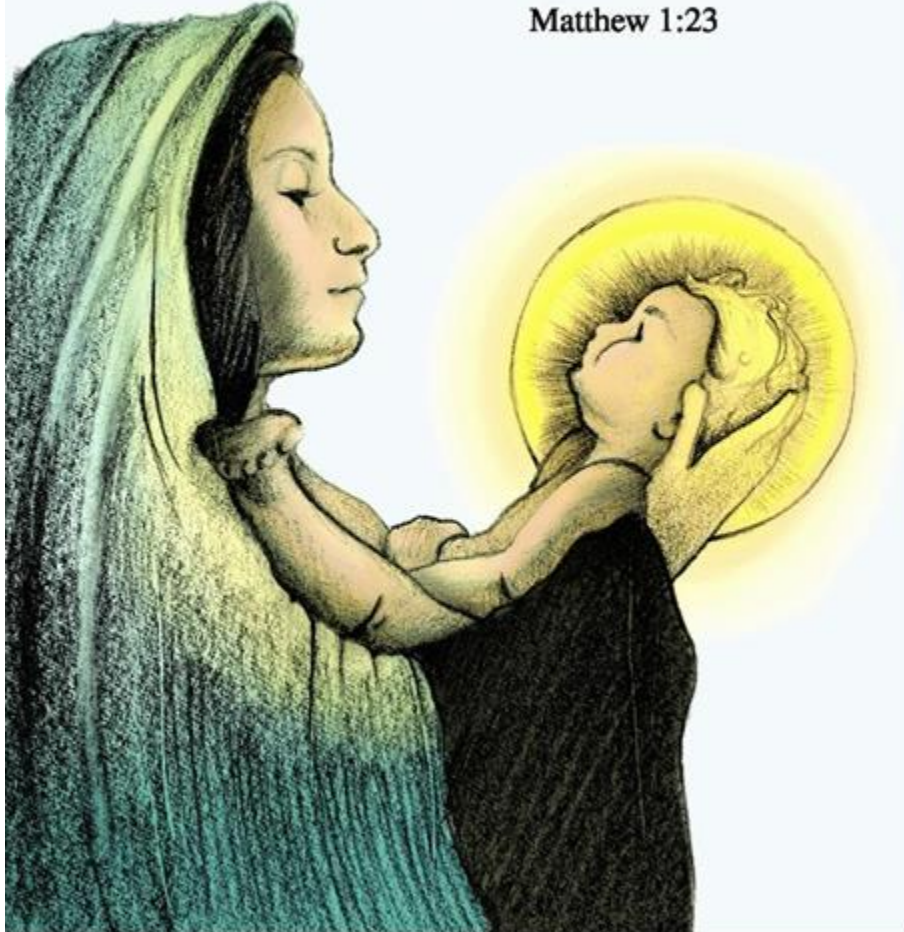


The **virgin** will be with **child** and
will give birth to a son, and they
will call him **Immanuel**.

Matthew 1:23



First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

10:00 a.m.

In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Concerns of the Church

Prelude "Angels from the Realms of Glory" arr. Anna Page

Call to Worship Isaiah 7:16, 25:9

The Lord will give you a sign.

***Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son,
and shall name him Immanuel.***

This is the Lord for whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

* Hymn 105

“People, Look East”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Faithful God,

we know that you are always there to guide us,

yet we often make plans without listening to you

and discover that our human agendas

can drown out our ability to hear your will for us.

We repent of these faults and turn to you in love.

Forgive our offenses and pardon our sins,

that our lives may magnify your holy name forever.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Advent Response

So who could dream God's wondrous love, when things did not go well?

The righteous soul marked from above to name Emmanuel!

For hope is born among us as Christ brings light and life.

The dawn of grace shall set us free from all our pain and strife.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-16 (OT, p. 636)

Psalter: Psalm 80 “O Shepherd, Hear and Lead Your Flock” (see insert)

A Time with Children

Anthem

“Noel Nouvelet”

arr. Douglas Wagner

Second Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25 (NT, p. 1)

Sermon: “Expecting Christmas”

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 145

"What Child Is This"

* Affirmation of Faith: Declaration of Faith (PCUS)

We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child,

yet born of God's power as was no other child.

