

**Buchanan First Presbyterian Church  
Grundy, Virginia**

**December 16, 2018**

**11:00 am**

**The Service for the Lord's Day  
Third Sunday of Advent**

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**Voluntary** - *"Tidings of Great Joy Overture"*

Jessica Bailey, Piano

**Lighting of the Advent Candles** (Responsive)

Brenda Sprinkle

Jesus says; I am coming soon. *(Revelation 22:20)*

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

As the Lord promised, in days to come....

**The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;**

Like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

*(Isaiah 35:1)*

*(Two purple candles are lit and the pink candle is lit.)*

**Announcements and Welcome**

The Rev. Bard Napier, Pastor

**Call to Worship** (Responsive)\*

My soul magnifies the Lord;

**My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

**God sends good news to the oppressed.**

Rejoice in the Lord; again, rejoice!

**Let us rejoice in the Lord in worship and praise!**

*\*(Luke 1:46-47; Isaiah 61:1; Phil. 4:4-5)*

**\*Carol #136 - Go, Tell It on the Mountain**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy Lord, you call us to follow you, to bear witness in speech and deed to the good news of the Gospel. But we resist your call, persistently pursuing our own desires, fearful of your claim upon us. Forgive us for seeking to justify our refusal to heed your call. Stir us up by your Spirit to embrace the mission of Jesus Christ - healing the broken, feeding the hungry, and proclaiming the good news that God is indeed with us.**

**And now Lord, I confess specifically.....** (silent prayers)

**Assurance of Pardon** (Responsive)

Jesus, Lamb of God,

**Have mercy on us.**

Jesus, Bearer of our sins,

**Have mercy on us.**

Jesus, Redeemer of the world,

**Grant us peace.**

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus the Christ, God has heard our confession, and forgiven our sins.

**Thanks be God! Amen!**

**Passing of the Peace**

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Carol #137 - He Came Down**

*-Cameroon melody*

**\*Special Music** *"Of the Father's Love Begotten"*

Jessica Bailey, Flutist

**Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer** *(See the church prayer list)*

**The Old Testament Lesson:**

**Zephaniah 3:14-20**

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Epistle:           Philippians 4:4-7**

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Sermon:           “The Lord’s Joy”**

Pastor Brad Napier

*“He will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love.”*

*-The Prophet Zephaniah*

**Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

Offertory

Doxology #606 - Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow

Prayer of Dedication

\*Carol #132 - Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

**Benediction and Blessing**

Pastor Brad Napier

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*“Lord, help us to know joy as a spring always welling up within us and give us power to dance through life, not as men and women who are blind to sorrow, misery, or shame, but as those who know your victory over death and who cannot but rejoice.” AMEN.*

*- Edmund Banyard*

***Please give generously to the ministry***

***and mission of Buchanan First***

***“Think with the mind of Christ;***

***Love with the heart of Christ;***

***Serve with the hands of Christ.”***

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*We welcome guests and visitors to our worship service today. We hope you are blessed as we worship the Lord God together.*

*A reminder: Throughout this Holy Season, we will be taking the Christmas Joy Offering. Fifty percent of the gifts to Christmas Joy provide assistance for current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial need. The remaining 50% of the Christmas Joy make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Please use the special offering envelopes provided in the bulletin.*

**The Week Ahead:**

**Today:** The quarterly fellowship dinner will be held following worship. Hostesses are Sandy Dailey and Judy Osborne, co-chairs, along with Jackie Helms, Diana Holland, Janie Owens, Sheilah Powers, Shonna Powers, and Doris Lee Stiltner. We hope everyone will stay and enjoy a time of fellowship during the dinner.

**Wednesday:** Spread Christmas Cheer - Help deliver PW Gift Bags, 10:30 am  
Holy Communion, 12:15 pm  
Church school discontinued until Spring.

