

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Reading: (pew bible pg. 595) Isaiah 11:1-10

Hymn: (see insert) *"In the Bleak Midwinter"*

New Testament Reading: (pew bible pgs. 836,837) Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon: *"God's Peaceable Kingdom Is Coming!"*
(But, not easily, nor cheaply!)
Rev. Dr. David Dickerson

Meditation: *"What Child Is This?"*
Trad. English Melody

*Profession of Faith #14 Apostles' Creed

The Sacrament of Holy Communion (see Insert)

*Hymn #174 (Vs. 1-4) *"Angels from the Realms of Glory"*

*Charge:

*Sung Response: (2x) *"Soon and Very Soon"*

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.

*Benediction

Postlude: *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*
C. Wesley



Members: Nathalie Givens, Hi Nicely, Meg and Bob Omer, Julia Richardson

Friends and family of FPC: Charlotte & Kathy Adkins (Danette's neighbors), Grayson Alfano (friend of Sandy Gates), Wyatt Bowman, Bill Ferrell (friend of Kip & Lyn Burton), the family of Dana McMurry (Keith McMurry's sister-in-law), Lilly and Alexis Porter, Mary Rae (organist at FUMC), Loretta Youngman (Kip Burton's cousin).

Service for the Lord's Day

December 7, 2025: 10:20 am Live Streaming & Gathering Music begin
10:30 am Chiming of the Hour for Worship

2nd Sunday of Advent Communion Sunday

Prelude
Back Street Ringers

"Go Tell It On The Mountain"
Spiritual/D.Hustad

Welcome and Announcements



Call to Worship: (responsive) (Psalm 72:1-4)

One: Let us worship God.
"Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness
to a king's son."

**Many: "May he judge your people with righteousness, and your
poor with justice."**

One: "May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and
the hills, in righteousness."

**Many: "May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give
deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor."**

One: Praise the Lord!

Many: The Lord's name be praised!

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn: #162 (Vs. 1,2,4)

"The First Noel"

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle—Peace

Alan, Evelyn &
James Brenner

*Advent Wreath Sung Response #140 (2x)

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.



Call to Confession: (Responsive)

(1 John 1:8,9)

One: If we claim to be sinless, we are self-deceived and strangers
to the truth.

**Many: If we confess our sins, God is just, and may be trusted to
forgive our sins and cleanse us from every kind of wrong.**

All: Let us admit our sin before God.

Prayer of Confession: (Unison)

God of the prophets,

In the wilderness of Jordan you sent a messenger to prepare our
hearts for the coming of your Son. We confess that we have so
crowded our hearts and minds with our self-centered desires and
our self-serving deeds, that we have failed to hear your prophet's
call to repent, and failed to live a life of deeds that are worthy of
repentance.

Help us to hear the good news of the birth of our Savior; help us
to repent of our self-serving ways. Help us to live lives of grateful
obedience, and to be ready to welcome our Lord and our Savior,
Jesus Christ into our lives right here and right now.

Silent Confession: Amen

Kyrie: **Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have
mercy upon us.** #823

Assurance of Pardon: (Responsive)

One: Great God of power: we praise you for Jesus Christ, who
came to save us from our sins. We thank you for the
prophet's hope, the angels' song, for the birth in Bethlehem.

**Many: We thank you that in Jesus you joined us, sharing human
hurts and pleasures. Glory to you for your wonderful love.**

**All: Glory to you eternal God, through Jesus Christ, Lord of lords,
and King of kings, forever. 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. #805

Prayers of the People



Offering:

Regular Offering
Offertory

"Once in Royal David's City"
H. Gauntlett

*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. Amen.** #808

*Prayer of Dedication





In the Bleak Midwinter 144

Special Music

*"Sing Alleluia"**Joyful Singers & Back Street Ringers***The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Invitation

One: Christ came to us proclaiming peace: peace to all those who are near, peace to all those who are far away. In Christ's body we are made one. The Lord be with us all.

One: O Lord, lift up our hearts.

Many: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

Prayer

1 In the bleak mid-winter, frost-y wind made moan;
 2 Our God, heaven can-not hold him, nor earth sus-tain;
 3 An-gels and arch-an-gels may have gath-ered there;
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i-ron, wa-ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign:
 cher-u-bim and ser-a-phem thronged the air;
 If I were a shep-herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall-en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid-winter a sta-ble place suf-ficed
 but his moth-er on-ly, in her maid-en bliss,
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

‡ in the bleak mid-winter, long a-go.
 the Lord God in-car-nate, Je-sus Christ.
 ‡ wor-shipped the be-lov-ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Though this text describes winter weather in England rather than in Palestine, the poet is using familiar surroundings as a means of making the Nativity more immediate and personal. The tune name honors a Gloucestershire village near the composer's birthplace in Cheltenham.

