

# First Presbyterian Church

New Haven, Connecticut

## *1st Sunday after Christmas Day*

December 31, 2017

10:45 a.m.

Prelude

*To a Wild Rose*

MacDowell

Call to Worship

Let us go, in heart and mind, to see what has come to pass. Let us go with the shepherds:

**Let us go to find the Savior!**

Let us go with the wise ones:

**Let us go to find God's promise, born for us!**

Let us go with the poor and humble:

**Let us go to find our Light, born in a lowly manger.**

Let us go with all the world, with all the peoples of the nations.

**Come, let us adore him and let us worship God!**

\*Hymn 121

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ST. LOUIS

Call to Reconciliation

Silence is kept.

Prayer of Confession

**God of Love, all year long we pursue power and money, yet you come in weakness. All season long, we covet great material gifts, when you alone offer what is lasting. Through the work of this Lord Jesus, who comes among us full of grace and truth, forgive us, heal us, correct us. Then open our lips, that we may sing your praise with the angels, and remake our lives, that we may witness to your transforming love. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

...We are forgiven and can be at peace. And all of God's children say:

**Thanks be to God!**

\*Song of Praise

*Shout for Joy*

PERSONENT HODIE

\*The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

(Before sitting, please greet those around you with words of Christ's peace.)

Words of Welcome

Please sign the black friendship pad and pass to others in your pew.

Response

*Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

**Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;  
there he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favor.**

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Galatians 4:4-7 (p. 189)

Psalm (read responsively) Psalm 148

Hallelujah! Praise God from the heavens; praise God in the heights!  
Praise God, all you angels; praise God, all you multitudes in heaven!  
**Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!**  
**Praise God, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**  
Let them praise the name of the Most High, for God commanded and they were created.  
God established them forever and ever; God fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.  
**Praise God from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail,  
snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!**  
Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!  
Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!  
**Sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, royalty and all rulers of the earth!**  
**Young men and women alike, old and young together!**  
Let them praise the name of God, for God's name alone is exalted; God's glory is above  
earth and heaven.  
**God has raised up a horn for God's people, praise for all the faithful, for all the  
people of Israel who are close to God. Hallelujah!**

Second Lesson Luke 2:22-40 (p. 59)

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Response *What Child Is This* GREENSLEEVES  
**What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Crist the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**

Sermon Andrew Forsyth

\*Hymn 140 *Once in Royal David's City* IRBY

\*Affirmation of Faith from the United Church of Canada.

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

The Offering  
Offertory *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* arr. Marks

\*Doxology **Praise God from whom all blessings flow,** OLD HUNDREDTH  
**Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* Prayer of Thanksgiving  
**God of wonder, we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and  
mercy. Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know  
the riches of your love in the Word-made-flesh. Amen.**

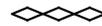
The Prayers of the People  
The Lord's Prayer  
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy  
will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and  
forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory  
forever. Amen.**

\*Hymn 123 *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* CAROL

\*Benediction

Postlude *Entr'acte* Shubert

\*Those who prefer to do so may remain seated.



**Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of New Haven.** We are glad you are here. We seek to be a warm and welcoming community of Christian people. If you are new to this congregation, please introduce yourself to others sitting around you, and to the pastor, so that we may welcome you personally. During the Words of Welcome, add your name to the Friendship Pad. Please plan to stay for the Friendship Hour following the service.

**Participating in worship leadership this morning are:**

Liturgist: Caty Poole

Ushers: Ernie Bodenweber, Jean Murray

Friendship Hour Host: Pat Wales

**Nursery care is provided** each morning in the Owens Community Building nursery. Infants and children are also welcome in the service and encouraged to participate fully in worship. A rocking chair is available nearby in the Copeland Room, and bulletins for ages 3-6 and 7-12 are found at the entrance.

**The Reverend J.C. Cadwallader** may be reached at her email: [PastorJC@fpcnh.org](mailto:PastorJC@fpcnh.org) or the church phone (203) 562-5664. She is taking a few days off this week for study leave, and will be back next Sunday.

**We Welcome Andrew Forsyth to the pulpit** this morning. Andrew arrived in New Haven and at First Presbyterian in 2011. He served on Session 2013-16. Andrew is an Assistant Secretary in Yale University's Office of the Secretary and Vice President for Student Life and a lecturer at Yale Divinity School.

**We also Welcome Ken Balakrishnan to the piano** this morning, while Pat McCreless is away. Ken, a longtime choir member and accomplished pianist, often contributes his talents at First Presbyterian.

**Congregational Meeting Next Sunday:** The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, January 7th, following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect elders. No other business may be conducted.

