

## **Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church**

**301 Patton Avenue NW, Roanoke, Virginia 24016**

**<http://www.5thavepresbychurchroanoke.com>**

**Historic Past \* Contemporary Presence \* Exciting Future**

# Welcome !



We are so glad that you decided to share with us in worship today! Whether we are young or old, longtime worshipers or here for the first time, whether we come full of joy or confidence or doubts or sorrow, in this place, by the grace and mercy of God-in-Christ, we are family.

Feel at peace in how you express praise for the Lord! Whether quiet and reflective, clapping hands and stomping feet, shouts of praise and utterances to God, in this place, by the loving acceptance of Jesus, we are family. Please feel at home!

We hope to see you here again soon.  
Anyone who is interested in joining this part of Christ's church should speak to the pastor or one of the elders.

*If we can assist you - through prayer, a phone call or a listening ear - please let us know what help we may provide. Call the church: 540.342.0264, or speak to one of us after worship.*

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
(2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV)





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### Second Sunday after Christmas

January 5, 2020

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Pastor.....The Rev. Vernie Bolden, Jr.  
Organist.....Mr. Frederick Bolden

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### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

**Organ Prelude and Lighting of Candles**

**Scripture Sentences**

**Chimes**

**\* Preparation for Worship**

*from Isaiah 60*

Pastor: Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

People: *We will look and be radiant, our hearts will throb and  
swell with joy;*

**ALL: Now we know that the LORD is our Savior, our Redeemer,  
the Mighty One of Jacob. The LORD will be our everlasting  
light, and God will be our glory.**

**\* Call to Worship (unison):** Almighty God, as a new year begins, we  
come together in faithful fellowship and joyful community. Silence all  
voices in our minds but your own. Help us to seek and to follow your will.  
Join our prayers with one another, so together we may glorify your name.  
Let us sing with loud voices, let us love with large hearts, let us hope with  
high expectations, let us worship with hallelujah praise, for you are great  
and worthy to be praised. Amen.

**\*Gathering in Song** "Jesus, the Light of the World" (insert)

**Welcome and Recognition of Visitors**

### **\* Passing of the Peace +**

Pastor: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

People: *And also with you!*

**ALL: Let us now share the peace of God with one another.**

*(Congregation greets one another, exchanging words of peace.)*

### **Announcements and Celebrations**

**Worship in Song**      *"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"*      # 131

### **Call to Confession**

Leader: By grace we have been saved through faith;

People: *and this is not our own doing; it is a gift from God.*

**All: Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.**

**Prayer of Confession (unison):** God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.

### **Silent Confession**

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Even when our cups run dry, God's grace overflows.

People: *Even when our plates are empty, God's generosity overflows.*

**All: And even when our hearts feel barren, God's love overflows.**

Leader: Friends, we have been called and claimed by the God of all creation; and by the abundance of God's grace, and by the power of God's love, our sins have been forgiven.

**All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

**All:** *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.*



**Prayer Response**                      *"Away in a Manger" (vs. 3)*                      # 157

*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.*

## **WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

**Scripture Lesson**

**Special Music**

*Joyce Bolden*

**Prayer for Illumination**

*The Rev. Vernie Bolden, Jr.*

**Sermon**

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*Hymn of Commitment**                      *"Another Year is Dawning"*                      # 567

**\*An Affirmation of Faith**                      *The Apostles Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy universal church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

**\* Gloria Patri** ..... *"Glory Be to the Father"* ..... # 623

*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.*

## **The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts**

**\* Offertory Prayer**

*The Rev. Vernie Bolden, Jr.*

**\* Choral Response**

*All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee.*

## **Celebration of Holy Communion**

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**Prayer of Praise**

**Words of Institution**

**Partaking of the Bread and Cup**

Hymn: *"Let Us Break Bread Together"* # 323

**Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison):** Strengthen us, O God, in the power of your Spirit to bring good news to the poor and lift blind eyes to sight, to loose the chains that bind, and claim your blessing for all people. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

## **WE GO OUT TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

The Rev. Vernie Bolden, Jr.

**We Carry Our Light Into the World**

*"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"* (chorus only, x 2)

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

\*Those who are able may stand

+ Late worshipers seated

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. *(Titus 2:11-14, NIV)*



## PRAYER CONCERNS

**For our nation and its leadership**— for wisdom and compassion, for a spirit of cooperation; for a capacity to seek the greater good instead of personal or party gain - for the impending impeachment trial; **for the conflict with Iran**

**For our children and youth**; for their teachers & school staff; for those in our neighborhood; for those who work with young people and seek to bring them to Christ and to nurture their faith in him

**For all who mourn** the deaths of loved ones and friends: Russ Merritt & family; victims of violence: for people in our own Roanoke & SW Virginia region; **victims of terrorists** and mass shootings throughout the world; the families who have lost their homes and loved ones in the hurricane, **in Australian wildfires**; survivors of natural disasters and manmade accidents, & for those who work to help them rebuild their lives; for those suffering from famine and hunger; **for refugees & families who are separated**

