

DECEMBER 30, 2018  
*1ST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY*  
10:00AM SANCTUARY



**First Presbyterian Church**

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH  
THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!** We are so glad that you are here. We hope that joining us for worship today will nurture your heart and transform your mind. Here at First Pres our mission is transforming lives through the love of Jesus Christ, that simple and that challenging. We realize we need each other and commit to pray for each other. We reach out in love and compassion to a world in need, and we know we are a work in progress.

**If you are new to First Pres, we hope you will join us again and consider attending any of our mission, fellowship and education opportunities.** If you would like to learn more about us, please fill out the visitor information on the blue card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. **You are also more than welcome to contact any of our pastors over the phone or by email. God's peace to you today.**

— Rev. Dr. Anne Epling, Rev. Dr. Youngsoo An, Rev. Bill Lane, Rev. Ann Pitman

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† *Those who are able please stand*

**PRELUDE** Noel in G

Louis-Claude Daquin

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Based on Psalm 148

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the highest heaven!

**All: Let the sun and the moon and the stars in the sky sing praises to our God!**

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the deepest valley!

**All: Let the mountains and the hills, the fruit trees and tall cedars, sing praises to our God!**

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, all the peoples of the earth!

**All: Let the old and the young, the mighty and the meek, lift their voices and praise God's holy name!**

One: Praise the Lord!

†**HYMN** No. 15 All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

†**CALL TO CONFESSION**

We come before God, not as despised sinners,

But as beloved children.

With the confidence of children of God,

Let us humbly confess our sin.

## †PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All:** Holy God, in word, in deed, and in thought, we have shown that we still have much to learn and practice as your children. For the words we wish we could take back, give us the courage to apologize. For those deeds, done and left undone, help us return to your ways and begin again. For those thoughts that breed discontent and blame, we rest upon your promise that your Spirit can remind us to think of good things. Hear our prayers and grant that we, trusting in your grace and forgiveness, are restored to you. Help us to bring you honor and glory in all we say, do and think. Amen.

## †ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**One:** God is faithful and abounding in steadfast love. In the birth of Jesus, God lifts us up and carries us all the days of our lives. Allow the peace of God to dwell in you. You are forgiven. Accept the gift and relax in the warmth of God's embrace.

## †SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**One:** The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**One:** Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

## †CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymn No. 137

HE CAME DOWN

The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody features several triplet markings. The lyrics are: "He came down that we may have peace; joy; hope; love; he came down that we may have peace; joy; hope; love; he came down that we may have peace; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more. Why did he come?"

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Samuel 2:18-26, p. 246

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Jill Therrien

All: Thanks be to God.

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 2:41-52, p. 59

### SERMON

*“Childhood Stories”*

Rev. Ann Pitman

### †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

This is the good news that we received, in which we stand, and by which we were saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God.

### †HYMN No. 140 Once in Royal David’s City

IRBY

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (*Unison*)

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.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please sign and pass the friendship pad to those in your pew.*

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

With grateful hearts, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

### OFFERTORY Lo, How a Rose

setting by David Cherwien

†**DOXOLOGY** (*Sung to the tune of "O Tannenbaum"*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, in every generation.  
Praise God, all creatures here below, who gives to us salvation.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.  
Let all creation praise the Lord with love and adoration.

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†**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*Unison*)

Magnificent and Merciful God, we come to worship you this morning at the close of one year and threshold of a new one. Our faithfulness in the year behind has not been all that we wished it to be, and we know the road ahead of us holds many new challenges and opportunities to be the followers you desire. May the giving of our gifts this morning help firm our resolve to be the disciples of Christ that you desire for the world, full of compassion, mercy and loving kindness. May we, like your son Jesus, be found dwelling in your presence and love when others come looking for us. In the steadfast love of Christ we pray. Amen.

†**HYMN** No. 159 O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

KINGSFOLD

†**BENEDICTION**

All: Go with God into this day. May the Spirit guide your way. Offer love to all you greet. Like Christ, see God in all you meet.

