

Sunday,  
December 15th  
Great happenings at church!

**Christmas Open House** with light refreshments and fellowship at the home of Rick & Janice May (127 East Cambridge Ave) from 3-5 pm

**Advent Covered Dish Dinner** in Alexander Hall. Church is providing fried chicken. Please bring a covered dish (or two) with enough to feed your family, from 5:30 -7:00 pm.

**Christmas at First Pres** will begin at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Join us for the Christmas concert of the season!

**Dessert and Live Nativity**  
at the conclusion of the service  
in the lobby and courtyard



December 1, 2024

11:00 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church  
Greenwood, SC

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Leader: In the beginning was the Word,  
**People: and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
And the Word became flesh and lived among us.**

*(Please sign and pass the Member/Guest Registry. If you are a guest, your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address will be most helpful.)*

Rev. Cain  
*John 1:1, 14*

**ADVENT HANGING OF THE GREENS**

Hannah Carter

**PRELUDE**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (121)

ST. LOUIS

**ADVENT WREATH**

Shirley Gardner

**ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING & RESPONSE**

Jane & Molly Sutton

Leader: On the first Sunday in Advent, we light the first candle of our Advent Wreath. This candle can be labeled “Prepare,” “Expectation,” “Prophecy,” or “Hope” reminding us to prepare our hearts as we await the Savior expectantly, full of hope for what he will bring (as God promised and prophets foretold) – both as he did as a babe and when he comes again.

**People: Behold I bring you good news of great joy!**

Leader: Jesus came into this world, sent by our Father, to turn this world upside down. The least became the greatest in the eyes of Christ and the last came first. This was good news for the poor, outcast, marginalized, widowed, orphaned, diseased, disabled, and broken.

**People: Behold I bring you good news of great joy!**

Leader: And Jesus will come again and that’s good news too because we are all still broken and in need of our Savior. Live today like Jesus will return tomorrow. Now that’s Good News!

**People: Behold I bring you good news of great joy!**

**CAROL**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (133)

ADESTE FIDELES

**CHILDREN’S Opportunities**

Sundays

Infants-K2  
Nursery room 119 (8:45-12:15)

10:00  
K3 – 5TH  
Sundays@10 from 10 – 10:45  
(Root Cellar)

Holiday SHinE  
Wednesdays 12/4 and 11  
Holiday SHinE Choir  
Sunday evenings 12/15 and 12/24

11:00  
K3-K5 are welcome in worship or may participate in extended session in room 120 if they like.  
1st – 5th grade in worship until the sermon during which they may choose to adjourn to Children’s Chapel and return following the sermon.

**Youth**

Sunday, December 1st – **Sunday School** in the youth room from 10:00 – 10:45.

Sunday, December 1st - **Christmas Shopping** from 12:15-2:15. Drop off and pick up at FPC. Bring money for lunch at Panera and to put towards gifts.

Wednesday, December 4th – **WEY** from 5:30-7:00.

**ADULTS**

Sundays @ 10; Sojourners in room 110  
FISH – room 205; Young Adults Class (up to age 40) in Room 206.

**Got 45 minutes on Sunday morning at 10:00?**

Dawsey has been our Sundays@10 facilitator for our children for the last few years.

He has finally promoted himself to the brand-new young adult class.

So, our children need a teacher/facilitator/coordinator for Sundays@10.

Can you help? Do you know someone who would be amazing?

Ask them if they can help? Praying for a helper to start in January.

Contact [dce@firstgreenwood.com](mailto:dce@firstgreenwood.com).

**WOMEN**

Our women’s retreat will be in Kanuga!

Register today!

Brochures in the lobby

Direct Realm Registration:



**All payments due by Thursday, December 19.**



**Sunday, December 1**

9:00 a.m. - Worship Service (Sanc)  
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School  
10:00 a.m.- HOG Rehearsal  
11:00 a.m. - Hanging of the Greens Service (Sanc)  
12:15 p.m. - Youth Christmas Shopping & Lunch  
4:00 p.m. - PGS (Sanc)  
4:15 p.m. - Chancel Bells  
7:00 p.m. - Chorale (Sanc)

**Monday, December 2**

11:00 a.m. - Home Communion Team (BR)  
11:00 a.m. - Circle #4 (Lisa Yarbrough)  
4:30 p.m. - PGS (Sanc)  
4:30 p.m. - Committed Prayers (Chapel)  
6:30 p.m. - Boy Scouts (HR)  
6:30 p.m. - Cub Scouts (Base)  
6:30 p.m. - Girl Scouts (YR)  
6:30 p.m. - Circle #6 (Olive Branch)