**For those battling cancer & other health and life-challenging issues, for those dealing with depression, with addiction, for those recovering from illness or surgery:** Shirley Calhoun, Robert Cole, Carnis Poindexter, Phillip Claytor, Shannon Pendleton, Priscilla Preston, Terry Campbell, Audra Williams, Ernestine Johnson, Sondra Harris, Pat Brown (Ruth's sister), Carolyn Coleman (cousin of Joyce & Fred), Rev. Dusty Fiedler, Anita Pendleton, The Roberson family, Ruth Hilton, Brenda Williams, Jackie Manns, Harold Robertson, Paul Witting (Parkinson's); **Robert Woodworth**; health care workers and researchers; **for the elderly**

**For our service men and women and their families**

**For those who seek employment, for the under-employed, for the homeless, for those who are in fear of losing their homes or their jobs; for those under stress at work and at home.**

**For broken hearts and broken relationships; *for those absent from our fellowship for any reason.***

**For our enemies, both personal and national, including terrorists**

**For the leaders of other countries, and the efforts of all who seek to bring peace to the world**—for the Kurds; for Russia; for Venezuela; for North and South Korea; for Iran; for Israel/Palestine; for Syria; for The Congo

**For our pastor and his family; for our ministry together**

**For unity in the Church, cooperation among denominations, for people of other faiths and for those who have no faith**

## **Announcements & Celebrations**

***Forming Faith Bible Study - Tuesdays at 6pm.***

***Come and grow with us!***

The Pastor's Office hours are by appointment—contact  
[vernlee3@hotmail.com](mailto:vernlee3@hotmail.com), or call the office—540.342.0264

The Choir meets as announced. Come join the fellowship. New members are welcomed, young and old(er)!

**Remember:** No one should have to choose between paying rent and feeding their family. Bring a food offering to share with those who need our help.

Today will celebrate the Sacrament of The Lord's Supper. All who have been baptized or who profess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are welcome to receive the sacrament. We will also receive our monthly offering to help our neighbors in need.

The Session will meet next Sunday, January 12, following worship.

Plan to stay after worship on January 26 for a congregational meeting.



**Remember our Shut-Ins/Friends  
with a call, a card, a visit, your prayers**

<u>Mr. Bob Hale</u> —Salem Health & Rehabilitation Center, 1945 Roanoke Blvd, Salem VA 24153	<b>541-8898</b>
<u>Mr. Jim Slaughter</u> —1219 Grayson Ave NW (24017)	<b>366-0391</b>
- <u>Ms. Shirley Calhoun</u> —3087 Ordway Drive # J (24017)	<b>362-0617</b>

### **Why do we ring the chimes?**

For centuries, churches have used bells to announce to the whole community that it is time for worship. Bells, or chimes, tell us it is time to cease our chatter so that we can focus on the reason we are here: we have come to worship a sovereign God who demands our full attention.

We sound our chimes three times, once for each member of the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



# Jesus the Light of the World

514

G. D. E.

Geo. D. Elderkin. Arr.



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
2. Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
3. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
4. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je-sus, the Light of the world;




Glo - ry to the new-born King, Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
Join the tri - umph of the skies, Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord, Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
Hail the Sun of right-eous-ness! Je-sus, the Light of the world.



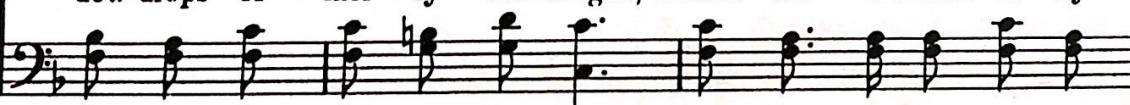
## CHORUS



We'll walk in the light, beau - ti - ful light, Come where the



dew-drops of mer - cy are bright, Shine all a-round us by



day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world. A - men.





## Epiphany



Epiphany is the celebration of God's manifestation or self-revelation to the world in Jesus Christ. In particular, we celebrate the revelation of God's promise and purpose to the nations of the world, as the Magi (wise men) came from the East to worship the Christ child, and God's covenant of grace is extended to all who believe the good news of Christ Jesus. The symbolism of light is important: not only because of the star that guided the Magi, but as it relates to the bright dawning of God's self-revelation in Christ. **Epiphany is celebrated on January 6.**

An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 94-95):

The word "epiphany" (from the Greek *epiphaneia* or *theophaneia*) means "appearance" or "manifestation" of God, and has roots in the word for sunrise or dawn. In ancient times, an epiphany meant either a visible manifestation of a god or the solemn visit of a ruler venerated as a god. For Christians, Christmas marks the coming of God to us; Epiphany celebrates the appearance of the Lord in the midst of humanity. The Christmas stories of the birth of Immanuel declare the divine entry; Epiphany extols the revelation of God to the world in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

In our celebrations of Christmas and Epiphany we rejoice in the dawning and the arising of Light in darkness. ... Epiphany not only discloses the Savior to the world but also calls the world to show forth Christ, to be witnesses to God's true Light. The timeless mystery of the incarnation, God in flesh, leads us forth to show and tell of Christ as God's gift of grace and salvation for all persons. Some call this ongoing epiphany the work of Christmas.