

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

**Monday, January 4**  
 Office Closed  
 9:00 a.m. First Kids Preschool  
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout District Steering Committee (*Davis Hall*)

**Tuesday, January 5**  
 9:00 a.m. First Kids Preschool  
 7:00 p.m. Circle 3 (*Davis Hall*)  
 Board of Deacons (*Zoom*)

**Wednesday, January 6**  
 9:00 a.m. First Kids Preschool  
 6:30 p.m. PNC Online

**Thursday, January 7**  
 9:00 a.m. First Kids Preschool  
 9:00 a.m. First Kids Preschool

**Friday, January 8**  
 9:00 a.m. First Kids Preschool

**Sunday, January 10**  
 8:30 a.m. Worship Online



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CONCORD

**ELDERS**

**Class of 2021**

Evelyn Barrier  
 Holly Cagle  
 Wade Holland  
 Carol Hovey  
 Jeff Monroe  
 Chrissy Rotan  
 Dave Sheridan

**Class of 2022**

Peter Chikes  
 Jim Holloway  
 Donna Knorr  
 Margaret Moore  
 Hunter Morrison  
 Kathy Pilkington

**Class of 2023**

Dale Carpenter  
 Merl Hamilton  
 Harris Morrison  
 Amy Murphy  
 Susan Otteni  
 Susan Smith

Gina Goff — Clerk of Session

**DEACONS**

**Class of 2021**

Ron Barus  
 Susan Brooks  
 Brooks Fulton  
 Mary Garrison  
 Margaret Hillman  
 Anne Morrison

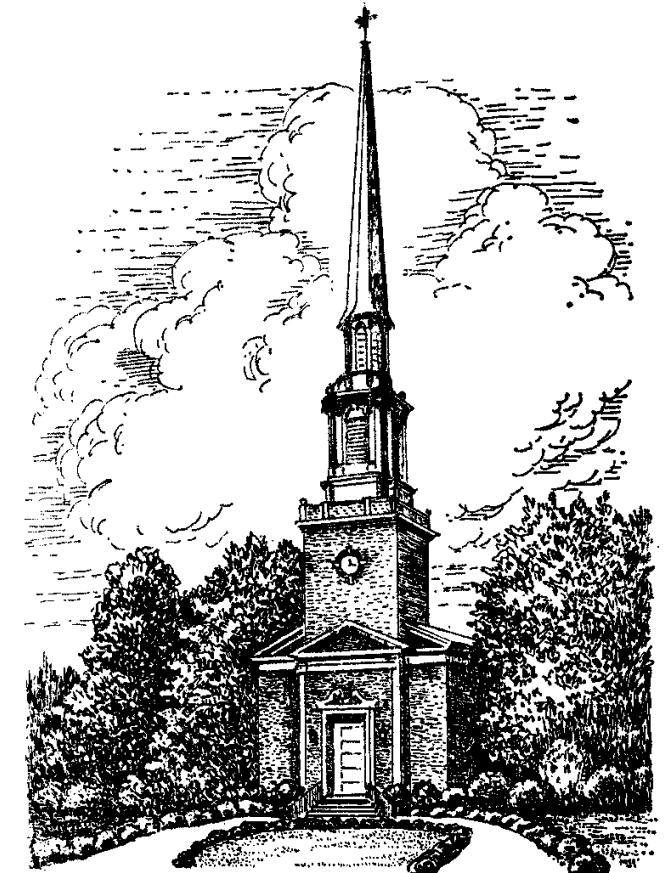
**Class of 2022**

Donna Cline  
 Jessica Garmon  
 Edy Johnston  
 Kate Morrison  
 Dean Phillips  
 Don Seitz  
 Scott Verner

**Class of 2023**

Linda Barnett  
 Tripp Carpenter  
 Kimberly Leatherman  
 Jeff Nelson  
 Ellie Sherrill  
 Dakeita Vanderburg  
 Amanda Williamson

# Second Sunday of Christmas



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**70 Union Street North**  
**Concord, North Carolina**

**Sunday, January 3, 2021**  
**11:00 a.m.**

*Rev. Rush Otey, Interim Supply Pastor*  
*Rev. Lynne Keel, Associate Pastor for Care and Mission*  
*Dr. Jacqueline Yost, Director of Music and Organist*  
*Dr. Jeffrey W. Price, Choirmaster*