†**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Go, Tell it on the Mountain

(refrain)

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
That Jesus Christ is born.

†**POSTLUDE** From Heaven Above

chorale prelude by Johann Pachelbel

## WORSHIP THIS MORNING

**Greeters:** Dick Florea , Bill Patterson, Sandy Shearer, Mike Shim, Beomjin Kim

**Ushers:** Deb Ward, Chair; David Beer, Wendell Cree, Elias Shaheen, Dan Serban

Join us again next **Sunday, January 6** for our regular worship hours.

9:00am English Worship and Communion, McMillen Chapel

11:00am English Worship and Communion, Sanctuary

Korean Worship and Communion, McMillen Chapel

**Wishing you a Happy New Year!**

The church will close at 12:00pm Monday, December 31  
and will be closed all day, January 1, 2019.

## MINISTRIES

**The Nominating Committee** is accepting nominations for Church Officers. If you're a member and are interested in serving as an officer, or want to nominate a member, forms are available at the Church Office. Please have submissions in by **January 6, 2019**.

Questions, contact Danielle at [dgonzalez@firstpresfortwayne.org](mailto:dgonzalez@firstpresfortwayne.org).

**Per Capita 2019**—Per Capita is “the tie that binds”. It is the annual giving that unites the entire church in the ongoing and essential work that guides the Office of the General Assembly, the Synod of Lincoln Trails, and the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley. It is the primary source of funding for all of these councils, and is how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit’s leading for the future. All Presbyterians are called to take part in the ecclesiastical and administrative work shared by the whole church through per capita giving, which this year is **\$40.72 per confirmed member**. If you can contribute your portion of per capita, we would appreciate it very much. Thank you.

**Anticipatory Grief** —The Stephen Ministry Team invites you to join us Saturday, January 12, from 3:00pm-5:00pm to “**Come, listen and learn**” from Cindy Schaefer who is coming to have a conversation with us about “**Anticipatory Grief.**” Cindy is the Director of Operations at Erin’s House and oversees the programming. She is a Child Grief Specialist and certified in Bereavement and Trauma. Erin’s House provides “support for children, teens, and their families who have suffered the death of a loved one.” This event is open to anyone who is interested in coming. **Please sign up in the Church Office by January 9**, so that we know how many people to prepare for.

**2019 Offering Envelopes are available for pickup in the Small Dining Room.**

## FELLOWSHIP

**Fiber and Crafting Event—January 12, 9:00am-3:00pm, in McKay Hall.** Fiber and other table-top crafters are invited to spend a winter Saturday working on your own projects in a friendly and encouraging setting. We will meet to knit, crochet, weave, cross stitch, needlepoint, quilt, color, etc. We will have a coffee cart, pastries, and pizza for lunch. There will be a \$10.00 fee, paid that day. **Please sign up in the Church Office by January 10**, and indicate if you need an 8-foot table. If you have questions, please contact Marj Sapp [marj.sapp@gmail.com](mailto:marj.sapp@gmail.com) or Marcie Weissner [marcie5073@aol.com](mailto:marcie5073@aol.com).

**Calling all parents of children and youth!** You're invited to lunch in the **Parlor following 11:00am worship on January 13**. This is a time to get to know Pastor Annie, one another, and express your hopes and dreams for the children, youth and family ministry at First Pres. Childcare is provided and older youth will have a time to talk, too. We hope to see you there! **Please RSVP** by emailing Pastor Annie at [aepling@firstpresfortwayne.org](mailto:aepling@firstpresfortwayne.org) so we have a lunch count.

**T.O.W.N (Together on Wednesday Night)** is for everyone, young and old. T.O.W.N. programs typically include dinner, fellowship, and an adult program. The program can be speakers, book studies, music, discussions about current Theater performances, or Bible studies that are topical or seasonal. T.O.W.N. also sponsors activities or family events. The meal is served at **5:30pm** and a donation of \$5 is suggested. The program starts at **6:00pm** and is about an hour in length.

