



**Welcome to
First Presbyterian Church
of Ocala**



Our Vision – Our Mission

To spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to our community and the world.

To be an inclusive downtown community of faith that seeks to embrace everyone in growing spiritually.



162 YEARS IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN OCALA

December 15, 2019

This Morning's Sermon

“Christmas, Fact, Faith, and Feeling”

The Rev. Dr. D. Ronald Watson, Jr., Pastor
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TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 15, 2019

8:15 and 11:00 a.m.

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds for Worship

Chiming of the Hour

We Gather with Others in God's House

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus Rowland Hugh Prichard
arr. by Hal Leonard Corporation

Introit Call to Advent---Veni Emmanuel J. Jerome Williams

The Lighting of the Advent Candle 8:15 The Slones
11:00 Bill and Lynn Rainbow

Response Hymn Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (verse 1, 2, & 3) # 85

Call to Worship

Leader: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord
their God.

**People: Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps
faith forever.**

Leader: The Lord sets the prisoners free, opens the eyes of the blind, and lifts up those who
are bowed down.

**People: The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the Lord!**

Leader: Let us worship God!

We Give Praise and Adoration to God

*Hymn of Praise Angels, from the Realms of Glory #143

Prayer of Praise 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.**

*Gloria from *Angels We Have Heard on High* #113

Gloria in excelsis deo! Gloria in excelsis deo!

*If able please stand

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

You have taught us to be patient and promised to supply our needs, O God. Yet we grow weary of waiting and restless with our wants. We blame our troubles on brothers and sisters, withholding from them the tolerance and care you have shown to us. O God, forgive our indulgence and help us to stand firm. In Christ you showed patience with the world in spite of the cross. Teach us to be patient, that in Christ we may have endurance in spite of our need. (time for silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon (Leader)

Amen. Know this: that we are assured of God's forgiveness, for we have a high priest set over the household of God, Jesus Christ, the new and living way. Let us therefore make our approach in sincerity and confidence, our guilty hearts sprinkled clean, our bodies washed with pure water. The Giver of the promise is to be trusted.

Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you **And also with you**

Choir Anthem (11:00 a.m.) A Christmas Prayer Deborah Governor
O let us see the sparkle, and let us feel the glow. Please help us find the Christmas star above the shop-worn snow; And let us hear the music again from upon high, Perhaps we'll catch the whisper of a holy baby's cry; A cry of great compassion that one might sense and see, to tell a great Creator cares for fold like you and me. As love came down at Christmas one evening long ago, May He live within our hearts, and may we feel the glow. May He live within our hearts, and may we feel the glow.

Prayers of the People

Hymn Still, Still, Still #124

Offertory O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Thirteenth-century Plainsong
arr. by Cindy Berry

*Doxology Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow #606

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

We Hear God's Word Proclaimed

First Scripture Luke 2:1-7 (N.T. Page 71)

Second Scripture Isaiah 35:1-10 (O.T. Page 811)

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Sermon "Christmas: Fact, Faith, and Feeling" Dr. Watson

We Respond to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

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

We Depart to Live and Love as Christian Disciples

*Hymn

What Child is This

#145

*Charge and Benediction

Response

Alleluia

William Boyce (1711-1779)

Postlude

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

by Felix Mendelssohn
arr. by Cindy Berry

*The Christmas greens in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God
in honor of our Savior's birth*

by the Bill Russell, Donnie Slone, Bill Rainbow, John Hagood and John Peterson families.

Serving Today at First Presbyterian Church of Ocala	
Elder of the Day	Cindy MacKay
Ushers 9:30	Dave and Amy Schlenker
Ushers 11:00	Don McCormick, Dave Bice, Lamar Knepp, Don Hutto, Pat Bishop, Joe Simmons, Steve Vincent, Roxanne Schwaller, John Reiss, Bob Timmer.

***Our church welcomes you today, no matter who you are,
where you come from, or why you are here.***

We are striving to be Christ's people; and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. If you are passing through, welcome on your journey; if you are looking for a church home, stay here; if you need instruction, learn with us as we learn from you.

We invite all newcomers to join us for faithful worship, Christian growth, fellowship, and mission.

First Time Visitor - If this is your first time visiting with us today, please find someone with a Hospitality nametag.

We want to meet you and we have a welcoming gift for you today.