[www.firstpresconcord.org](http://www.firstpresconcord.org)



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(704) 788-2100

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** *Prélude sur l'Introït de l'Épiphanie* Maurice Duruflé

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and God's glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Let us pray: God of hope, who sent a star to guide where Christ was born, guide us by the light of your Word, so that we may come to him offering the gift of our lives, and go out into the world glorifying and praising You, for our Savior Jesus Christ, Amen

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE** *As with Gladness Men of Old* DIX  
(Jeffrey Price, soloist)

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Wondrous Hope, on whom we rely for life and its meaning, we confess that we have sinned against you by abandoning hope, by failing to listen for or accept your promises, by relying on ourselves too much and on our neighbors and on You too seldom. Forgive us, we pray. Once more open our hearts to Your mercy, our minds to Your promises, and our hands to our neighbors in need. Restore us to trust in Your providing care and Your guiding love. Amen.

### SILENT PRAYER AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the gospel.  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**MUSIC RESPONSE** *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright* Mark Sedio

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Psalm 72:1-7 Jane Spainhour, lay reader  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**MUSICAL RESPONSE** *The Three Kings* Wilbur Held

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** Matthew 2: 1-12

**SERMON** "Following the Best Light" Rev. Rush Otey

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**OFFERTORY** *TEXT TO GIVE: 704-228-7459*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** *Wandering Kings* Andrew Carter  
(Jeffrey Price, soloist)

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Dear Lord, as we have begun another year, we thank You for this our congregation. We ask now that You would increase and deepen our faith. Call us into new practices of mission and outreach, that in Your name and Spirit, we might touch and heal human needs. We ask for grace commensurate with the demands and struggles of the days and months ahead. Renovate now within us Your dwelling, and may Your inner reign reflect from us an outward radiance that will encourage those who have lost their fire and nerve. In Christ's strength, Amen.

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** † Rev. Lynne Keel

Invitation to the Lord's Table  
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution  
Communion of the People  
Prayer after Communion 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.**

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *Amen* Mark Patterson  
(Sanctuary Choir)

**POSTLUDE** *Fugue sur le Theme du Carillon des Heures de la Cathedrale de Soissons, op. 12* Maurice Duruflé

† *Our communion bread is gluten-free, so that all may share one bread. (1 Cor. 10:17)*

\* *Those who are able, please stand.*  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE JOURNEY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS will resume - safely - in person meeting on Sunday, January 10, 2021 in the Sanctuary.** This Winter we are going to study a newly released curriculum from The Presbyterian Outlook. Previously, we have studied the weekly article by Jill Duffeiled from The Presbyterian Outlook and she was involved in the creation of this curriculum. "TESTIMONY: Vocabulary of Faith" was designed with the hope it frees people to live their Reformed faith by remembering, reclaiming and rearticulating what we believe about who God is and who we are so the patterns of our lives embody the liberating love and grace of Jesus Christ.

**RED CROSS CABARRUS VIP BLOOD DRIVE** - Monday, January 18th in Davis Hall from 2:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. To schedule an appointment, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter: Cabarrus VIP Blood Drive or 28025.

**BLESSING BOX DRIVEBY TODAY** - The Deacons invite FPC members and friends to drop off food and hygiene items in the box at their convenience or today, between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Several Deacons will be at church accepting your donations as you drive by during those two hours.

**RACIAL EQUITY DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE** - As racial tensions continue to plague our communities, the necessity of Christians to engage in this critical conversation as part of our commitment to be gospel-bearers remains important. Our Racial Equity Reads group is taking a brief hiatus from reading to view some lectures on the history of racism as taught by Jeffery Robinson, Deputy Legal Director and Director of the Trone Center for Justice and Equality. Please join us via Zoom to view these lectures and discuss on Sunday, January 10th at 4 p.m. for part 1, and Sunday, January 24th at 4 p.m. for part 2. For more information or to sign up to join the discussion, please contact Lynne Keel at [lynne.keel@firstpresconcord.org](mailto:lynne.keel@firstpresconcord.org).