**Winter Potluck next Sunday:** Prepare a winter dish to share, and join friends for a delightful meal to warm both the body and the spirit.

**Ordination Service, Saturday January 6th:** Mark your calendars to attend the very special worship service at 4 p.m. on January 6, 2018 to celebrate the ordination of Michal Beth Dinkler to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. Michal Beth serves in ministry as Assistant Professor of New Testament at the Yale Divinity School. A reception will follow the service.

**Guest Preacher Next Sunday, January 7th:** The Reverend Shannan Vance-Ocampo, General Presbyterian for our Presbytery, will be our guest preacher.

**Sunday School begins again 9:30 a.m. next Sunday, January 7th:** Children and Youth Block 2 classes will start. Adult Class will begin a 3-week series on racism, with Art and Mary Hunt leading this class.

**Memorial Cairn, Monday, January 1st at 6:00 p.m.:** Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice will mark the cost of the continuing violence in Iraq and Afghanistan and elsewhere in the Mid-East with a 15 minute prayer service at the intersection of Broadway, Elm and Park Streets in New Haven.

**Abraham's Tent is coming!** Our church will be hosting 12 men from Columbus House starting Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> (Martin Luther King Jr. observance day) until Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sign-up sheets are posted on the white boards in the Miller Gathering Hall. We seek people to host, provide dinner, stay overnight and/or greet the men. Your participation is encouraged and greatly appreciated! Any questions, please contact Brian Gray at [brian\\_gry@yahoo.com](mailto:brian_gry@yahoo.com).

**Volunteers really needed!** Signup sheets for ushering and Friendship Hour for the beginning of 2018 are on the Welcome Table. Why not partner with someone who's new, or new to you, and sign up as a team?

**Food Donations for Needy:** Pick up an extra item at the grocery store to help fill the green wheelbarrow in the Copeland Room. At the end of each month the food is delivered to Christian Community Action's emergency food pantry.

**CT Folk Concert Friday, January 5th at 7:30 p.m.** Performing: The Brother Brothers are identical twins Adam Moss and David Moss performing as an acoustic duo with David on cello and guitar and Adam on five-string fiddle. First Presbyterian Church receives ten complimentary tickets; contact the church office to reserve yours.

**In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. (Philippians 4:6)**

When you pray, offer prayers for ...

Our country and its leaders.

Church members and friends who seek God's healing grace, including Ken Haynam, at Benchmark Senior Living in Hamden.

For Jeff Miller, brother of David, who is recovering from surgery.

For Nancy Walker's 3-month old niece, recovering from surgery.

Prayers for those who suffer from gun violence.

Prayers for those who do not have enough to eat.

Prayers for people who are lonely.

James Smit and Patrick Copeland, who are serving in the armed forces.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis.

Prayers for other people and situations in need of our supplications.

	<b>This Week</b>	
Sunday, December 31	10:45 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Friendship Hour
Monday, January 1	6:00 p.m.	Memorial Cairn
Tuesday, January 2	10:00 a.m.	January Inkling Deadline
	7:30 p.m.	CLOC Committee
Wednesday, January 3	5:00 p.m.	Property Committee
Friday, January 5	7:30 p.m.	Folk Concert
Saturday, January 6	9:30 a.m.	Women's AA
	4:00 p.m.	Michal Beth Dinkler Ordination
Sunday, January 7	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for Adults
	10:45 a.m.	Worship & Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Congregational Meeting
	12:10 p.m.	Potluck Lunch

**The Session of First Presbyterian Church**

Class of 2017	Lynn Autry	Candice Gray
	Jane Hindenlang	Bruce Peabody
Class of 2018	Gary Cline	John Dinkler
	Phillip Phiri	Robert Williams
Class of 2019	Lucy Ambach	Rona Johnston
	Fiona Scott Morton	Mary Porterfield
Clerk	Tim McCloskey	
Treasurer	Mike Spicer	

First Presbyterian Church of New Haven is a More Light Congregation and part of Presbyterian Promise. Both organizations are dedicated to the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and questioning individuals.

**The Staff of First Presbyterian Church**

Pastor:	The Reverend J. C. Cadwallader
Music Director:	Patrick McCreless
Church Administrator:	Martha Smith
Christian Educator:	Kimberley Fais
Nursery Care Provider:	Emily Landino

**The church office welcomes your announcements** and prayer requests for the bulletin. Please send the copy to [firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com) by Wednesday before noon to be included in the Sunday Bulletin.

**Please remember that parking is available** at the Hooker School on Sunday mornings when lawn or street parking is unavailable.

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