**Tuesday, December 3**

9:15 a.m. - Staff Meeting  
10:30 a.m. - Circle #1 (WC)  
11:30 a.m. - Circle #8 (BR)  
5:30 p.m. - Men of the Church (HR)  
7:00 p.m. - Chorale (Sanc)

**Wednesday, December 4**

7:00 a.m. - Men's Bible Study (AH)  
10:30 a.m. - BEMA Bible Study (HR)  
5:30 p.m. - WNF (AH)  
6:00 p.m. - SHinE (Base)  
6:00 p.m. - Youth (YR)  
6:00 p.m. - Adults (FISH/HR/Conf Rm)  
7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir

**Thursday, December 5**

**Friday, December 6**

9:30 a.m. - Prayer Shawl Group (Lib)

**Saturday, December 7**

2:30 p.m. - Chorale (Sanc)

**Wednesday Night Fellowship**

December 4th  
5:30 dinner (BBQ Chicken, brown rice, English peas)  
6:00 programming for all ages (nursery available)  
(\$5/children, \$10/youth & adults)  
Check your Spire for details.

**Thornwell Bells**

Thornwell Bells are ready to choose from on the Christmas tree in the lobby. Please pick your bell, sign it out on the sheet provided and return it UNWRAPPED with your bell attached by Monday, December 16th.  
When picking a bell with the Amazon link on it, those gifts will be delivered directly to Thornwell Children's Home.

**The Prayer Quilt Ministry is ready to distribute quilts.**

If you, a family member, or a friend is in need of a prayer quilt, please contact Sunni Bond at 864-227-7428 or frogbond38@gmail.com for procedural requirements.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Offering envelopes are available for pick up in the front lobby. If you do not see yours, please reach out to Nan Smith in the front office.

**SECRET ANGELS**

We need several more Secret Angels. The Secret Angel provides small gifts throughout the school year to our colleged aged people. Please contact the front office if interested.

**CONFESSION**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Christie

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF PARDON**

Leader: Friends in Christ, we are forgiven.  
People: **Thanks be to God!**

**THE CRECHE**

Lily Collins

**CAROL**

“Away in a Manger” (114)

CRADLE SONG

PROCESSION OF THE CRECHE

**WREATHS**

Liza Evans Justesen

**CAROL**

“Angels We Have Heard on High” (113)

GLORIA

HANGING THE WREATHS

**POINSETTIAS**

Bess Wieters

**CAROL**

“We Three Kings of Orient Are” (151)

KINGS OF ORIENT

DRESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

**CHRISMON TREES**

Jackson Hamm

**CAROL**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” (136)

GO TELL IT

DECORATING THE CHRISMON TREES

(Please accompany your child to hang a Chrismon ornament)

**GIVING of TITHES and OFFERINGS**

**Call to Offering**

Rev. Christie

**Offertory**

Tim Walters

**\*Doxology (On Screens)**

OLD HUNDREDTH

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Christie

**PROCLAMATION**

John 1: 1-5, 14

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Musical Meditation**

Blair McClendon

**\*HYMN**

“Joy to the World” (134)

ANTIOCH

**\*BENEDICTION** (*Revelation 22:12-13, 16*)

Rev. Cain

Minister: Jesus says: ‘See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.’

**SERMON**

“Does Matter Matter?”

Rev. Cain

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**THE INVITATION**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Rev. Christie

**\*POSTLUDE**

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Minister: It is truly right to glorify you...

...we sing the ageless hymn of your glory:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
(On Screens) heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

***Hanging of the Greens Coordinators:***

*Linsey Anderson, Michelle Barksdale, Andrea Scott, Rhetta Smith, and Kristi Tucker*

***Readers: Class of 2025 Seniors***

*Hannah Carter, Lily Collins, Shirley Gardner, Jackson Hamm,*

*Liza Evans Justesen, Blair McClendon, Bess Wieters*

***Participants from the Confirmation Class of 2025***

*Barrett Fleming, Maryclaire Griffith, Isabelle Jenks, Quay Justesen, Ann Logan,  
Wade Maughon, Mayson Munnerlyn, Maddie Ray Shirley, Keaton Willard, Olivia Wright*

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Minister: The gifts of God, for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**THE DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS** (*Gluten free*)

*Please partake of the elements and dispose of the cups in the container before returning to your seat. To be served where you are, please raise your hand.*

***Family participants***

*Tara and Scott Gibson*

*Ellen Lumley and Bryson & Braxton McCurry*

*Daniel, Baileigh, Matthew and Miller Rushton*

*Ivey, Ashla, John, and James Shingler*

*Jane and Molly Sutton*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**