



Red Clay Creek *Presbyterian Church*

Sunday | December 30, 2018 | 10:30 am



First Sunday after Christmas

Calling the Community to Worship

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

GREETING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

SHARING OF OUR LIVES

Please fill out the Friendship Pad located at one end of every pew and pass it to your neighbor.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

As you prepare for today's worship, please join us in silent reflection and prayer as you meditate on the words below.

O God, our long days of Advent anticipation have been fulfilled on Christmas Day with the birth of your son. We thank you for all the joy we have known and shared in this holy season. Yet, in the midst of joy and fulfillment, there are those whose needs are still obvious, those who look for your coming to them in the simplest forms of bread to eat and shelter from the cold. And there are those of us who, even in the midst of gaiety and fun and gifts galore, know a hunger that is not yet satisfied. Help us in the year that lies ahead to gain a new perspective on our days, that we might seek the truer, lasting things of life; that we might learn to grow, as Jesus did, "in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind..." Thus may the year that lies ahead be a year of true renewal through the Lord of renewed life, our Savior, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

—Adapted from "A Post-Christmas Prayer", *Faces at the Manger*
by J. Barrie Shepherd

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill towards all.

People: For out of God's own being, Jesus has come to bring light and love to all people.

Leader: Jesus is Emmanuel, God-with-us, come to gather our tears and laughter, our work and our play, into God's loving embrace.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill towards all.

HYMN*

Angels, from the Realms of Glory | No. 143

PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

**Holy God, you offer us new life in the baby at Bethlehem,
but we confess that we have made something trivial,
something sentimental, out of Christmas.**

Your light comes into the world, and we see only the colorful holiday lights.

(continued)

*Please stand if you are able. The congregation is invited to read aloud text in **bold print**.

You shine in the darkness, but we turn away from the darkness of our world,
and miss you.

Your Word is made flesh, but we would like something nicer, more spiritual,
than the humanity of God-with-us in the flesh.

Forgive us, gracious God.

Strengthen us with the hope that cannot be packed away with the Christmas ornaments.

May we who have beheld this glory hold it in our hearts forever.

(A time of silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

RESPONSE*

Gloria in excelsis Deo

PASSING OF THE PEACE*

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Children PreK-5th grade are invited forward. After, they will be dismissed to Room 303 for one-room Sunday School.

MUSICAL OFFERING

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Proclaiming the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 63:7-9; Matthew 2:13-23

SERMON

The Christmas Story... Continued

Rev. Emily Schwenker

Responding to the Word

SILENT REFLECTION

*During this time of silence, you are invited to reflect on the scriptures or sermon, on the words to one of the hymns,
or pray or meditate in silence.*

HYMN

In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy | No. 153 (to alternate tune)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord's Prayer

...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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

Ring Out, Wild Bells

1. Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.
2. Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.
3. Ring out the grief that saps the mind
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.
4. Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes
But ring the fuller minstrel in.
5. Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.
6. Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE*

As With Gladness Men of Old | No. 150, vs. 3

As they offered gifts most rare at thy manger, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly king.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

May these gifts open others to the blessings you give this Christmas: the gift of childlike wonder; the gift of radiant hope; the gift of peace, which passes all understanding; the gift of joy, which knows no bounds. With these gifts, we bring ourselves, O God, in response to the greatest gift of all - the Babe of Bethlehem.

Going Forth to Serve in Christ

HYMN*

On This Day Earth Shall Ring | No. 141

BENEDICTION*



WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastoral Staff:	Lay Reader:	Ray Krout
Rev. Dr. Randall T. Clayton & Rev. Emily Schwenker	Usher Captain:	Chip Gruber
Director of Music: Jeffrey Miller	Greeter:	Carolyn Diehl
Director of Christian Education:	Media Production:	J. Armstrong,
Shelley Haines	K. Barton, K. James & A. Leonhard	
Music Ministry: Grant Youngblood	Nursery Caregivers:	Judy Lozier and Leigh Sann

The flowers in the
chancel today are given
in to the Glory of God,
by Debbie Wersinger.



**LARGE PRINT
HYMNALS** are
available in the narthex.