### **January's T.O.W.N. Schedule:**

- 16** –Chili Cook-off and we will assemble Presbyterian Disaster Assistance clean out buckets.
- 23** –A discussion about The Christians, a powerful play running January 3 through 19 in the First Presbyterian Theatre. See the Religious Arts page in this bulletin for more details.
- 30** –FaithNet Presentation - A mental health outreach program of NAMI – the National Alliance on Mental Illness. This organization encourages communities of all faith traditions to be welcoming and supportive of people who struggle with the effects of mental illness.

## CHILDCARE AND CHURCH SCHOOL

**Childcare** is in **Room 101** and is available from **9:45am to 11:15pm**. **Room 105** is available for those who need a **Quiet Room** to attend to your baby/young child.

**10:00am—Adult Education: Wired Word** in the **Parlor**. No class this week, resumes **January 6**.

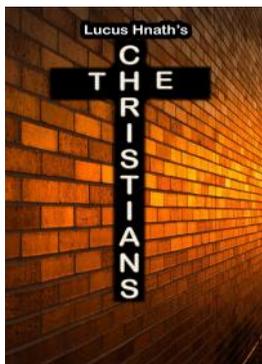
**10:00am—Youth Bible Study** (6th grade through 12 grade) – **Room 209**. No class this week, resumes **January 13**.

**11:15am—Children Church School** (Kindergarten through 5th grade) – No class this week, resumes **January 13**.

## RELIGIOUS ARTS



**Parish Art Show 2018 and Gallery's 50th Anniversary**—Now thru January 19, 2019. You will be amazed at the sometimes hidden talents of our members and staff! Gallery hours are 9:00am-5:00pm Monday-Friday; 8:30am-12:30pm Sunday.



### **The Christians—January 3\*\*, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13\*, 18, 19, 2019**

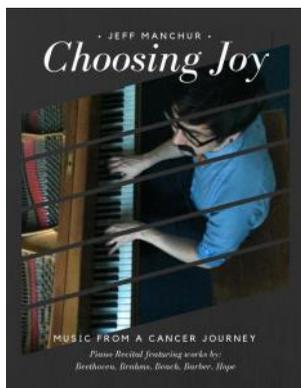
Don't miss this thought-provoking play about belief and community. This play will be a topic of discussion at our T.O.W.N. program on Wednesday night, **January 23**, so be sure to attend a performance before the program. For more details on T.O.W.N., see the announcement pages.

Call 260-426-7421 ext. 121, or go online at [firstpresbyteriantheater.com](http://firstpresbyteriantheater.com) to purchase your tickets.

\*Sunday Matinee curtain at 2:00pm

\*\*Thursday preview—all tickets \$12

**Choosing Joy — January 20, 2019 at 2:00pm in the Sanctuary.** Dr. Jeff Manchur is a pianist based in Maumee, Ohio. He is a graduate of the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and Bowling Green State University. He is currently an adjunct faculty



member at Bowling Green State University. In 2016, his wife Kimberly was diagnosed with breast cancer. The next year was full of doctor visits, surgeries and treatments, stress, despair and hopelessness, love, charity and gratitude. Throughout this time, “Choosing Joy” was a mantra for Kimberly, and today she is a survivor. Their journey inspired the creation of this program, which features pieces that speak of the struggle they endured and the faith, love and victory that helped them through. The program will feature standard and newer classical music and pieces by three American composers. Each piece can be associated in some way with their cancer

journey. Don't miss out on this unique program! Learn more at: [jeff.manchur.com](http://jeff.manchur.com). Free will offering.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

300 West Wayne Street  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802  
Contact us by phone at 260-426-7421  
Office Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm M-F;  
8:30am - 12:30pm Sunday

## HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

If you or a loved one is having surgery or is admitted to the hospital, please notify the Church Office or a pastor so we can provide care as you prefer: hold you in prayer or pay a visit — if desired.

