

11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY December 20, 2009  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRELUDE "A Yuletide Greeting" Higgins; Feldstein  
"Ding, Dong, Merrily on High"  
Art & Jan Reichenfeld, violins

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH  
(Please sign the Welcome Pads at the end of each pew)

INTROIT "CHRISTmas" Greta Somers  
Quartet

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: From Bethlehem there is to come the One who is to rule in Israel,

**PEOPLE: whose origin is from old, from ancient days.**

LEADER: And we shall live secure, for his name shall be great to the ends of the earth.

**PEOPLE: He shall be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."**

\*HYMN #56 v. 1-2 "The First Nowell" *The First Nowell*

\*CONFESSION OF SIN (unison)

**Great God, we behold the gift of the child yet again, but we are also mindful of how we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story of Christmas points us to your glory, yet we struggle daily to join in the angels' song. We are distracted and confused, so focused on things that matter little that we have overlooked the good news of great joy.** (Silent confession)

**Tell us again that the Savior is born. Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell us again that life can be abundant in faith and hope and love, not because of who we are, but because of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. We ask this in his name. Amen.**

\*CONFESSION RESPONSE

#44 v.4 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" *St. Louis*

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*ASSURANCE RESPONSE

#23 refrain "Angels We Have Heard on High" *Gloria*  
**Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH CANDLE OF ADVENT: PEACE

The Weigle Family

ADVENT CANDLE HYMN

#31 v. 3 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" *Mendelssohn*

THE GOOD NEWS FOR THE YOUNGER DISCIPLES

(Children 0-4 years return to the nursery, and  
children grades K-5 are dismissed to "Children in Worship.")

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-14 Jim Maloney

THE GOOD NEWS FOR THE OLDER DISCIPLES

"Do You Ever Wonder"

A READING Doug Pyle

ANTHEM "O Little Town of Bethlehem" arr. Barbara Kinyon  
Carillon Choir

A READING Sarah Roberts

DUET "Mary, Did You Know" Lowry & Greene, arr. Larson  
Missa Eaton & Susan Woge

A READING Linda Frei

ANTHEM "Angels' Carol" John Rutter  
Sanctuary Choir

Have you heard the sound of the angel voices Ringing out so sweetly, ringing out so clear? Have you seen the star shining out so brightly As a sign from God that Christ is here? Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven To the humble shepherds who have waited long? *Gloria in excelsis Deo!* Hear the angels sing their joyful song. He is come in peace in the winter's

stillness, Like a gentle snowfall in the gentle night; He is come in joy like the sun at morning  
Filling all the world with radiance and with light. He is come in love as the child of Mary; In a  
simple stable we have seen his birth: *Gloria in excelsis Deo!* Hear the angels singing “Peace on  
earth.” He will bring new light to a world in darkness. Like a bright star shining in the skies  
above; He will bring new hope to the waiting nations When he comes to reign in purity and love.  
Let the earth rejoice at the Saviour’s coming; Let the heavens answer with the joyful morn:  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo!* Hear the angels singing “Christ is born.”

A READING

Missa Eaton

ANTHEM

“Joy to the World”  
Sanctuary Choir

arr. John Rutter

The words may be found in Hymn #40.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

*Pastoral Prayer/Silent Prayer/Congregational Prayer*

#38 v. 3

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

*Carol*

OFFERING: CHRISTMAS JOY & DEACON OFFERING

Offertory

“The Peace Carol”  
Terry Leonard

Bob Beers

\*Response #56 v.6

“The First Nowell”

*The First Nowell*

\*Prayer of Dedication and **The Lord’s Prayer**

“...sins, as we forgive those who sin against us...”

\*HYMN #29

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

*Go Tell It*

\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

#31 v. 2

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

*Mendelssohn*

\*POSTLUDE

“The Sleigh Ride”  
Art & Jan Reichenfeld, violins

Mozart

*The conclusion of worship, and the beginning of service.*

\*Please stand if you are able.

(4)



HOPE, LOVE, JOY, PEACE

***FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SHARON***

600 E. State St.  
Sharon PA 16146  
724-981-2211  
[www.1stpcs.org](http://www.1stpcs.org)

Rev. Dr. Glenn Hink, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Pam Maloney, Associate Pastor  
Aaron Christy, Dir. of Youth Ministry  
Debra Derrenbacher, Dir. of Children’s Ministries

**“Real people, committed to Christ, living the Great Commandment”**

**December 20<sup>th</sup>**  
 11:00 AM Service only  
 Fourth Sunday of Advent  
 Worship & Arts Sunday

9:15 & 10:30 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
9:30 AM	Sunday School K-Adult	
9:30 AM	Boar's Head Committee	Library
10:30 AM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Room #303
11:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
12:10 PM	Boar's Head Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM	Session Meeting	Room #206

Monday, December 21

6:00 PM	Caroling	Juniper Village
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts	Scout Room

Wednesday, December 23

7:00 AM	Men's Fellowship Breakfast	Panera's
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Thursday, December 24

12:00 Noon	Church Office closes	
6:00 PM	Pageant Rehearsal	
7:00 PM	Family & Friends Service	Sanctuary
11:00 PM	Holy Night Service	Sanctuary

Friday, December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

**December 27<sup>TH</sup>**  
 8:30 & 11:00 AM Services  
 First Sunday after Christmas

9:15 & 10:30 AM	Coffee Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
9:30 AM	Sunday School K-Adult	
10:00 AM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Room #303
11:00 AM	Worship	Sanctuary

WELCOME! On this fourth Sunday of Advent, may the glorious good news of Christ's birth fill us with love and good will.

