

Morning Worship
December 9, 2018
2nd Sunday of Advent

We Gather in God's Name

Greeting Dan Tillman

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (Peace Candle) Morgan Family

Choral Response *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

Prayer

God of hope, Prince of Peace, You speak peace into the world in the Way of the Christ child. Help us embody your peace and live as peacemakers that we may be called children of God.

God of hope, God of peace, into our darkness come.

*Call to Worship

The Lord is coming to his temple.

Prepare the way of the Lord!

The Lord of hosts is coming, indeed.

Prepare the way of the Lord!

We watch and we wait for his coming.

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Let us worship God!

*Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, you come into our midst longing for communion with us.

Break our resistance to life with you and bring us into Your

unimaginable peace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

*Hymn 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Call to Confession

Saints, let us trust in God's love for us and confess our sin, confident in God's mercy.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. We know that you alone can purify us, but we have resisted, choosing instead to continue living in sin. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

(Time for silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, I am confident of this: if we repent, God is sure to forgive us. The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion. Believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Holy Interruption *We greet our neighbors in Christ's love*

We Receive God's Word

Children's Sermon

Mary Jane Evans

Preschool-Kindergarten age children are dismissed to the Pray n' Play program held in the room beside the church nursery in the main Church building. Children who are in the 1st grade and higher should return to their seats in the congregation.

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson Malachi 3: 1- 4

New Testament Lesson Luke 3: 1- 6

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Tripp Brogdon

“Becoming Part of the Story”

We Respond to God's Word

* Hymn 96 *On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *A Declaration of Faith*, Presbyterian Church (USA)
God sent the promised deliverer to His people. Jesus, the long expected Savior, came into the world as a child, descended from David, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a virgin. He lived as a Jew among Jews. He announced to his people the coming of God's Kingdom, of justice and peace on earth. We affirm that Jesus was born of woman, as is every child, yet born of God's power, as was no other child. In the person and work of Jesus, God Himself and a human life are united but not confused, distinguished but not separated. The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God's promised rule. Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection, he brings about the relationship, between God and humanity, that God always intended.

**Gloria Patri* (hymn 581)

**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.**

Prayers of The People (concluding with 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.

Offering Invitation

Offertory

* Praise of God *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee

Prayer of Dedication

We Depart in God's Name

* Hymn 366 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

* Benediction and Sending

* Choral Response *Blest Be the God of Israel*

* Postlude

We **welcome** Tripp Brogdon to the pulpit this morning. Tripp was born and raised not so far down the road in Sumter, SC, where he served and worshipped at his home congregation of First Presbyterian Church. He is a recent graduate of Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA and is a Candidate for Ministry in the PC(USA) under the care of the Presbytery of New Harmony.

We **welcome** Beth Maier as our pianist this morning.

Usher/Greeter Team for December

Douglas Anderson and Avery Dickson

Prayer List as of December 9, 2018

Dee Pierce Anne Bryan
Gerry Rogers Jack Baker

Residents at Presbyterian Communities of SC
Artha Sompayrac – Summerville
B. J. Moore - Summerville

Copies of the **extended prayer list** (which includes non-members) can be obtained by calling the church office.

To be a good steward of God’s blessings, please help “**fill the wagon**” for the McArn Community Ministry. The red wagon will be in the narthex every Sunday. Thanks for your generosity!

The Church This Week (12/9/2018)

| | | |
|--------|------------|------------------------------|
| Today | 9:30 a.m. | Coffee/Fellowship |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Church School |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Youth |
| Mon. | 8:30 a.m. | MMO |
| Tues. | 10:00 a.m. | Circle 1 |
| | 4:00 p.m. | Circle 2 |
| Wed. | 8:30 a.m. | MMO |
| | 3:00 p.m. | Fun Program |
| | 6:00 p.m. | White Christmas/Covered Dish |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Adult Choir |
| Thurs. | 5:30 p.m. | Session |
| Sun. | 9:30 a.m. | Coffee/Fellowship |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Church School |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship |

Nursery/Pray N’ Play

Dec. 9 Emily Beck
Dec. 16 Maylen Harris
Dec. 23 Sadie Smith
Dec. 30 Shelley Morgan

All **pledges and/or contributions** to First Presbyterian Church must be turned in by **Sunday, December 30th for year ending 2018**. Also, any checks that need to be written for 2018 expenses must be turned in by Sunday, December 30, 2018.

Please join us on **December 12th** for our annual **White Christmas covered dish**. Dinner will begin at 6:00. You are asked to bring a covered dish along with a monetary donation for the benefit of Pee Dee Coalition. We also understand there may be a special visitor from the North Pole!!