TEXT: Christina Rossetti, c. 1872, alt.
 MUSIC: Gustav Holst, 1906

CRANHAM
 Irregular

DO THIS IN
remembrance
 OF ME. 1 CORINTHIANS
 11:24



DECEMBER

Announcements

December 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- ◆ **Welcome as a new member Ellie (Eleanor) Rowland.** Ellie lives at the Glebe and has been attending services here since July.
- ◆ The **Botetourt Food Pantry** is in need of more help. There is a new sign-up sheet in the hallway with additional dates. If you can spare a couple of hours once a month, it would be a big help. In addition to helping sort food, they also need people to pick up donated food at Food Lion and Kroger on Friday mornings. Marsha Patterson can be contacted at 540-597-0025 if you can help with these Friday pickups. Thank you for all you have been doing.
- ◆ As we come to the close of 2025, we would like to take a moment and thank **Lynn Bolton, Fred Coots, and Jim Porter** for their years of service as duty elders. Blessings to each of them.
- ◆ **Christmas Poinsettias:** Would you like to sign up for Christmas Poinsettias? This is a lovely way to remember and/or acknowledge loved ones. The price of each plant will be \$15.00. Please fill out the sign up sheet on the table at the side entrance, or notify the church office. **Today is the last day to order.**
- ◆ **Look at the calendar** downstairs by the kitchen and sign up for after Sunday Service fellowship! January's calendar has been added
- ◆ Our calendar is **Very Busy** for the next two months. If you or your organization is planning on using any space at the church, please check with Danette to verify that it is available!
- ◆ Our **Wholeness and Healing Service** is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17 at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary, with a light supper immediately following in the Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ Please note the special insert regarding the Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 13, here in the Sanctuary
- ◆ David Austin & Friends will be performing a Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 14 at 4:00 pm at Buchanan Presbyterian Church, 19559 Main St.
- ◆ **QR Code for an E-Giving option:**



Planned office hours for the week of December 7 are:
Monday: 10:00—4:00pm, Wednesday: 9:00—3:00pm,
Friday: 10:00—3:00pm

- Sunday, Dec. 7** **2nd Sunday of Advent—Peace**
Sunday School: 9:30 am, Logan Room
Worship Service: 10:30 am
Communion Sunday
Duty Elders: Patty Vari & P. Dickerson
Fellowship: **Porters**
Handbell practice at 12:00; see Lori for location.
Women's Bible Study, 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall
Joyful Singers practice, 3:00 pm Sanctuary
Forward in Faith 2:00 pm, Logan Room
Fellowship reserved for concert set-up
Sanctuary reserved for concert set-up
Naysmith Christmas Concert, Sanctuary, 6:00 pm
- Tues., Dec. 9
Wed., Dec. 10
Thurs., Dec. 11
- Fri., Dec. 12
Sat., Dec., 13
- Sunday, Dec. 14** **3rd Sunday of Advent—Joy**
Sunday School: 9:30 am, Logan Room
Worship Service: 10:30 am
Duty Elders: Patsy D. & Patty V.
Fellowship: **Potluck, after worship service**
Women's Bible Study, 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall
Joyful Singers practice, 3:00 pm Sanctuary
Wholeness and healing, 5:00 pm, Sanctuary, light supper immediately following in Fellowship Hall.
- Tues., Dec. 16
Wed., Dec. 17
- Sunday, Dec. 21** **4th Sunday of Advent—Love**
Sunday School: 9:30 am, Logan Room
Worship Service: 10:30 am
Duty Elders: Goad & _____
Fellowship: **A Group of Ladies**
Christmas Joy Offering
Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary
Duty Elders: Goad & _____
Special Offering: PCHH
Christmas Day!
- Wed., Dec. 24
Thurs., Dec. 25

Fincastle Presbyterian Church

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Mission Statement:

