

First Presbyterian Church of Naples

*In the Heart of Naples with the Love of God:
we worship, we love, we grow, we serve*



Christ as a Twelve-year-old in the Temple, by Albrecht Dürer

December 26, 2021
First Sunday after Christmas
9:30 a.m.

*Let us quiet our hearts, minds, and voices for the beginning of worship.
At this time, please silence all cell phones.*

The Prelude

**Rocking
Good King Wenceslas**

ARR. OVID YOUNG
ARR. YOUNG

THE TIME OF GATHERING

Welcome and Life Together

REV. CRAIG GOODRICH

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

*Call to Worship

Leader: Glory to God in the highest!

People: *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.*

Leader: Glory to God in the highest!

People: *For a child has been born for us, a Son has been given to us.*

Leader: Glory to God in the highest!

People: *He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

All: *Let us worship God!*

A TIME FOR PRAISE AND CONFESSION

*Hymn of Praise #119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

- Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*
- Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*
- Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*

Call to Confession

REV. CRAIG GOODRICH

Prayer of Confession

***God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness.
We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We
have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive
our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live
in the truth of Christ the Lord.***

A Moment for Silent Personal Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Hear the promise of the Lord: See, your salvation has come! You are a holy people,
redeemed by God; sought out and not forsaken. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Receive God's forgiveness and be at peace.

All: *Thanks be to God!*

** Please stand if able*

*Gloria Patri

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!

Children's Time

REV. REX CHILDS

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

BETTY PLUM

First Reading

Colossians 3:12-17

PEW BIBLE PAGE 958

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Response

Away in a Manger

ARR. BOB CHILCOTT

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus!
Look down from the sky, and stay by my side
Until morning is nigh. 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.

Second Reading

Luke 2:41-52

PEW BIBLE PAGE 833

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Searching for Jesus

REV. REX CHILDS

*Affirmation of Faith (from A Brief Statement of Faith—PCUSA 1983)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve... We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal... With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of Thanksgiving and 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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

Nativity Carol

JOHN RUTTER

Born in a stable so bare, born so long ago; born 'neath light of star He who loved us so. *Far away silent lay, born today, your homage pay, for Christ is born for aye, born on Christmas Day.* Cradled by mother so fair, tender her lullaby; over her son so dear angel hosts fill the sky. Wise men from distant far land, shepherds from starry hills worship this babe so rare, hearts with his warmth he fills. Love in that stable was born into our hearts to flow; innocent dreaming babe, make me thy love to know.

*The 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. Amen

GOING FORTH

Hymn of Commitment #136

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

Refrain:

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

- 1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Refrain.*
- 2. The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain.*
- 3. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Refrain.*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

***Vom Himmel hoch
(From Heaven Above to Earth I Come)***

JOHANN PACHELBEL

Flower Dedication

The Chancel flowers are given by Shirley Hagerson
in loving memory of her husband Larry.

Ushers

Bill Kearney (head usher), Ned Camuti, Don Herring,
Sharlene Kearney, Dottie Morse, Patty Rutzler

Greeters

Cindy Esler, Gary and Janet Root, Patty Rutzler

Church Office Hours

The church office will be closed
beginning Monday, December 27 and will reopen Monday, January 3.

Prayer List

In an effort to keep the prayer list current, names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks, unless we are notified otherwise. If you wish for a name to be included, please contact the church office.

*Linda Arsenault
Darryl Bernhardt
*Bill Crawford
Scott McCullough
*Jane Nordlund
John Robinson
Cynthia Scott
*Dan Stellema
Vanessa Uzupes-Owens

Schools and teachers
The U.S. Military
Stephen Ministers and
care receivers
* church member

Missionary (Honduras)
Dorie Hjalmarson
Central Presbyterian Reformed
Church (Matanzas, Cuba)
Judith Abreu, Carlitos Camps
Rev. Beidy Casas Aragon,
Joseito Martinez, Rolando
Morales, Idania and Nidia
Patria, Yadir Puron, Bello
Puron, Dr. Javier Vidal

News

Service time changes

Beginning Sunday, January 9, 2022 we will return to two worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Ushers Needed

We have a great need for those who would be willing to serve as ushers, especially when we return to two services on January 9, 2022. If you are willing to serve, please contact Bill Kearney at 239.348.2871, or by email skearney239@comcast.net or see him after the service today in Spencer Hall. Your help is much appreciated.

2022-2023 Preschool Enrollment

First Presbyterian Preschool will soon begin enrolling for 2022-2023. If you would like to schedule a preschool tour or request the registration link, please contact Ashley or Lindsay at 239.262.8315. You may visit our website at www.fppnaples.org for more information. Enrollment will be available as follows: **January 10**-church members; **January 17**-current families and siblings; **February 7**-new families.

Cell Phone Ministry

Has someone in your family gotten a new cell phone? If so, you can help protect vulnerable women and children by donating used cell phones. The Shelter for Abused Women and Children removes all data from the phones, programs them to call 911 only, and provides these phones to survivors of abuse to ensure they have immediate phone access to call for help. There is a cell phone collection box in Spencer Hall. Thank you for your support of our mission partner. Please contact Kristin Vaccaro with any questions at 615.585.3244.

Events

Wednesday Morning Men: Faith and Fellowship

Meetings take place on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. January 5 will be a recap, reflections and "What About You?" led by Larry Comstock and Rev. Craig Goodrich. We have a need for several topic leaders so please let us know if you are willing. Please plan to join us either in person or by Zoom. If you have comments, questions, or require the Zoom link, contact Bill Kearney, skearney239@comcast.net.

