

# *First Presbyterian Church*

WHITEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

“TO BE A LIGHT IN OUR COMMUNITY REFLECTING CHRIST’S LOVE  
AND COMPASSION...”

DECEMBER 24, 2017



REV. DR. JOSEPH D. WASHBURN

## *Gathering Around the Word*

Welcome, Announcements, Joys and Concerns

A Moment of Reflection

*The Humphreys*

Call to Worship

Sing a new song, all the earth, for God's gift of light and love.

**Bless God's name and proclaim God's salvation. "Glory to God in the highest!"**

Unto us a child is born; in a manger the grace of God appears.

**The baby, for whom there was no room, welcomes us to honored places in God's family.**

Declare God's marvelous works; honor God with your thanksgiving and praise.

**We rejoice in Christ's coming and give thanks for the love God reveals.**

Opening Prayer

\*Hymn

**"O Come, All Ye Faithful"**

133

## *Proclaiming the Word*

Lighting of the Advent Candles

*Martin, Ginger, Sealey,  
Alexander, and Christopher Scott*

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

*Bob High*

\*Hymn

**"Love Has Come"**

110

Time with the Children

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38

*Sara Cartrette*

\*Hymn

**"Angels We Have Heard on High"**

113

Prayer for Understanding

Scripture Reading

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

Luke 2:1-20

\*Hymn

**"Away in a Manger"**

115

Sermon                         “God So Loved the World: Good News of Great Joy”  
Rev. Dr. Joseph D. Washburn

---

## “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

119

## John 1 (selected verses)

*Matthew Smith*

## “O Holy Night”

*Kathryn Humphreys, soloist*  
*Douglas Spivey, piano*

\*Hymn                                      “Silent Night”                                      See insert

## “Joy to the World”

See insert

### \*Charge and Benediction

## Music in Preparation for Service in the World

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

*Thank you to the Humphreys and Logan Hester (Trumpet) for their music tonight.*



# Welcome

On behalf of the Session, and members, of First Presbyterian Church, I would like to welcome each one of you to our Christmas Eve Service this evening. If you are worshipping with us for the first time, a sincere invitation is extended to you to join us on Sunday mornings for Sunday School and worship, as well as any other activities of the church which may interest you. We offer Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Following Sunday School, we gather in the sanctuary for worship at 11:00 a.m.

We invite you to visit our web page at [www.fpcwhiteville.org](http://www.fpcwhiteville.org) in order to learn more about who we are as a community of believers and the ministry God has called us to undertake in Whiteville, Columbus County, and throughout the world. We take seriously our vision of seeking “To be a light in our community reflecting Christ’s love and compassion...” and would love for you to join us for this journey of faith and ministry.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 642-2253.

In the spirit of this most Holy night we wish you a truly blessed Christmas!

In the Love of Christ,

Pastor Joe  
(Email: [pastorjoe@fpcwhiteville.org](mailto:pastorjoe@fpcwhiteville.org))

Contact the church office: 910-642-2253  
Pastor Joe: [pastorjoe@fpcwhiteville.org](mailto:pastorjoe@fpcwhiteville.org)  
Cell: 910-625-8023

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm, M-F  
Karen: [karen@fpcwhiteville.org](mailto:karen@fpcwhiteville.org)  
Website: [fpcwhiteville.org](http://fpcwhiteville.org)

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

Find us on Twitter and Facebook!