

First Presbyterian Church of Weaverville



The First Presbyterian Church of Weaverville, North Carolina exists to praise and magnify the name of God, bringing people to Christ and uniting them with the Covenant Family, developing them to Christ-like maturity and equipping them for ministry to the Church and to the world.

30 North Alabama Avenue
PO Box 247
Weaverville, NC 28787

(828) 645-7344
firstpca@fpcweaverville.com
www.fpcweaverville.org

The First Presbyterian Church of Weaverville

December 24, 2021



Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship – Luke 1:46-49

LEADER: My soul praises the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

PEOPLE: For He has been mindful of the humble state of His servant. From now on all generations will call be blessed.

ALL: For the Mighty One has done great things for me – holy is His name. His mercy extends to those who fear Him, from generation to generation.



Opening Hymn of Worship

Angels We Have Heard on High

hymn #278

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply,
Echo back their joyous strains.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

*Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Come to Bethlehem, and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

See within a manger laid Jesus,
Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Savior's birth.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Statement of Faith – Luke 1:50-55

LEADER: His mercy extends to those who fear Him, from generation to generation.

PEOPLE: He has performed mighty deeds with His arms; He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

ALL: He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped His servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as He said to our fathers.



Hymn

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

hymn #273

*Good Christian men, rejoice With heart and soul and voice!
Give ye heed to what we say: News! News! 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!*

*Good Christian men, rejoice With heart and soul and voice!
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door And man is blessed forever-more.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!*

*Good Christian men, rejoice With heart and soul and voice!
Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all To gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!*



Reading of God's Word – Ephesians 2:14-16

For He Himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in Himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which He put to death their hostility.

Reading of God's Word – Zechariah 10:9-12; Luke 2:8-14

Though I scatter them among the peoples, yet in distant lands they will remember me. They and their children will survive, and they will return. I will bring them back from Egypt and gather them from Assyria. I will bring them to Gilead and Lebanon, and there will not be room enough for them. They will pass through the sea of trouble; the surging sea will be subdued and all the depths of the Nile will dry up. Assyria's pride will be brought down and Egypt's scepter will pass away. I will strengthen them in the Lord and in his name they will walk." declares the Lord.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

Preaching of the Word

Rev. Skip Gillikin

“The Promised Peace”



Hymn of Response

Silent Night

hymn #253

*Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child. Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar; Heavenly hosts sing alleluia.
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!*

*Silent night, holy night, Wondrous star, lend thy light.
With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King.
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!*

*Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

Benediction