



First Presbyterian Church

New Haven, Connecticut

First Sunday After Christmas

December 30, 2018

10:45 a.m.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Prelude

Call to Worship

from Psalm 148

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

Praise God, all you angels; praise God, all the host!

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 Lord, for God commanded and they were created.

God established them forever and ever; God fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord 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!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for God's name alone is exalted;

God's glory is above earth and heaven.

Praise the Lord!

*Hymn 109

Blest Be the God of Israel

MERLE'S TUNE

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Confession

O God who lifts our gaze above and beyond, forgive us, for we have sinned in thought, word, and deed. We have not followed your commandments of life, but wandered after our own wills into barrenness. We have not forgiven our enemy or loved our neighbor; we have not healed the sick or succored the poor or comforted the downcast. O Savior, these sins gnaw at our conscience, and we repent with our whole heart. But you see also the secret sins that mar us unawares. O Lover of souls, bring these hidden faults before us, so that we may know them truly and reject them firmly. According to your gracious mercy, cleanse us from all our sins, both plain and hidden, and strengthen us to follow in your way. Amen.

Silence is kept.

Assurance of Forgiveness

... Friends, let us declare the good news:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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 row.

The Children in Worship program will resume on January 13th.

Children are encouraged to remain in worship. Nursery care is also available.

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.**

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Colossians 3: 12–17 (p. 201)

Second Lesson Luke 2: 41–52 (p. 59)

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon *The Holy Presence as Self-Transcendence* The Rev. Arthur Shippee

*Hymn 117 *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* WINCHESTER OLD

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

Invitation to Offering
Offertory Music

*Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Prayer of Thanksgiving
**O Jesus Christ Immanuel, our God enfleshed in Mary's son,
Inhabit these our gifts as well so that through them your will be done. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People and 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 300 *We Are One in the Spirit* THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

*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: Andrew McCloskey

Greeters: Anita Shaffer

Ushers: Becky and Gary Cline

Friendship Hour Hosts:

Yale Divinity School Intern: Graham Bridgeman

We Welcome the Reverend Arthur Shippee leading the worship today while Pastor J.C. is away. Arthur has attended First Presbyterian for nearly 35 years, ordained a Ruling Elder before being ordained a Teaching Elder in 2007. He has sung in the choir all those years, and preached in most of them. He teaches at Queens College, CUNY, and Eugene Lang College, The New School, where his courses include Introduction to the Bible, Philosophy of Religion, and Poetry and Religion. His wife, Elder Mary Porterfield, also sings in the choir, if not for quite so many years.

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.

Nursery care is provided each morning from 10:30-noon 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 next door 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 or the church phone (203) 562-5664. Mondays are her day off.

Theology on Tap this Wednesday, January 2nd @ 5:30-7:30 p.m. (1st Wed. of the Month) The East Rock Brewing Company Taproom has opened and provides a great space for lively conversation and fellowship. Drop in anytime between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. to enjoy a delicious neighborhood brew, meaningful conversation, and deepening friendships. Look for us at the big table by the photograph of the East Rock tower. Bring a friend too!

CT Folk Concert this Friday, January 4th @ 7:30 p.m. The group "True Blue", travels freely between the genres of bluegrass, swing, Celtic and jazz. First Pres receives 10 complimentary tickets; email office@fpcnh.org if you'd like to claim one!

Sunday School for Adults and Children will not meet next week. Classes will start again at 9:30 a.m. on January 13, 2019.

Books for Babies: We are collecting new or gently used books to be given to the recently born babies in the congregation. There will be a box in the Copeland Room in January to collect your contribution. If you have any questions, please contact Jean McCloskey.

Abraham's Tent is coming! Our church will be home for 12 homeless men from Columbus House from Monday, January 21 to Monday, January 28. Sign-up to help sheets are posted on a white board in the Miller Gathering Hall. People (including families) are needed to host and greet our guests, provide dinner, and/or stay overnight. Any questions, contact Tim McConnell or Mary Webber.

Food Donations for Food Insecure Neighbors: Pick up an extra item at the grocery store to help fill the green wheelbarrow in the Copeland Room. Baby diapers, size 5 or 6 are also needed.

 **ULA Meetings** - Being a sanctuary church means we are called to work as hard as we can to ensure no one needs to take sanctuary with us. Families need our support ensuring they remain together and in their own homes. Another way that we can build relationships with families in need is by attending the ULA (Unidad Latina en Accion) meetings held at First & Summerfield United Methodist Church in downtown New Haven on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. Each meeting, we need 2 representatives from First Pres to attend. Sign up at www.signupgenius.com; search for signups originating from office@fpcnh.org

Volunteer Signup Sheets are now digital! An iPad is available in the Copeland Room to signup for Ushers, Friendship Hour Hosts, First Sunday Flowers, Columbus House Monthly Dinner Prep, Potlucks and attending Monday ULA meetings. A member of the Welcome Team will assist you if you've never used signup genius. Note that you can also signup from your smart phone or computer at www.signupgenius.com; search for signups originating from office@fpcnh.org. We especially need ushers and friendship hour hosts.

New Option to Give to First Pres.: Don't carry cash anymore but still feel called to give? Just text (203) 689-7515 and type in the amount you'd like to give. Then follow the instructions that are sent to you. Christ calls us to give with a joyful heart - let us rejoice that we might give freely for the ministry of Christ in the world.

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.

Sarah McPharlin, Jenn Ballew's cousin, who is waiting for organ donations.

Charlie Gutridge and his family, for strength and love.

Jeff Miller, David Miller's brother, who is continuing rehab after surgery.

Louisa Cunningham, a friend of Caty Poole, who is ill.

Jean Struble, Joan Wells' sister-in-law, who is ill.

James Smit, who is serving in the armed forces.

Those suffering losses from gun violence.

Those who are hungry and food insecure.

Those who are lonely.

For our immigrant friends in local sanctuary churches, and for their families.

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

For other people and situations in need of our supplications.

This Week

Sunday, December 30	10:45 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Friendship Hour
Monday, December 31	7:00 p.m.	AA meeting
Wednesday, January 2	5:30 p.m.	Theology on Tap
Thursday, January 3	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
Friday, January 4	7:30 p.m.	Folk Concert
Saturday, January 5	9:30 a.m.	Women's AA
Sunday, January 6	10:45 a.m.	Worship and Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Friendship Hour

The Session of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2018

John Dinkler

Phillip Phiri

Robert Williams

James Duncan

Class of 2019

Lucy Ambach

Rona Johnston

Fiona Scott Morton

Mary Porterfield

Class of 2020

Sue Balakrishnan

Jennifer Ballew

Jennifer Herbst

Timothy McConnell

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 office@fpcnh.org 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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