



W E L C O M E

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 11, 2021

We are an inclusive, mission-minded, Christian congregation where everyone belongs.



WORSHIP LEADER

The Rev. Amanda Maguire Thomas



LITURGIST

The Rev. Dr. Dan McCoig Jr.

BEYOND WALLS, A PLACE FOR ALL

In these unprecedented times, we invite you to make First Presbyterian Church your spiritual home. While we are unable to worship in our interior worship spaces, we are so glad you have found us online, fpcwinc.org/virtual

During this difficult time, please contact us if we can provide assistance and prayer. Our church office's e-mail is info@fpcwinc.org.

Through your donation, we thank you for your generosity so FPC can continue to provide comfort, support, and ministry to all. Donations can be done securely and confidentially online, fpcwinc.org/stewardship/donate or by mail, 116 South Loudoun Street, Winchester, Virginia 22601 (*please designate your giving*)

EXPERIENCE FPC ONLINE – YOUR VIRTUAL CHURCH

If viewing this leaflet online, please download and open this document in your device's PDF program. Connect spiritually online at fpcwinc.org/virtual and our prayer community at fpcwinc.org/prayer

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Envelopes that were not picked up at the church in December have been mailed via USPS.

WATTS

Dear Church Family – it is that time again to think about how we can serve Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter (WATTS)—but it will look different this year. Our week to serve is January 23-30 at the former First United Methodist Church location in downtown Winchester. We will need volunteers, meals, and financial donations. A Sign-Up Genius link is available on our website, fpcwinc.org/watts and in our latest eNotice.

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

Are you having trouble connecting or accessing the church online through our website, emails, the worship videos . . . whatever it is, we want to help! Please contact the church office either through e-mail [info@fpcwinc.org] or leave a message on extension 11. Also, notify us if you know of someone who is in the hospital, rehabilitation, births, and deaths.

LET'S BE FRIENDS

Find us on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Instagram.
116 S. Loudoun St. • Winchester, VA • 22601

540.662.3824 • info@fpcwinc.org • www.fpcwinc.org

There are more announcements and details emailed weekly. Please contact the church office for assistance.

PLEDGE CARDS

Friends in Christ: Thank you for your commitment to First Presbyterian Church and its ministry and mission, especially amidst the pandemic. Our stewardship campaign in the fall was 'Our Money Story: Jesus, Money, and Me'. Money and what we do with it is one measure of what matters to us. If you pledged toward our 2021 spending plan, thank you. Many did -- some kept their pledge at their 2020 level, some increased their pledge over their 2020 level, some pledged for the first time, and some have yet to pledge. It is never too late to pledge. You may do so using the "Ministry and Programming Support" card, which you can find <insert address> Simply complete the card and mail it to our business manager, Jennifer White, at First Presbyterian Church, 116, So. Loudoun St., Winchester, VA 22601. You may also pledge online at fpcwinc.org/pledge

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS

Join us for this worship service via Zoom on Sunday, January 10 at 11:30 am. Please use the following Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84423157959>

Our Class of 2023 Elders-elect are: Pat Grosso, Lisa Miller, Patrick Pearson, Nicole Sergent, and Charles Uphaus.

CHURCH OFFICE AVAILABILITY DURING COVID-19

The Staff continues to work on a hybrid schedule. There will be someone available to take phone calls on *most* Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. If your phone call goes to voicemail, please leave a message so they are aware you have called. If you require building access, please call or email to schedule.

VIRTUAL WORSHIP

The Baptism of Our Lord • January 10, 2021 • 10:00 AM
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WINCHESTER

GATHERING *The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as People of God*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Brightest and Best" Pat Byers, organ

Robert Hobby

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The heavens open. The Spirit descends.

All: Jesus emerges from the water.

Leader: And a voice echoes through the blue expanse.

All: "This is my child, the Beloved, with whom I am well-pleased."

Leader: Jesus is named. Claimed.

All: We come to the water. We remember we are named. Claimed.

Leader: Can it be so? What a thing to be named. Claimed. Beloved. Children of God.

All: Let us worship the one who names and claims us still.

HYMN "Down Galilee's Slow Roadways"

WEST MAIN

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. However, we confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive to your future for us. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Remind us we are beloved, but also all of your children are beloved by you. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so, in Christ, God speaks to us: You are my child, my beloved with you I am well pleased. Friends in Christ and in Christ alone, we are forgiven. Amen.

WORD *God Speaks to Us in Scripture, Preaching, and Song*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Todd Bowman

SCRIPTURE Genesis 1:1-5 *World's creation in seven days*

When God began to create the heavens and the earth— the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God's wind swept over the waters— God said, "Let there be light." And so light appeared. God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. God named the light Day and the darkness Night.

There was evening and there was morning: the first day.

Mark 1:4-11 *John's preaching*

John the Baptist was in the wilderness calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. Everyone in Judea and all the people of Jerusalem went out to the Jordan River and were being baptized by John as they confessed their sins. John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around

his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. He announced, "One stronger than I am is coming after me. I'm not even worthy to bend over and loosen the strap of his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Jesus is baptized and tempted

About that time, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. While he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw heaven splitting open and the Spirit, like a dove, coming down on him. And there was a voice from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness."

SERMON "Loved Dearly"

The Rev. Amanda Maguire Thomas

THANKS *The People of God Respond to God's Word*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

[...the petitions conclude...] And now as Christ taught us, we are bold to pray... 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.

OFFERTORY

Friends, our giving is one way of saying thank you to God for what God has given us. It's an act of gratitude. It is also an act of worship. Just as we present our words in liturgy and song and prayer to God, we present a portion of the fruit of our work to God, our money. May we reflect on what we have been given and respond by giving generously to the work of God through this community.

SONG "Some Children See Him" Mark Shuford, tenor

You can send your offering via USPS [116 S. Loudoun St., Winchester, VA 22601] or you can give electronically using the "Donate" button on our website. If you use the PayPal app, send it to administrator@fpcwinc.org Thank you. [<https://fpcwinc.org/stewardship/donate>]

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

You may set up a communion station with bread and the cup in your home and commune as a family so that our congregation is communing with one another and with the Risen Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks and praise, O God that you have fed us with your mercy and poured out your Spirit on us. Continue to nourish and fill us each day that we may live as your beloved people; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING *God Blesses Us and Sends Us to Live as God's People in the World*

BENEDICTION

May we, during this season and always, join Jesus as he stands in line at the water's edge, willing to immerse himself in shame and scandal so that all the wild wonder of God might be ours to cherish. May we, too, hear the delighted Voice that tells us who we are and whose we are in the sacrament of baptism. Even in the wild, untamable water we stand in, may we know ourselves as God's Beloved.

POSTLUDE "As With Gladness Men of Old" Pat Byers, organ

Robert Hobby