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### MISSION CO-WORKERS SPONSORED:

Mr. Mark Hare and Ms. Jenny Bent, Haiti and the Dominican Republic  
Presbyterian Mission Co-Workers in the Middle East  
Rev. John McCall, Presbyterian Church of Taiwan  
Rev. Leonel Pech, Amistad Cristiana, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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### PASTORS

Rev. Dr. Anne Bain Epling, Ext. 107  
aepling@firstpresfortwayne.org

Rev. Dr. Youngsoo An, Ext. 105  
ysan@firstpresfortwayne.org

Rev. Bill Lane, Ext. 150  
BLane@firstpresfortwayne.org

Rev. Ann Pitman, Ext. 106  
apitman@firstpresfortwayne.org

### WORSHIP MUSIC

Dr. Chelsea Vaught, Ext. 137  
Director of Music  
cvaught@firstpresfortwayne.org

Kathryn A. Miller, Ext. 137  
Assistant Organist  
kmiller@firstpresfortwayne.org

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Visit our **website**: [www.firstpresfortwayne.org](http://www.firstpresfortwayne.org)  
**Watch the livestream of our worship services each Sunday**  
**by going to our Webpage or Facebook page.**

For sermons, go to the **Resources** link, select **Sermons**

Like us on **Facebook**: [www.facebook.com/firstpresfortwayne](http://www.facebook.com/firstpresfortwayne)

# CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

*4th Sunday of Advent*

- 9:45am Childcare, 101
- 10:00am English Worship, SC
  - Korean Group Choir Practice, 201
  - Korean Group Fellowship, FH
- 10:20am Korean Group Prayer Meeting, CL
- 11:00am Korean Group Children's Worship, CL
  - Korean Group Worship, CH
  - Hospitality Time, MH
- 1:00pm Korean Group Choir Practice, 201
  - Korean Group Chapel Choir Practice, CH
  - Theatre Tech Rehearsal, TH

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

*Day School Closed All Day*

- 12:00pm Church Office Closes
- 5:00pm Korean Group New Year's Celebration, MH
- 6:00pm Theatre Dress Rehearsal, TH
- 7:00pm Korean Group New Year's Service, CH

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 1

*Prayer Day: John McCall, Mission in Taiwan*  
New Year's Day—Campus Closed

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

*Prayer Day: Presbyterian workers in the Middle East*

- 10:00am Staff Meeting, SR
- 5:30pm Personnel Meeting
- 6:00pm Theatre Dress Rehearsal, TH

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

- 9:00am Day School Music Class, MR
- 7:30pm Theatre Performance, *The Christians*, TH

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

- 7:30pm Theatre Performance, *The Christians*, TH

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

- 7:30pm Theatre Performance, *The Christians*, TH

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

- 8:45am Childcare, 101
- 9:00am English Worship, Communion, CH
- 10:00am Chancel Choir Warm-up, SC
  - Korean Group Choir Practice, 201
  - Korean Christmas Group Fellowship, FH
  - Church School, Adults, PR
- 10:20am Korean Group Prayer Meeting, CL
- 11:00am English Worship, Communion, SC
  - Korean Group Children's Worship, CL
  - Korean Group Worship, Communion, CH
- 11:15am Church School (K-5th), 208
- 12:00pm Hospitality Time, MH
- 1:00pm Korean Group Choir Practice, 201
  - Korean Group Chapel Choir Practice, CH

**CH** - Chapel

**CL** - Chapel Lounge

**CN** - Chapel Narthex

**CR** - Conference Room

**CY** - Courtyard

**FH** - Fellowship Hall

**FO** - Front Office

**GL** - Gallery

**K2** - Kitchen, 2nd floor

**LB** - Library

**LE** - Lobby Elevator

**LK** - Lower-level Kitchen

**LN** - Lobby North

**MF** - McKay Foyer

**MH** - McKay Hall

**MK** - Main Kitchen

**MR** - Music Room

**NX** - Narthex, SC

**OS** - Offsite

**PG** - Playground

**PO** - Pastor's Office

**PR** - Parlor

**SB** - Sanctuary Balcony

**SC** - Sanctuary

**SDR** - Small Dining Room

**SMO** - Stephen Ministry  
Office

**SR** - Session Room

**TH** - Theater

**YL** - Youth Lounge  
(209, 212)