THANK YOU to Art and Jan Reichenfeld, Missa Eaton and Susan Woge, Terry Leonard, and the Carillon and Sanctuary Choirs for sharing their musical gifts with us today.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING – Envelopes for this special PC(USA) offering were distributed last Sunday. Returned envelopes may be placed in the offering plates during the collection.

IN THE NURSERY this morning our caregivers, Brenda Hall, Nicole Snyderwine & Deb Snyder, will care for our youngest believers.

CHILDREN IN GRADES K-5<sup>th</sup>, under the direction of Debbie Derrenbacher, Stephanie Longstreet and Kelly McQuiston, will be dismissed to the "Children in Worship" program following the "Good News for Children." Children can be picked up in Room #315 following worship. Children 0-4 years old are invited to participate in the nursery program.

CHRISTMAS AND THE ARTS – We have changed our normal worship service this morning to share the beauty and wonder of the Christmas season through the use of various arts. Thanks to all the musicians and singers, and to Mitzi Kuster for overseeing our visual arts.

BOAR'S HEAD LUNCHEON is today immediately following the 11 AM service. Preview our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Boar's Head Festival (Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 PM) and see highlights from our 1<sup>st</sup> Festival. Free will donation will be gratefully accepted. There will be food, fellowship and music. Everyone is welcome!

CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE:

- 7 PM – Family and Friends Service – Nativity pageant, carols and candles; (Nursery care will be available for the 7 PM service only)
- 11PM – Holy Night Service – Communion, meditation, carols and candles.

SPECIAL THANKS to Michalee Christy for directing a wonderful youth Christmas musical last Sunday. - Dr. Hink

2010 GIVING ENVELOPES are available today in the Fellowship Hall. Please **do not** use them before January 3, 2010.

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE:

Operations: 138 pledges for \$159,039

Mission: 57 pledges for \$29,381

Our goal is 180 pledges (or about 50% of possible pledges). Please return your Pledge Card to the church office ASAP. Additional Pledge Cards are available.

WE ARE GOING CAROLING to Juniper Village (the former Shenango Inn) on Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> and YOU are invited to join us. We will sing Christmas carols and Susan Wolf will tell the Christmas story as only Susan can. It's lots of fun and children, youth, and adults are welcome to join in. Meet at Juniper Village at 5:50 PM. Help us brighten the Christmas season for the residents at Juniper Village.

CALLING ALL BOAR'S HEAD FESTIVAL CAST MEMBERS: We would like to hold a dress rehearsal on Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> right after church. We will gather in Fellowship Hall for some pizza, change into our costumes and have a run through. Then on the day of the performance – Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, we will meet at 12:30 PM in Fellowship Hall already dressed and ready to go. We'll have a brief rehearsal, enjoy a light meal together and get ready for the 3:30 PM performance. Look forward to seeing you all then and thanks for being part of the community wide celebration. It is not too late to join the cast. See Paula Haehnel or Robyn in the church office.

THANK YOU for your generous gifts to the Board of Deacons this year. We have been able to help a number of families and agencies because of your generosity. The need is still great, and the balance in our Deacon treasury is now under \$200. Every gift helps the Deacons minister to folks who find themselves in hard circumstances. Please give as you can to the Deacons' offering today.

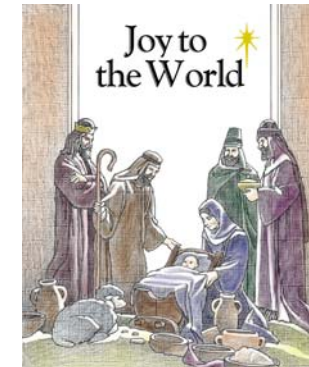
THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE begins on January 1, 2010. It's not too late to be part of this wonderful experience. So many folks from around the country have ordered the Participant's book that Presbyterian Distribution Service has run out of enough copies for everyone! We have written permission from the author, Dr. Jim Davison, to copy the material for January so everyone can get started on January 1<sup>st</sup>. You may pick up a copy of the readings **TODAY** from Rev. Maloney at the organ after worship.

NEW YEAR'S DAY DINNER will be held Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. Christian Associates and the Mission Team of FPC are again hosting this event. We will meet at 11:30 and eat dinner at 12:00 noon. Choice of pork or turkey is offered. Please call the church office with your reservation and choice of dinner **no later than December 28<sup>th</sup>**.

## **Christmas Eve @ First**

*"I bring you good news of great joy for all people; to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord."*

*--Luke 2:10-11*



7:00 PM—"Family and Friends Worship" – This joyful service is perfect for families, and shares the excitement of Christmas. The Christmas story is told through a nativity pageant with children. The worship service also includes carols, choir and candles. Nursery care is also available.



11:00 PM—"Holy Night Worship" – This is a quiet, reflective service for those who want to experience the holiness and wonder of Christmas Eve. This service includes a Christmas meditation, quiet songs and carols, communion, and candles.