In the person and work of Jesus,

God himself and a human life are united but not confused, distinguished but not separated.

The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God's promised rule. Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection,

he brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

- Offering
Offertory "Coventry Carol" arr. Lloyd Larson
* Doxology (606)
* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn 140 "Once in Royal David's City"
* Charge and Benediction
* Congregational Response (91)
Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel! (repeat)
* Postlude "Angels We Have Heard on High" arr. Anna Laura Page

*All are invited to remain seated to listen to the postlude.
If you are leaving before it is finished, please do so quietly.*

* All who are able shall stand.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Director of Bells	Richard Cochrane
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Connie Weiss
Advent Candlelighters	The Scandle Family

We are grateful for the many ways that people support our church's ministry to the community and world. If you wish to contribute by cell phone, scan here.



First Presbyterian Church
300 School Street
570/586-6306
www.fpccs.org

Church Family Announcements

Our congregation worships God, equips God's people for ministry in the world, and serves God in ways that are faithful to the Gospel.

Thank you for joining us for Worship. We worship every Sunday in two ways!

- **Join us in person at 10:00 a.m.**
- **Tune in online** for our service, which is broadcast live on [our video page on YouTube](#) and archived for later viewing on the same site.

Large-print bulletins can be found at the rear of the sanctuary.

The Nursery is open Sunday mornings from 9:40-11:10 a.m. for children ages 3 and younger in room 208. The nursery is staffed by Heather Lyons.

Tell us your prayer concerns: Prayer Request Cards are available in the pew racks. Pass them to the center aisle to be collected during the first hymn. Please pray for: Barbara, Hall, Nancy, Ellen, Susannah, Janice, Kate, Leonard, Janet, June, Janet, Donna, Maura, Chuck, Jane, Morse, Dick Maurer and family, Bailey Family, MacDade family.

Can you help? We are seeking volunteers to replenish our committees and assist with brief but important tasks around the church.

- Can you assist with serving meals at one of our funeral luncheons? Let our Deacons know.
- Interested in volunteering in the office on a regular weekday morning? Notify Nancy Owens.
- Can you serve on the Christian Education and Growth committee?
Let Jana know.
- Could you serve on the Worship, Music, and Arts committee, or on the Arts planning team? Tell Jan Thyren or Robin Pinches of your interest.

Thanks for considering this invitation. This church depends on volunteers!

Join us for a Blue Christmas Service on Tuesday, December 20 at 7 p.m.

This is a day during Advent marking the longest night of the year. We will honor people who have lost loved ones, or people who have endured struggles, and are experiencing grief.

2023 Offering Envelopes can be found on the tables in the hallway by the pastor's office. Please take yours home today. If you would like a box of envelopes, and one hasn't been prepared for you, contact the church office (570-586-6306).

This Week at a Glance

Today **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- **1 p.m.**, Memorial Service for Jane Maurer, Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 20

- **10 a.m.**, Women's Bible Study, Fellowship Hall
- **7 p.m.**, Blue Christmas Service, Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 21

- **10:30 a.m.**, Prayer and Share, Room 209
- **6 p.m.**, Adult Bible Study, Room 206
- **7 p.m.**, Adult Choir, Sanctuary
- **8 p.m.**, Bell Choir, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, December 22

Friday, December 23 **12 noon**, Church Office Closes

Saturday, December 24 **Christmas Eve**

- **4 p.m.**, Christmas pageant, Sanctuary
- **8 p.m.**, Service of Lessons and Carols, Sanctuary
- **11 p.m.**, Jazz Communion, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25 **Christmas Day**

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online

Monday, December 26

The Church Office is closed.

Sunday, January 1, 2023 Happy New Year!

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online

Sunday, January 8

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online

After worship, there will be an intergenerational lunch/event on the theme of **Baptism**.