

W CELEBRATION OF ORSHIP

4th Sunday
of Advent
December 23, 2018

The Journey to Bethlehem

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome

Brad Clayton

Prelude

Adam Ravain

*Call to Worship (*responsive*)

Don Novin

God has done great things for us!

God's love is heralded in the promise of Christ.

Holy is God's name!

God's promises are fulfilled in the coming of Christ.

God's mercy extends from generation to generation.

Open our hearts, Lord, that we may be ready for Your love.

*Hymn No. 135

There's a Star in the East

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Scheer Family

Response: *Wait for the Lord*

(hymn no. 90)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart!

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart!

Call to Confession

Don Novin

Prayer of Confession

Faithful God,

**You have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have turned away from
You and from one another, tending to our own ways, rather than making way for
Your reign. We have chosen silence over proclamation.**

(*silent confession*)

Forgive us, we pray.

Renew Your covenant with us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Don Novin

*Choral Response *Angels We Have Heard on High (chorus only)*
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*The Passing of the Peace

Don Novin

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

(During the Passing of the Peace, children are invited to come forward for the time with our young disciples.)

Proclamation of the Word

Prayer With Our Young Disciples

Mary Steen

(After the children's time, K-2nd graders may go with their leaders to Children's Worship. Parents are welcome to take 3-5 year olds to the playground for Children's Enrichment. Please sign in your children at the sanctuary exit door.)

Sacrament of Baptism

Sutton Graham Taylor

Trinity Whitley

Choral Response:

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ
our King; born of the Spirit, we are God's children, faithfully now God's
praises we sing.**

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1:20-23 (pew Bible p. 783)

Brad Clayton

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!

Sermon

The Journey to Bethlehem: Joseph, The Faith of a Father

Brad Clayton

Response to the Word

*Hymn No. 115

Away in a Manger

Offering

Offertory

Once in David's Royal City

Chancel Choir

Prayer of Dedication *(responsive)*

Don Novin

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

Trinity Whitley

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 at 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 catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Trinity Whitley

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.

*Hymn No. 128

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Sending Out Into the World

*Charge & Benediction

Brad Clayton

*Congregational Response

Amen

Hymnal p. 601

Postlude

Adam Ravain

New Member Class

Interested in learning more about Faith Presbyterian Church?
Ready to join us? Attend the next New Member Class on
Sunday, **January 13**, in the Parlor right after worship.
Please RSVP your attendance to trinity@faithpcusa.org.
Lunch and childcare will be provided.

*Live Simply, Love Generously, Serve Faithfully, Speak Truthfully, Pray Daily,
and Leave Everything Else to God*

Christmas Joy Offering. Today we have the opportunity to participate in the Christmas Joy Offering to support students at Presbyterian related schools and colleges and for current and retired church workers and families with critical financial needs. To participate in this offering, please use the special envelope in your bulletin.

Angel Tree. Thank you for making Christmas brighter for many families in our area this year through the Angel Tree. Because of your compassion and generosity, we were able to provide much needed food, clothing, gift cards, and even toys for little ones who would have nothing for Christmas if not for you! We thank you on behalf of the 23 families we were able to help. Many of these families had all their possessions destroyed due to the hurricane, house fires, or other unforeseen circumstances. Other families needed help with medical bills, car repairs, new flooring for their trailer. The needs were great and, as always, our Faith family showed up to meet the challenges. Thank you for the joy you helped spread throughout the community!

Wednesday Night Alive. Note that Wednesday Night Alive will resume on **January 9**.

2018 Contributions. Please remember that contributions for 2018 need to be postmarked by **December 31**. It is also not too late to turn in a pledge card for 2019 so we can finish planning the 2019 budget. Thanks for your help in facilitating the close of the 2018 financial records in a timely manner.

Sunday School. There will not be Sunday School next Sunday. Join us for worship at 10:30 for *Comfy Clothes Sunday* and wear whatever is comfortable for you!

Church Office Holiday Hours. The church office will be closed from **December 24 through January 1**.

Diaper Offering. If you plan to attend the 5 p.m. Family Service on Christmas Eve, we invite you to bring a gift of diapers for infants and place them in the playpen in the lobby. These gifts will be donated to children in need in the Big Bend area.

Christmas at Faith

Monday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. Christmas Family Service. Children are invited to select a costume as they enter the sanctuary to participate in the Christmas story.
The nursery will not be open for this service.

Monday, December 24, 7:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Communion Service.
Christmas Poinsettias may be picked up at the conclusion of this service.
The nursery will be open for this service.

December 24 - January 1. Church Office Closed.

Sunday, December 30, 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary. No Sunday School.



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