

First Presbyterian Church

**Whiteville,
North Carolina**

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

*Second Sunday of
Advent*

December 10, 2017

GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD:



The Kingdom Has Come

**Rev. Dr. Joseph D.
Washburn**

Gathering Around the Word
Prelude *The Humphreys*

Welcome, Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Call to Worship

"A voice cries out, 'In the wilderness prepare
the way of the Lord,
Make straight in the desert a highway for our
God.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
And all people shall see it together.'"

Let us come together to worship God and to
prepare the way of the Lord.

Sing together:

Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart from earthly use
for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer
and love and joy.

*Hymn of Praise 96
"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Charlene and Bob High

Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

In us there is great darkness, pleading for
light. Yet, O God, we avoid the light that you
offer us. We light Advent candles, we sing
favorite hymns of faith, and we attempt to
feel joyful in the midst of a beautiful
season. And we still avoid the light that you
offer because that would require too much of
us. It is easier to open presents than to
repent and live life as the Christ child would
call us to do. Forgive us. Change us, we
pray. Amen.

*Choral Response

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**While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come;
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.**

*Words of Assurance

God grants courage to those who ask to be closer to the light.

**God forgives us as we sincerely desire to walk through the darkness of our sin and
into the light of God's grace.**

*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, **The Lord's Prayer**

35

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you; and also with you!

Proclaiming the Word

Time with the Children

Prayer for Understanding

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 3:1-12

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

Sermon

"God So Loved the World: The Kingdom Has Come"

Rev. Dr. Joseph D. Washburn

Responding to the Word

*An Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

Call to Offering

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Blest Be the God of Israel"

Choir (109)

*Doxology

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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.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Commitment “Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice” 163

*Charge and Benediction

* Benediction Response “Christmas Isn’t Christmas”

Choir and Congregation

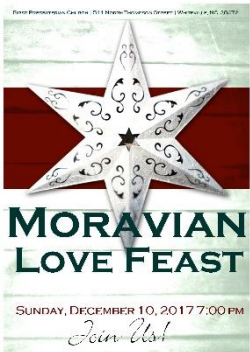




Christmas isn’t Christmas ‘til it happens in your heart,
Somewhere deep inside you is where Christmas really starts;
So, give your heart to Jesus, you’ll discover when you do
That it’s Christmas, really Christmas for you.

Music in Preparation for Service in the World

Next Week

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10

Sermon: “God So Loved the World: A Divine Promise”

	 <p>Southeastern Oratorio Society’s Christmas Concert Monday, December 11 7:30 pm</p>	 <p>Wednesdays Together: Fear Free Evangelism Wednesday, December 13 6:30 pm LAST STUDY OF 2017!</p>
 <p>Please turn in UNWRAPPED gifts in one gift bag per child with the child’s tag number securely fastened by Dec. 18th</p> <p>If you would like for the youth to shop for you, please choose a tag and turn in your money with the tag to the office or give to Janet Royal.</p>	<p>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 21st will be split evenly between them.</p>	 <p>Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm</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; Bob High; Rita & R. L. Lewis; Grace Palmer; Rhonda Scott; Walter Strickland; Nancy Thurston; David Trogdon; Joseph Washburn.

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

Friends: Pat Allen; Sara and Rob Armstrong; Annette Caldwell; Penny Carmean; Mary Cherry; Eli Clark; Billie Joe Conrad; Paul Dawson; Shari Dutton; Jerry Ford; Shelby Hodge; Ed Jackson; Roger Kennedy; Benny McBride; Daphne McLeod; Jerome McPherson; Don Morrison; Gail Moye; Donna Parker; Mitchell Powell; Floyd Pridgen; Theresa Rappa; Hollis Salyer; Barbara Shepherd; Ken Smith; Ronnie Thayer; Gail Townsend; Frank Youngblood; Joe Youngblood. **Military:** Preston Parker.

Please notify the office when names can be removed.

Nursery Team:	12/10: Mandy Horne	12/17: Joan Dorsett
Sound Team:	12/10: Jonathan Medford	12/17: Fuller Royal
Head Usher:	December: Fuller Royal	

CHURCH CALENDAR:

Sunday, December 10:	Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary - 5:30 pm Love Feast Rehearsal, Sanctuary - 6:00 pm Moravian Love Feast, Sanctuary - 7:00 pm
Monday, December 11:	Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall - 6:00 pm Southeastern Oratorio Society Christmas Concert- 7:30 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Tuesday, December 12:	Session Meeting, Conference Room - 6:30 pm
Wednesday, December 13:	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room - 6:00 pm Wednesdays Together: Fear Free Evangelism, Fellowship Hall - 6:30 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Thursday, December 14:	Chicks with Sticks, Parlor - 10:30 am Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Sunday, December 17:	New Officer Training, Conference Room - 3:30 pm Youth Meeting -6:30 pm

Contact the church office: 910-642-2253

Pastor Joe: pastorjoe@fpcwhiteville.org

Cell: 910-625-8023

Live-Stream of Service: www.facebook.com/fpcwhiteville or Channel 1304 (Spectrum)

Find us on Twitter and Facebook!

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm, M-F

Karen: karen@fpcwhiteville.org

Website: fpcwhiteville.org