**Thursday:** Quilting, 10:00 am.

**Friday:** Pastor's Day Off

**Sunday: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Christmas Sunday**

**Upcoming....**

**Monday, December 24: CHRISTMAS EVE**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7:00 pm. Holy Communion will be served.

**Tuesday, December 25: NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS DAY**

Pastor Napier leaves for vacation.

**Sunday, December 30: First Sunday after Christmas Day.**

The Rev. Dr. Ted Hagen will preach. Ted is a retired Presbyterian Minister and a faculty member at the Appalachian College of Pharmacy.

**Tuesday, January 1, 2019: NEW YEARS' DAY**

**Wednesday, January 2:** Pastor Napier will be back in the office.

**Birthdays, December 16 - 22:**

**Dec. 22 - Gary Holland**

**Anniversaries, December 16 - 22:**

**Dec. 18 - Jeff and Cindy Matney; Dec. 22 - Hunter & Sarah Simpson**

**Buchanan First now has on-line giving on our church website. You may give using a debit card, credit card, from your checking account or your savings account. This is a convenient, secure giving option in partnership with the Presbyterian Foundation. Other churches in our Presbytery use on-line giving. You may set up one-time gifts, or set up regular, on-going gifts. Go to the church's web-site and click on the "Support Our Work" button at the bottom of each page on the web-site. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor Napier.**

**For Our Prayer and Care**

Beth Bevins  
Geraldine & Acie Blankenship  
Bucky Blankenship  
Gary Boyd  
Stella Boyd  
Scotty & Michelle Bostic & family  
Peggy Caparratto  
David Cecil  
Randy Cole  
Ron & Sandy Cole  
Charlotte Daniels  
Delphine Deel  
Ricky Deel  
Vontilla Deel (liver cancer)  
Isabella Fugate  
Teresa Fletcher  
Ethel Hale  
Jackie Helms  
Jessie Hunt  
Barbara Ann Keen  
Dewey Kiser  
Ellee Rose Large  
Brenda Lester-Sprinkle  
Dalton Lester  
Betty Looney  
Kyle & Sue McClanahan  
Catherine Mullins  
Rhonda McClanahan

Karen Mullins  
Valerie Mullins  
Ruth Muncy  
Sean Murphy  
Bettie Prater  
Ann Perkins  
Mattie Rasnake  
Marsha Robinson  
Lois Shanahan  
Larry Shelton  
Kate Silva  
Justin Smith  
Ronnie Smith  
Tom Smith  
George Stokes  
Buford Stacy  
Edd Talbott, Jr.  
Jim Talbott  
LeeAnnVanMeter  
Charlie Wolford  
Mike Wolford  
Pastor Brad & Kim  
Napier

Our heartfelt thanks are extended to those who purchased poinsettias to be placed in the sanctuary this Christmas season. If properly cared for, the poinsettias will provide several weeks of enjoyment. They will stay in the sanctuary until next Sunday, at which time they should be taken home. If you have purchased a poinsettia and not yet paid for it, please place your check in the offering and note "poinsetta" on the memo line.

Jeff and Cindy Matney, in memory of Heather Dawn Matney, and Warren "Pete" and Anna Lee Matney.

Penny Jennell and Peggy Capparratto, in memory of their parents - Pete and Nita Jennell, and their grandparents - Tom and Annie Austin, and Frank and Carrie Jennell.

Sandy Dailey, in memory of Hattie and Earl Keene, and Mary June Dailey.

Judy Osborne, in memory of T. G. Osborne, Jr.

For Kyle and Sue McClanahan, from Janie Owens.

For Ethel Hale, from Janie Owens.

For Lois Shanahan, from Janie Owens.

For Isabelle Fugate, from Janie Owens.

For Beth Bevins, from Janie Owens.

For Taylor and Pebbles Burgess, from Janie Owens.

For Jackie Helms, from Janie Owens.

For Doris Lee and Dickey Stiltner, from Janie Owens.