

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
310 Plantation Road Perry, FL 32348
1st Sunday of Christmas
11:00 am December 31, 2023

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

PRAYER (TO BE PRAYED SILENTLY UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY)

From Ephesians 4:2- 4: Father, please help us to walk in a manner worthy of You and Your call to us. Give us a spirit of humility, gentleness and patience that we may show tolerance for one another in love. Help us to be diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF FRIENDSHIP PADS

INTROIT *"Behold"*

By Dallas Jenkins | Phil Wickham | Steven Furtick
Music by Elevation Worship Publishing; Phil Wickham Music;
Simply Global Songs; Remaining portion is unaffiliated

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Luke 2:29-32)

Leader: Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word:

People: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

Leader: Which thou hast prepared before the face of all
people;

**People: A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory
of thy people Israel.**

*HYMN *"On Christmas Night All Christians Sing"* No. 112
(Purple Hymnal)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Most merciful God:

**People: We confess that we are in bondage to sin
and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned
against you in thought, word and deed by
what we have done and by what we have
left undone. We have not loved you with
our whole heart. We have not loved our
neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of**

***your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we
may delight in your will and walk in your
ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.***

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his son to die for us, and for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI No. 623(Red Hymnal)
***"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."***

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

ANTHEM *"God With Us"*

CCLI Song # 6460237. Jason Ingram | Leslie Jordan
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SCRIPTURE Psalm 111

SCRIPTURE LUKE 2:22-28;33-38

SERMON Rev. Dr. Robert R. Lutz, Ph.D.
"Don't you have something else to celebrate?"

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven
and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day
He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father
Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick
and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy
catholic Church; the communion of saints; the
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the
life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers Of and For The People
First Presbyterian Church**

Rawls
Lori Small's brother
Carusoes
Bobby Harper
Jeanne H, knee
Amalia & Ervin Young
Elvena
Gretchen
Patricia Lindsey and son in law, Lynn
Our sisters and brothers in Christ here in Taylor Co
All holiday travelers
Cindy, eye surgery
Vannie
Polly
Brenda
McNeills
Whiddons and extended family
All for whom holidays are not joyful
Poppells
Rita and Sheena travelling
Martha Davis, extended family
Marsha Taylor's mom
Bob and Marne Helberg
Judy Neal
And all unspoken heartaches, in Jesus precious name, Amen

Session Committee leaders

Administration-Joey Ratliff, Martha Davis, Chuck Eckel

Christian Education-Martha Davis

Clerk-Cindy Brown

Congregation Care-Nancy Bell

Fellowship-Sandi Hilgendorf

Finance-Chuck Eckel

Mission/Outreach-Marne Helberg, Rachel Poppell

Worship/Music-Marilyn Culpepper

Notes & Announcements



The Flowers this morning are given to the glory of God and in honor of Rev. Bob & Chris Lutz.

- Church office closed Monday, January 1st
- Tuesday bible studies will resume January 9th
- Fellowship Suppers will resume Wednesday, January 10th
- Called session meeting Sunday, January 7th at 12:15
- **Ushers** for January 7th: David Culpepper, Jeanne Hilgendorf, Warren Hilgendorf, Marilyn Culpepper
- FPC website www.firstpresperry.org

**From *Acacia to Wormwood*,
Sojourners to study 'Plants of
the Bible' beginning Jan. 7**

What can God teach us through the plants of the Bible? Beginning Sunday, Jan. 7, and continuing through May, the Sojourners Sunday School Class will seek to answer that question, each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Teacher Susan Lincoln will lead the class through the Garden of Eden into the flatlands and beyond, studying common trees like Zaccheus' sycamore and the Cedars of Lebanon, as well as frankincense and myrrh, pomegranate and papyrus.

"Please join us," she encourages. "This class of couples and singles is a wonderful group which enjoys learning. You will be graciously welcomed as we marvel at God's wonderful creation and the lessons it provides."

Pastor Nominating Committee members: Emaley Gentry, Jamie Poppell, Juanita Ratliff, Randy Speas, and Shona Whiddon