

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville. The asterisk (*) invites all who are able to stand. **Bold** designates portion that the congregation reads. There is more information under the section “This Morning.”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Deck Thyself, Thy Soul With Gladness* *J.S. Bach*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace to you and peace in this new year.

We will bless God who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

In Christ we have obtained an inheritance.

We have been redeemed as God’s own people.

Praise be to God!

***HYMN 66** *To God Be the Glory*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love and compassion, you have come into the world and yet we have not recognized you. Forgive our lack of insight and open our eyes to see you here and now, that we may receive your grace through Jesus our Christ. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

* **RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS** *Glory Be to the Father*

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

OFFERTORY *In Thee Is Gladness* *Dale Wood*

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURE READING John 1:1-5;10-14 p. 862
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Bread of Life* *Joel Raney*

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 1:3-14 p. 949
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Blessed to be a Blessing” Rev. Michael Davis

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 182** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

NEW YEAR’S PRAYER

God of our Life, on this first Sunday of the new year, we thank you for the year that is past and for the dawn of another year.

We thank you for whatever happiness has been our lot.

We thank you for whatever trials have come our way.

And we pray that you transform both our happy memories and the remembrance of trials into nurture for our spirits.

We praise you, Lord of the church, for the faith and witness of Christians through the ages, without whom we would not be here today as members of your Body.

Gracious God, enable us to walk worthily in the footsteps of those who have gone before us but keep us also alert and open to the demands and challenges of the present and of the future.

Remind us that whatever we say within these walls is validated only by what we do away from here:

in our family life, on the job, as citizens and neighbors.

In the new year, Eternal God, keep your Spirit’s pressure on us that we may be faithful co-workers with you, pursuing your purposes in this hate-filled, pain-racked world:

freedom, peace with justice, compassion without bounds.

God Beyond Time, when we stand between memory and hope,

we pray for those who have too many memories and little or no hope, except in your final mercy.

Be with those who are walking in death’s shadow,

and equip us for the ministry of presence that we may at least be with them in their hour of need.

We pray in the name of him whose own years on Earth were few, but whose impact for healing was incalculable,

Jesus Christ, the Lord of the old year and of the new and of all our years, the Lord of history and of eternity. Amen.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God — the source of all light and life.

We believe that God sent Jesus Christ, as the Word Incarnate, into this world so that all might be bathed in his light and know the true source of life.

On the witness of the disciples, we believe that Jesus was crucified, died and was buried — then brought back to life that we might also have new life in him.

We believe the Word of God still speaks today to those who have ears and hearts to listen.

We believe, with the power of the Holy Spirit, that our lives can be a witness to God’s living presence and grace.

***HYMN 426** *Blessed Assurance*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

CHORAL RESPONSE

***POSTLUDE** *In Thee Is Gladness* *J.S. Bach*

We are delighted you have joined us to worship the Lord Jesus Christ. We hope you are encouraged in your faith and feel at home. Please let us know a bit about you by taking a moment to fill out the Visitors’ portion of the **Attendance Register** in the black folder on the pew. There is an attended nursery for infants and children thru age 2. Restrooms are accessible through the front, right doors and upstairs. If you need directions to the nursery, restrooms, or any other assistance, please ask one of the ushers. If you would like more information on the church, there are brochures in the narthex.

THIS MORNING:

- This week’s liturgist is Paulette Farnham.
- This week’s acolyte is Morgan Thompson.
- This morning we will be ordaining Eva Dye and Jim Perry and installing them with Kathy Ebbert, Brenda Hubbell, and Richard Roche.

- During our worship service, we “Pass the peace,” continuing a tradition that goes back to the origins of the Christian church. Jesus extended peace as a greeting, and the Apostle Paul begins his letters with a prayer for peace. Each week we intentionally wait until after we have acknowledged the gospel of God’s forgiveness to exchange the peace that should naturally result. As we shake hands with (or hug) one another, one person says, “The peace of Christ be with you,” and the other responds, “And also with you.” Extending the peace of Christ to one another symbolizes our unity amidst a world of divisions.
- Audio Sermons are now available on the church website! Visit www.hendersonvillefpc.org. They are located on the front page of the website under Pastor’s Weekly Message.
- This week’s nursery volunteer is: Kelly Horton. Next Week: Diann Hall.
- Church Lock-up Schedule – This Week: Janna Willis. Next Week: Michael Davis.
- Statistics for December 24, 2019
 - Attendance – 175
- Statistics for December 29, 2019
 - Attendance - 80

Sunshine Ministry: Another year in the books! As a child I couldn’t fathom the year 2000, and here we’ve made it to 2020! We hope you’ll start out the year by joining some of your friends at the Sunshine Ministry gatherings. The third Tuesday in January is the 21st. We’ll meet at 10:30 a.m. in Martin Hall. This month we have the honor of having author Jack Benz providing the program. He will speak about his book, From Salem to Nashville-Old Glory. Jack and his wife, Naroma, will join us for lunch at Safari’s. *“If you eat cake fast enough, your Fitbit will think you’re exercising.”*

Annual Congregational Meeting: The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, January 19th immediately following worship to change the Pastor’s call (cost of living raise); approve the Elder Nominating Committee, share the 2020 budget, and conduct business for the corporation. It will be followed by lunch in Martin Hall.

Watercolor Class: Good News! The Watercolor Class, taught by Barbara Brooks, will resume meeting beginning on Wednesday, January 8th at 1:00 p.m. Be sure to bring a favorite photo or drawing that you would like to paint.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 5

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Worship – Communion
 Ordination & Installation of Elders
 Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 11:00 a.m.

Monday, January 6

10:00 a.m. Crochet Group
 10:30 a.m. Women’s Book Group
 6:00 p.m. Local Missions Meeting
 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting in MH

Tuesday, December 7

7:00 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 8

7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study
 5:00 p.m. Sudanese After School Program
 6:00 p.m. Worship Meeting
 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir
 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting in MH

Friday, December 10

7:30 p.m. NA Meeting in MH

Sunday, December 12

7:00 a.m. Room in the Inn
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Worship
 11:00 a.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 Cong. Care Meeting
 Connection Groups Begin

WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE CONTINUED CONCERNS: Bob Andrews, Meara Edrington, Erika & Ray Hauer, Janet Edrington, Karen Scott, Bloma Hale, Burneice Witt, Hoyt Brindle, Debbie Brooks, Family of Joe Ellison, Family of Gordon Presley, Ed Covington, Amy Emberton, Tim, Christina, Owen, Dottie & Daisy Deaux, John W., Betty Russell, Rachel Ballenger, and the Edwards Family.

AND FOR THESE NEW CONCERNS: Mary Lou Settle and the Family of Sue Arntsten (daughter of Dick Brooks).

AND FOR THESE MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY: Kevin Stepp, Duane Farnham, Jr. (Paulette’s son), Joseph Elkins (Tonya Elkins brother), A.J. Morris (Brenda DePriest’s grandson), James Hawthorne (son of Blake Hawthorne), Sole Aléxovich (Brooks Family), Joseph Elkins, Daniel Grindstaff (Carol Thompson’s grandson), and Garrett Mason (great nephew of Bob & Jane Marshall).

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Responding to God’s love and grace,
 our vision is to serve Christ through service to others*



Sunday, January 5, 2020

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