PRAYER LIST

Bobby Bryant (death of his mother, Jeanette)
Sara Chey, Brenda Jones and family
Shirley Cochran (Hawthorne)
Randall & Linda Deyton
 (Pickard family prayer concerns)
Kathy and Terry Donovan
 (Nita Williams' friends)
Stewart Edwards
Hank Fleming
Maranell Fleming
Barbara Gowie
Dick Hancock
Kathy Lance (Lois Lance's daughter-in-law)
Lois Lance
Grietje Lewis

Renate Lipp (Nita Williams' friends)
Celine Mack
Ray Newhouse (Pat Bishop's brother)
Raul Nieves (Mina DiGeronimo's brother)
Joseph Pickard
John Reynolds (Suzy Heinbockel's brother)
Greg Robinson (Carolyn Varner's brother)
Michael Rou (Dr. David Albright's cousin)
Janice Schafer (Palm Garden)
Delores Shotwell
Steve and Keith Shotwell
Jill Hester Whitaker
Bo and Sally Williams
Eleanor Willis (Brentwood at Fore Ranch)
Diane Wirono

Please also remember in prayer all the people who feel alone this Christmas

Calendar December 15 – December 21, 2019		
SUN.	December 15 8:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 8:15 a.m. – Noon 9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m.	Worship Services Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall) Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) Children and Youth Ministries Nursery: <i>Newborns – 3 year olds</i> (Nursery) Children's Church: <i>4 years – 5th Grade</i> (Room 26) Marion Civic Chorale Holiday Concert (Sanctuary)
TUES.	December 17 5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Security Committee meeting (Conference Room) Cross and Crown Praise Band Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)
WED.	December 18 10:00 a.m.	Disciple Class (Conference Room)
FRI.	December 20 10:30 a.m.	Griefshare (Conference Room)

This Week's Daily Bible Readings					
<i>Sustained by God's Word of Joy</i>			Wednesday	December 18	Isaiah 61:1-11
Sunday	December 15	Isaiah 8:1-20	Thursday	December 19	Isaiah 62:1-12
Monday	December 16	Isaiah 8:21-9:7	Friday	December 20	Isaiah 63:1-14
Tuesday	December 17	Isaiah 60:1-22	Saturday	December 21	Luke 1:1-25

Contemporary Worship Service

9:30 a.m.

Ushers: Dave and Amy Schlenker

Acolyte: Lillian Baker

Guest Musician: Leslie Athanason

Advent Candle Lighters: Jeff, Margaret, Lillian and Judson Baker



Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Praise Music

Born is The King (It's Christmas)

Sweet little Jesus Boy

What Child is This

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Baker Family

Passing of the Peace

Children's Time

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.

Offertory

Christmas Offering

First Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Second Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10

Sermon

"Christmas: Fact, Faith, and Feeling"

Dr. Watson

Affirmation (Unison)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. This is the good news we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are 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, that he appeared first to women, then 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. Amen.

Closing Song

Let Us Be

We follow the Light of Christ into the world



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

5:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols in Fellowship Hall

Come as You Are

Nursery Provided

7:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols in Sanctuary

Communion

No Nursery Provided



TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today at 3:00 p.m. The Marion Civic Chorale, Ocala's preeminent choir will wow us with sounds of the season. Please join us for this beautiful concert to celebrate Christmas.

Pledges So far we have received \$582,601.00 representing 137 families. This is \$91,770.96 and 25 families less than 2019. If you have not yet pledged, you may place your pledge in the offering plate today or send it to the office. Receiving pledges is a vital step in our budgeting process. Thank you to all who have already pledged!

Interfaith's needs this month are canned fruit, canned meat, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, rice and toiletries for men and women. Thank you for placing your donations in the narthex or at the back of Fellowship Hall on Sundays, or by bringing them to the church office during the week. They are also looking for volunteers..... call Tina at 352-629-8868.

Important information regarding 2019 giving. Please note: **Only contributions received by December 31st will be included on your annual statement.**

A Big Thank You to the Fellowship Committee for all their hard work and dedication of the WOW dinners that have been prepared for us during 2019.

Christmas Calendar

December 22 8:15, 9:30, 11 a.m.

December 24 Both Candlelight

5:00 p.m. Family Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Traditional Communion

December 29 11:00 a.m. one service only



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