Taking Down the Greens

On Wednesday, January 5 at 9 a.m. we will be removing greenery and Christmas decorations from the Sanctuary, Narthex and Spencer Hall. We hope you can join us. Many hands make light work! If you have any questions or would like to sign up, please contact Sandy Poore at sandyp@fpcnaples.org or 239.262.1311 ext. 2028.

We welcome back the children and youth on Sunday, January 9

The children will be participating in an Interactive Art Experience following the Children's Time. Join the children and youth after the 10:15 am service in the Courtyard for an interactive art experience. We will participate in an intergenerational art project led by artist, Susan Pratt. When the painting is completed, it will be displayed as a reminder of this time - coming together after many months. We hope you will grab a cup of coffee and join us in the courtyard!

Children and Youth Ministry

Our programming for children grades K-5 will begin in person on January 9 at the 10:15 a.m. service. Starting in January we will offer a hybrid Kidz Lab for those present at church and those who want to join us via Zoom.

Youth group (grades 6-12) join together again with our "Rock the Universe" event from January 29-30 in Orlando. Please contact Nancy Van Fleet at nancyv@fpcnaples.org for details.

Young Adult Ministry

Young adults meet monthly and will meet next on January 23 in person and on Zoom.

For information on any of the Children, Youth or Young Adult events, please contact Nancy Van Fleet nancyv@fpcnaples.org.

Events

Women's Ministry Bible Study

If you are missing the weekly WOW meetings in January we invite you to a weekly Bible Study beginning Monday, January 10 at 1 p.m. in the Youth Room, located on the second floor of the Mase Education Center. We will begin reading the Gospel of John. This will be a women's fellowship/study with no homework. Please bring your own Bible. We look to covenant with each other week by week as we delve into God's Word. For more information please contact Janeen McClure at jrmc@airmcclure.com

Presbyterian Women's Gathering

Join us on January 12 at noon in Spencer Hall for a box lunch and the opportunity to hear author Elizabeth Hoagland present her book, "Let's Be Friends" an uplifting book about what her sister-friends taught her about faith, food, and fun. Reservations can be made at the PW table in Spencer Hall on January 2 and 9. Reservations are secured with the payment of \$10 for lunch.

FPCN Green Team Launches 2022 Wednesdays at First-With Dinner!

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. and join us to welcome Rob Moher, President and CEO of the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. A light dinner will be available at 5:30 p.m. for \$10 followed by Rob's presentation at 6 p.m. Please join us in person for dinner or just for the presentation. Reservations may be made either in Spencer Hall or by e-mailing Ashley Hancock at ashley.hancock@fpcnaples.org. Please indicate whether you wish to come for dinner or for the presentation only. Questions? Contact Roni Haggart at vhaggart@gmail.com.

Seekers and Joiners Class

Do you want to know more about our faith, this congregation and how to become a member of our dynamic church? We want to encourage you in your journey of faith. A Seekers and Joiners class will be held on Sunday, January 16, following the 10:15 a.m. worship service in Spencer Hall. Information packets are available at the exit doors. Please register by calling the church office 239.262.1311 or by e-mailing Angie Johnson at angiej@fpcnaples.org.

Seminar — *What to do when a loved one passes*

Learn how to be prepared to handle the hurdles of the first year of losing a loved one and the resources available to you. This informal session will be led by Amy Manley, Certified Financial Planner and Linda Gadkowski, Certified Financial Planner on Sunday, January 16, after each service in Room 204 in the Mase Education Center. Please sign up in Spencer Hall at the Palm Society table or by e-mailing Linda.Gadkowski@gmail.com.

Giving Opportunities

Disaster Relief

We have all seen the images of devastation brought about by the December tornadoes. We would like to offer you an opportunity to financially support recovery efforts through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance organization. PDA deploys people on the ground to provide basic needs to those affected and helps them rebuild their lives.

If you wish to support these efforts, you may send a check made payable to First Presbyterian Church. Please note in the memo "Disaster Assistance." You may also give online through our website, www.fpcnaples.org/give. When prompted, select "Disaster Assistance" from the drop down menu. Contact Sharman Pfaus, sharmanp@fpcnaples.org, with any questions.

Year-end Giving

Thanks to all of you who have so generously given of your resources to the ministry of Jesus Christ in and through our congregation. As we head towards the end of our fiscal year, we ask that if you have been blessed financially you would consider an additional gift to help cover our 2021 budgeted expenses. Any funds received that exceed these expenses will be devoted to Mission. Thank you!

Please note: For contributions to be included in 2021 they must be postmarked by Thursday, December 30, 2021, as the Post Office will be closed on December 31.

STAFF

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone: 239.262.1311</u>	<u>Ext.</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Ministers			
Rev. Craig Goodrich, Senior Pastor		2035	craigg@fpcnaples.org
Rev. Rex Childs, Associate Pastor		2027	rexc@fpcnaples.org
Worship & Music			
Dr. Brice Gerlach, Director of Music Ministries		2039	briceg@fpcnaples.org
Osei Allen, Sound and Video Technician			
Caitlin Hancock, Sound and Video Technician			
Christian Education			
Jack Fogelman, Kidz Lab Teacher			
Audrey Gordon, Childcare Provider			
Ashley Hancock, Christian Education Assistant		2012	ashley.hancock@fpcnaples.org
Nancy Van Fleet, Director of Children and Youth		2029	nancyv@fpcnaples.org
Office			
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Sharman Pfaus, Executive Office Manager		2036	sharmanp@fpcnaples.org
Facilities			
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Eduardo Martinez, Maintenance		2014	eduardom@fpcnaples.org
Sandy Poore, Director of Facilities		2028	sandyp@fpcnaples.org
Preschool			
Ashley Houk, Preschool Director		2009	ashleyh@fpcnaples.org
Lindsay Willkomm, Preschool Assistant Director		2038	lindsayw@fpcnaples.org



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