

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 29, 2019

11:00 AM

CHIMES

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLED TOGETHER

PRELUDE

*INTROIT "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" No. 143, v. 1
**Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
You, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

On that not so silent night, you came to us, Protecting God,
like a night nurse on the pediatric floor,
to gather us in your arms and swaddle us in safety.

On that not so silent night, you came to us, Child of humanity,
to be cradled with the lost, to share the road with those who flee,
to confront the bullies who threaten our children.

On that not so silent night, you came to us, Spirit of joy,
**to lift us up and carry us to salvation,
to help us persist in praising God,
to fill us with hope.**

Be with us in the nights and days to come, God in Community, Holy in One. **Amen**

*HYMN NO. 134 "Joy to the World" *ANTIOCH*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of
this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people
divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The
powerful cling to their power and violently stamp out all threats. Our
children are at risk. Refugees leave everything seeking safety. The Holy
family walked an all too familiar path.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in
the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.**

(silent prayers of confession) And all God's people say, **Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

*SHARING THE PEACE *"The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you!"*

*SONG OF PRAISE

TO RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

Christmas, just like the song says, lasts 12 days, until Epiphany (January 6th). It is a season to celebrate our Savior's birth!

*Worshippers may stand as able.

Leader: Plain text
People: Bold text

The call to worship is based on a prayer by Thom Shuman. The confession and pardon are modified from the Book of Common Worship.

We pour water into the Baptismal bowl as a reminder that we are washed clean of all our sins.

GATHERING

"Where Children Belong"

**This, this is where children belong,
Welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer and song:
This is where children belong.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Dr. Todd Wright

SONG OF PREPARATION

**Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me,
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!**

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 2:13-23

A MEDITATION "The Escape" Dr. Todd Wright

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed page 35

*HYMN NO. 154 "Jesus Entered Egypt" *KING'S WESTON*

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY In the Bleak Midwinter No. 144, v. 4

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: Give my heart**

ASSEMBLING PRACTICAL GIFTS *(You are invited to process to the Fellowship Hall.)*

SINGING WHILE WE WORK

*HYMN NO. 114 "Away in a Manger" *CRADLE SONG*

*HYMN NO. 121 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" *ST. LOUIS*

*HYMN NO. 123 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" *CAROL*

*HYMN NO. 132 "Good Christian Friends Rejoice" *IN DULCI JUBILO*

*HYMN NO. 143 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" *REGENT SQUARE*

TO LIVE AS DISCIPLES

*HYMN NO. 136 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" *GO TELL IT*

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" No. 132, v. 1

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed
to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the
manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

*POSTLUDE

We conclude worship with the Postlude. Those who leave during the postlude are requested to do so quietly and respectfully.



If you would like to give flowers to celebrate a special day or person, please contact Leslie Breinar.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments, after worship.



STAFF

Rev. Dr. Todd Wright
Pastor

Rev. Dr. Amy Parker
Minister of Education and the Arts
Carolyn Perrine
Organist
Leslie Breinar
Secretary
Dionne Canterbury
Children's Choir Dir.
Sharon Curnutte
Choir Director Emeritus

SESSION

Class of 2019
Cindy Hanna
Noah Lawson
Angie Price
Jim Smith
Chuck Stump

Class of 2020
Jack Grimm
Kathy Kruk
Peggy Palmer
Patty Skaff

Class of 2021
Heather Barry
Greg Rader
Sarah Stump
Barbara Tabaretti

Clerk of Session
Rose Ann Walker

TRUSTEES
Don Parker '19
Richard Callard '20
John France '21

GREETERS: *Greeters before Worship:* Rick & Patty Skaff *Greeters after Worship:* Patty Skaff & Cindy Hanna

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Dr. Todd Wright, *preacher*; Rev. Dr. Amy Parker; Marilyn Henstock, *organist*;

NURSERY ATTENDANTS: Vicki Cunningham & Jessica Gentry

FLOWERS: Flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God!

STEWARDSHIP END OF YEAR: Please make any end of their year gifts before Dec. 31st to receive credit on your 2019 taxes and to help us close out the year in the black! If you would like to contribute to end of the year bonuses for the staff, now is the time. All bonuses will be divided among the staff on a percentage bases approved by the Session.

THIS SUNDAY, December 29, 2019

- + 11:00 AM – Worship
- + 12:00 PM –Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall (Provided by the Fellowship Committee)

THIS WEEK

- + Monday, December 30, 9:30 AM – Bridge; 5 PM – Tai Chi
- + Wednesday, January 1, New Year's Day – OFFICE CLOSED
- + Thursday, January 2, NEWSLETTER, 10 AM – PW Coordinating Team Meeting, 7 PM Worship Team Meeting
- + Friday, January 3, 7 PM – NA Meeting
- + Saturday, January 4, Blood Drive

NEXT SUNDAY, January 5, 2020

- + 9:45 AM – Sunday school
- + 11:00 AM – Worship
- + 12:00 PM –Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall

Happy Birthday **Those having a birthday this week:** John Willis (30th), Michael Schiano (30th), and Scott Hickernell (31st). If we have missed your birthday, please let us know!

PRAYERS FOR: Leon Copeland; Jeanne MacDonald; Velva Vanater; Peggy Palmer; Beth Chiparo; Lynn Gunnoe; Martha Foster; Jimmy Clark; Nancy Trotter; Maggie Powell; David Joslin; Leon and Sandy Copeland; Sandy Singleton; Steve and Susie Matulis; Tyler Zubick; Helen Singleton; Todd Wright, Amy Parker & their families; the session of Village Chapel

Those in care facilities: Sherry Russell, Martha Foster

Those overseas: Matthew Walker

All Students

Military Service: Paul Caruso, Rich Jarrett, and John Underhill

Nyeri Presbytery: Gatumbiro Church (Pronounced Gah-toe-Bay-roh)

WV Council of Churches: Salvation Army

Churches in the Presbytery of WV: Bridgeport Presbyterian Church, Belle Presbyterian Church

Missionaries: Steve and Sonia Dettweiler

Village Chapel Presbyterian Church

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DECEMBER 29, 2019**



The Escape to Egypt by Michael Taylor

We believe children learn to worship by being in worship, so childcare for children (infant to kindergarten) begins after the Time for Children. The adult attendants will lead children out of the sanctuary to their room in the basement of the Education wing.

Worship bags for all children are available in the Narthex (at the back of the sanctuary).

Our sanctuary is equipped with hearing assist devices. Please see one of the ushers to borrow one during the service.

This Sunday's bulletin is printed on paper that contains at least 10% recycled fiber. A receptacle for recycling paper is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Please remember to silence your cell phones.

"Village Chapel Presbyterian Church is a congregation of God's people, a lively community of faith, striving to serve God according to God's ever evolving plan; passionately seeking opportunities to reflect God's love in our everyday lives through service, humility, self-examination and reflection, study and prayer. We are called to be generous and wise stewards of our God given gifts, talents, money and earthly resources, both as individuals and as the Body of Christ. Our mission, simply stated is that we are called to love, and to serve, and to be beacons of Christ's endless love and forgiveness, spreading God's eternal light to all people."