

Hymn: #133 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Call to Confession: (unison)

Trusting in God's promised mercies in Jesus Christ, let us confess our sins before both God and our neighbor.

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

God of the future,

You are coming in power to bring our nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom. We have lived casual lives, and ignored your promised judgement. Judge us, O God, for we have been slow to serve you.

Forgive us, for the sake of your faithful servant Jesus, our Savior, whose triumph we want and eagerly wait for.

Silent Confession: **Amen**

Kyrie: #823

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon:

One: Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Many: He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross that we might be dead to sin and alive to all that is good.

All: We declare to all who repent, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

Gloria Patri: #805

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 & Lord's Prayer

Offertory Anthem: "Prepare the Way, O Zion" Swedish Advent Song

*Doxology # 809

*Prayer of Dedication

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

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Hymn: #21 (Verses 1 & 2) "How Great Thou Art"

New Testament Reading: Luke 3:7-18

Sermon: "Christmas Time's A Coming! What should we do?" The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, D.Min

Moment for Meditation: "Savior of the Nations, Come" German melody

*Profession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

Hymn: #558 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

*Charge and Blessing

*Postlude: "Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts" Edited, Diane Bish
Rose Ann Burgess, organist

*Standing

Announcements

Prayer Concerns: Laura Holt McCann, Mary Lee Reese, Mary Black, Nathalie Givens, Kaki Peaslee, Dianne Poynor, Marilyn Koch (Lisa's Mother), Molly Rose (Valerie Lucas's Cousin), Lisa Curlee (Sarah Bulmer's Sister), Marlene Davidow (Lynne's Friend), Meg Omer, Rick Vari, Mary Beth Huwe, Hiawatha "Hi" Niceley, Billie Wilson (Sue Porter's s.-in-law), Mack Neighbors, Family of Brenda Simmons (Willie's wife and Patsy's sister-in-law), Mary Woodard (Sandy's granddaughter), Eric Burton (Kip & Lyn's son)

Birthdays: Henry Brenner 12/2, Hannah Brenner 12/5, Jim Helms 12/24

Lessons & Carols Service: Sunday, December 19th

Please send donations to: Fincastle Presbyterian Church
PO Box 144
Fincastle, VA 24090

Scripture:**Zephaniah 3:14-20**

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has cast out your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear evil no more. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The Lord your God is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸as on a day of festival. "I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you together; yea, I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord.

Luke 3:7-18

⁷He said therefore to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits that befit repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰And the multitudes asked him, "What then shall we do?" ¹¹And he answered them, "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" ¹³And he said to them, "Collect no more than is appointed you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Rob no one by violence or by false accusation, and be content with your wages." ¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all men questioned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he were the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, "I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he preached good news to the people.

Hymns:**#133 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

[Refrain:] Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell thy people save and give them victory o'er the grave. (Refrain)

3 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; and drive away the shades of night, and pierce the clouds and bring us light! (Refrain)

4 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. (Refrain)

5 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill all the world with heaven's peace. (Refrain)

#21 How Great Thou Art (Verses 1 and 2)

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hand have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed.

[Refrain:] Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur, and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. (Refrain)

#558 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning, Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:

changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.