

Christmas Eve Communion Service



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Greer, South Carolina

100 School Street
Greer, SC 29651
(864) 877-3612
www.fpcgreer.org

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Ding, Dong, Merrily on High

arr. Campbell

Call to Worship & Lighting of the Advent Candles

God of the Universe, tonight heaven and earth meet.
Justice and righteousness kiss.
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
for unto us a Savior is born, a Son is given.
Tonight all sanctuaries and homes are Bethlehem—an out of the way place,
where God shows up and surprises us in the midst of our human lives.
Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Hymn # 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful
verses 1 & 4

ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him,
born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord God, forgive our clouded memory:
In the dark crevices of our hiding
we forget how you said,
“Let there be light.”

In the confused turns of our choosing
we forget how you said,
“You shall have no other gods.”

In the lonely corners of our living
we forget how you said,
“To us a child is born.”

Fulfill in us tonight
the truth you spoke so long ago.
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn # 115

Away in a Manger
verses 1 & 3

arr. Burkhardt

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading

John 6: 28-35; 41-51

Sermon

“The Taste of Christmas”

Dr. Al Masters

Offering

Offering of Music

O Holy Night
Wendi Arms, soprano; Pam Turnage, accompanist

Adam

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Invitation to the Lord’s Table

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues

The Lord’s Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

The First Noel

arr. Campbell

Prayer after Communion

Hymn # 113

Angels We Have Heard on High
verses 1 & 3

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o’er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.
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!

Charge and Benediction

Benediction Response # 122

Silent Night, Holy Night!
verses 1 & 4

STILLE NACHT

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!
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.

Postlude

Hallelujah Chorus from *The Messiah*

Handel

Welcome to worship on this Christmas Eve. Please indicate your presence by emailing Lisa Johnson at lisaj@fpcgreer.org.

As we prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, please gather the elements of bread and juice or wine and join in sharing this holy meal as a community of faith.

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Special thanks to Rebecca Aguirre, Ginger Greer, violin; Elizabeth Dillard, oboe; for sharing their musical gifts with us in worship.

The church office will be closed on December 24th and 25th and will reopen on Monday, December 28th. Merry Christmas from the staff of FPC Greer!

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Interim Pastor: The Reverend Dr. Pete Peery
Parish Associate: The Reverend Dr. Al Masters
Directory of Youth Ministry: Victoria Robinson
Faith Formation Intern: Logan Britt
Director of Music: Lisa Dillard
Assistant Director of Music: Pam Turnage
Praise Team Leader: Wendi Arms
Director of Operations: Maggie Wentzky
Financial Administrator: Lynn Bennett
Administrative Assistant: Lisa Johnson