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

Clerk of Session: John Kilby

Class of 2025: Fred Coats, Lynne Bolton, Jim Porter

Class of 2026: Lyn Burton, Hal Bailey, Patsy Dickerson

Class of 2027: Cathy Goad, Patty Vari, Teri Walker

The Trustees

Bob Omer, Garland Jones, Peggy Davis

The Church Staff

Interim Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson

Treasurer: Hal Bailey

Music Director: Lori Turner

Secretary/Bookkeeper: Danette Heinlein

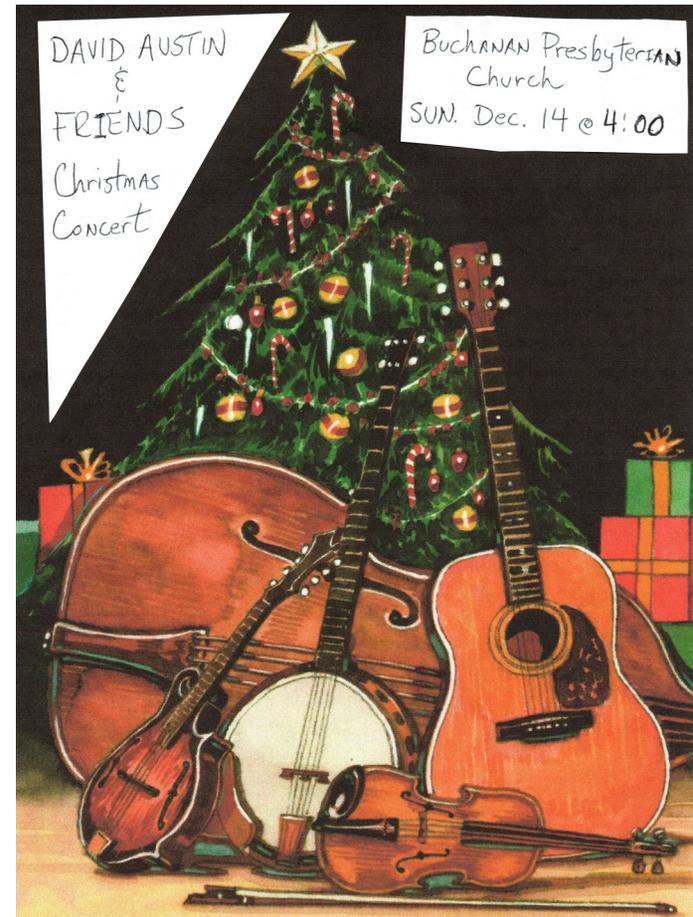
The new Class of 2028 will be:
David Kincaid, Jennifer Kincaid and
Paul Phillippe

YTD Income of Sept 30, 2025

Total Income: \$79,294.94

Total Expense: 78,457.10

Net Income: \$ 837.84



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The Worshiping Church Hymnal: 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Carol Stream, IL —
Service Music: # 823 Kyrie , #805 Gloria Patri, # 808 Doxology

Hymns: #162— “The First Noel”; #140 — “Emmanuel, Emmanuel”; #174 — “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Glory To God, The Presbyterian Hymnal: 2013 — Westminster John Knox Press

Hymn: #144—“In the Bleak Midwinter”

The United Methodist Hymnal: 1989 The United Methodist Publish House —

Hymn: #706 — “Soon and Very Soon”

Service Music: “Go Tell It On The Mountain” — Spiritual/D. Hustad, “The Worshiping Church Hymnal” [Ibid.(151)]. © 1990 Hope Publish Company; “Once in Royal David’s City”—Trad H. Gauntlett, “The Worshiping Church Hymnal” [Ibid.(161)]; “Sing Alleluia to The Lord” — Linda Stassen, “Sing the Faith” © 2003 by Geneva Press. (2550); “Angels We Have Heard on High (Refrain)” — Trad. French melody; Richard E. Gerig, “The Worshiping Church Hymnal” [Ibid.(152)], © 1990 Hope Publish Company.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

11 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the girdle of his waist,
and faithfulness the girdle of his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
and the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall feed;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The sucking child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;

for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ In that day the root of Jesse shall stand as an ensign to the peoples; him
shall the nations seek, and his dwellings shall be glorious.

New Testament Reading

Matthew 3:1-12

3 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of
Judea, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³ For this is
he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight."

⁴ Now John wore a garment of camel's hair, and a leather girdle
around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then
went out to him Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the
Jordan, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confess-
ing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sad'ducees coming for
baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to
flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruit that befits repent-
ance, ⁹ and do not presume 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. ¹⁰ Even 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.

¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming
after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry;
he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹² His winnowing
fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his
wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable
fire."

