

First Presbyterian Church

Whiteville,
North Carolina

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

*Third Sunday of
Advent*

December 17, 2017

**GOD SO LOVED THE
WORLD:**



A DIVINE PROMISE

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: Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide. Let me
thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love
in me reveal.**

*Hymn of Praise

82

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Annette Powell and Peggy Blanchard

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

**We are mindful of the ways we walk in
darkness, avoiding the light, Light of the
World. We choose to live with harmful habits
rather than count on you to bring us to
health. We choose to stay the same rather
than accept the new life to which you draw
us. Forgive us for our unwillingness to
change. Create in us a desire for the
adventure of life lived in the light. Amen.**

*Choral Response

92

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

***Words of Assurance**

The Lord does not take delight in sacrifices and burnt offerings.

We do not need to bring any animal or gift to God in order to receive forgiveness.

We have been forgiven through the sacrifice of God's Son, Jesus Christ, whose birth we await once more. 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.

Prayers of the People, The Lord's Prayer

35

***Passing of the Peace**

Proclaiming the Word

Time with the Children

Prayer for Understanding

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-10

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

Sermon

"God So Loved the World: A Divine Promise"

Rev. Dr. Joseph D. Washburn

Responding to the Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

35

Call to Offering

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Choir 129

***Doxology**

609

**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.**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***Hymn of Commitment**

"People, Look East"

105

*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: Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon: “God So Loved the World: Emmanuel”



Please turn in
UNWRAPPED gifts in one
gift bag per child with
the child’s tag number
securely fastened by
Dec. 18th

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.



Next Collection: Dec. 31st

Contact the church office: 910-642-2253
Pastor Joe: pastorjoe@fpcwhiteville.org
Cell: 910-625-8023

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm, M-F
Karen: karen@fpcwhiteville.org
Website: fpcwhiteville.org

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

Find us on Twitter and Facebook!

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: 12/17: Joan Dorsett 12/24: Ben & Sydney Kilpatrick
Sound Team: 12/17: Jonathan Medford 12/24: Jonathan Medford
Head Usher: December: Fuller Royal

CHURCH CALENDAR:

Sunday, December 17:	New Officer Training, Conference Room - 3:30 pm Youth Meeting -6:30 pm
Monday, December 18:	Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall - 6:00 pm Spiritual Development/Outreach Committee Meeting, Conference Room - 6:30 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Tuesday, December 19:	Cape Fear Council Organizational Meeting, Boy Scouts, Conference Room - 6:00 pm
Wednesday, December 20:	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room - 6:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Thursday, December 21:	Chicks with Sticks, Parlor - 10:30 am Scout Roundtable Meeting, Fellowship Hall - 6:30 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Sunday, December 24:	Worship, Sanctuary - 11:00 am Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary - 5:00 pm
Monday, December 25:	Christmas Day - Office Closed Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Tuesday, December 26:	Office Closed
Wednesday, December 27:	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room - 6:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Thursday, December 28:	Karen Out of Office Chicks with Sticks, Parlor - 10:30 am Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Friday, December 29:	Karen Out of Office