**Christmas Joy Offering
Sunday, December 16, 2018**

During this season, we hear “the good news of great joy” that was proclaimed to the shepherds and transformed their fear to joy. We live with the anticipation that once again the spirit of Christmas will be born in our hearts. Our hope is that the love of God made known to us as the child of Bethlehem will be a reality in our lives and in the world. One way in which the PC (USA) shares this is through the Christmas Joy Offering. One half of this supports Presbyterian related ethnic schools and colleges. The Assistance program of the Board of Pensions receives the other half of the offering and uses it to assist pastors, missionaries, and church workers in special need. We will collect our annual **Christmas Joy Offering** on December 16 during Worship.

The Spirit of Giving

In the Narthex of our Church hangs a large green Christmas tree. This is a very special tree, for it offers you the opportunity to share the true spirit of Christmas – the “Spirit of giving” – with other members of our Church family in a very meaningful way. By making a donation to the “Christmas Joy Special Offering”, in lieu of sending Christmas cards to Church friends, you will be wishing them a joyous holiday season while proving financial support to the Presbyterian’s Board of Pension and Racial Ethnic Presbyterian Schools. A monetary donation to First Presbyterian Church (marked Joy Tree) will place an ornament on this tree with your family’s name on it. What a good way to share your Good Tidings of great Joy, Peace on Earth and Goodwill to others.

The Giving Ministry Team would like to remind you the **Stewardship Campaign** will again take place during the month of January. The campaign will kick-off on January 6, 2019 and end on January 27 with commitment Sunday and a celebration lunch. Our theme for this year is “Abundant Joy, Overflowing Generosity”.

The Church Staff

| | | |
|---|----------|--|
| | , Pastor | Mr. Mac McCall, DCE & Director of Choirs |
| Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary | | Mrs. Barbara C. Dickson, Church Organist |
| Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton | | Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO |
| Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper | | Mrs. Sally Powell, MMO |
| Mrs. Mary Gullledge, Mrs. Debra Jewart, Nursery | | Mrs. Debra Jewart, MMO |

First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 552, 300 Market Street
Cheraw, SC 29520

church tel. 843.537-7474

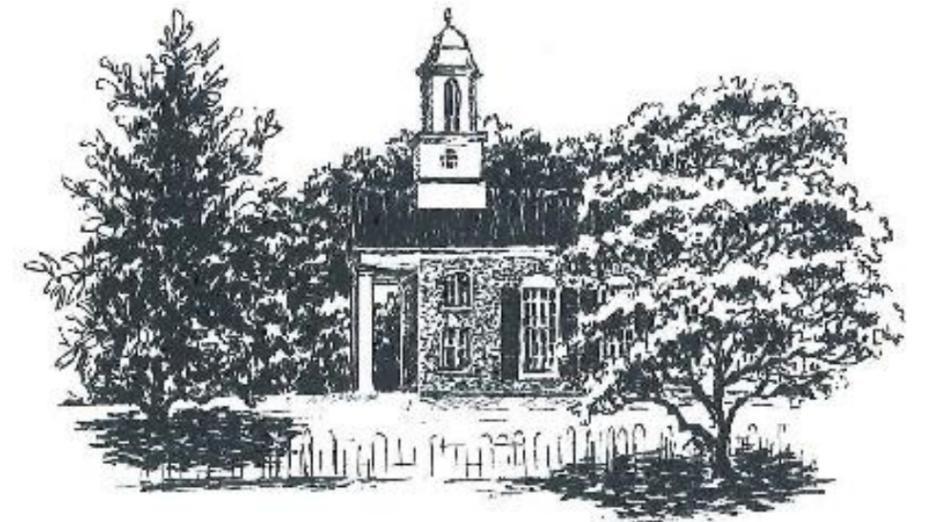
www.cherawfpc.org

Email: info@firstprescheraw.org

First Presbyterian Church
Cheraw, South Carolina

Our Vision

**Rooted by God’s Grace,
Growing in the Spirit,
Reaching Out with Christ’s Love**



Our Mission

**By the Grace of God, we are rooted in Christ through love.
We grow in the Spirit by worshipping, by studying,
and by cultivating relationships with Christ and others.
As stewards of God’s gifts and affirming our faith
in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior,
we share God’s Mission of reaching out
with Christ’s Love.**

Missionaries

Mr. Mark Hare/ Mrs. Jenny Bent Hare *Haiti*
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Smith *Germany/Russia*