

First Presbyterian Church

Whiteville,
North Carolina

“To be a light in our
community reflecting
Christ’s love and
compassion...”

*Fourth Sunday of
Advent*

December 22, 2019



Rev. Dr. Joseph D.
Washburn
Worship Assistant:
Robert Nelson

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

The Family Band

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship

We are always looking for evidence that God is with us.

That sign is in the One to come--the One that God is sending.

We want to know for sure that everything is in God’s care.

**And so we cry to the heavens in our distress.
Our cries are heard! God is responding in love and hope.**

Let us come before God with expectant hearts and spirits!

Let us be ready to receive the blessed gift of the Savior.

*Hymn of Praise

93

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Turner/Stell Family

Congregational Response

O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

*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.

*Song of Assurance

“In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”

654

*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 and The Lord’s Prayer

35

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Proclaiming the Word

Time with the Children

Choral Anthem

“My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord”

Purifoy

Prayer for Understanding

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25

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

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Joseph D. Washburn

“Waiting on Emmanuel”

Responding to the Word

*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles’ Creed

35

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Call for the Offering

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory	"While We Are Waiting, Come"	92
*Doxology		
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise Him, above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!		
*Prayer of Thanksgiving		
*Hymn of Commitment	"Watchman, Tell Us of the Night"	97
*Charge and Benediction		
* Benediction Response	"Christmas Isn't Christmas" <i>Choir and Congregation</i>	
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.		

**Please stand if you are able.*

 <p>CHRISTMAS EVE <i>Candlelight</i> SERVICE</p> <p><i>Tuesday, December 24, 2019</i> 5:00 pm</p>	 <p>MEN'S BREAKFAST</p>	<p>Sunday, January 5, 2020 8:30 am</p>
 <p>Office Closed</p> <p>THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25 AND 26, 2019 AND WILL REOPEN FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2019 AT 8:30 AM</p>  	 <p>2020 Pledges Due</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 24th will be split evenly between them.</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; John Hall; Dolores Harris; Bob High; Rita & R. L. Lewis; Walter Strickland; Will Thompson; David Trogdon.

Assisted Care: Arlene Blaha; Anna Jane Collier; Charlene Hinnant; Grace Palmer; Kenneth Smith.

Friends: Pat Allen; Tricia Bowen; Annette Caldwell; Billie Joe Conrad; Shari Dutton; Shelby Hodge; Barry Housend; Phyllis Howlett; Roger Kennedy; C.P. Lewis; Julie Malone; Dale Manning; Jerome McPherson; the family of Paul Pipkin, Jr.; Tom Rhyne; Hollis Salyer; **Butch Sellers and family;** Michael Sellers; Shiryl Smith; Lee Trogdon.

Please notify the office when names can be removed.

Nursery Team:	December 22: Diane Scott	December 29: Janet Gray
Sound Team:	December 22: Justin Smith	December 29: Donald Hester
Backpack Ministry:	December 22: MVE Committee	December 29: Young Adult Sunday School
Worship Assistant:	December 22: Robert Nelson	
Advent Reader:	December 22: Turner/Stell Family	December 24: Royal Family
Head Usher:	December: Don Viets	January: Anne Branch

CHURCH CALENDAR:

Sunday, December 22:	Prayer and Praise Service, Fellowship Hall - 6:00 pm
Monday, December 23:	Al-Anon, Reformed Rebels Room - 7:00 pm
Tuesday, December 24:	Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Wednesday, December 25:	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Sanctuary - 5:00 pm
Thursday, December 26:	Christmas Day - Office Closed
Sunday, December 29:	Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm
Monday, December 30:	Office Closed
Wednesday, January 1:	Chicks with Sticks, Parlor - 10:30 am
Thursday, January 2:	Scout Roundtable Meeting, Conference Room - 6:30 pm
Sunday, January 5:	Alcoholics Anonymous, Community Room - 8:00 pm

Contact the church office: 910-642-2253	OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm, M-F
pastorjoe@fpcwhiteville.org	Karen: karen@fpcwhiteville.org
Cell: 910-625-8023	Website: www.fpcwhiteville.org
Live-Stream of Service: www.facebook.com/fpcwhiteville or Channel 1304 (Spectrum)	
	Check us out on Twitter @FPCWhiteville or Facebook!