

# A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS CELEBRATING THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION

December 24, 2018 at 11:00pm

Christmas Eve

## *We Gather Around God's Word*

*Prelude*

*"Greensleeves" by Purvis  
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist*

Welcome

Rev. Chris Kile

### **\*Call to Worship**

Rev. Chris Kile and Karen Bruno

Leader: We light the Christ candle. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.

**People: You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.**

Leader: For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

**People: For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.**

Leader: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**People: In Christ, let us worship God!**

*\* Hymn of Gathering #41 "O Come, All Ye Faithful (verses 1 and 2)*

### **Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)**

Rev. Chris Kile

**Almighty God, who sent a star to guide people to the Holy Child Jesus: We confess that we have not followed the light of your Word. We have not searched for signs of your love in the world, or trusted good news to be good. We have failed to praise your son's birth and refused his peace on earth. Forgive our doubting ways, and renew in us all godly desires, so that we may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord, in whose name we pray and offer our silent confession...**

Assurance of Reconciliation

Rev. Chris Kile

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*\*Hymn #41 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (verse 3)*

## *We Proclaim God's Word*

### **Prayer for Illumination (unison)**

Rev. Chris Kile

**Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light, we may see light; in your truth find freedom; and in your will, discover your peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:1-9 (O.T. pg. 784)

Karen Bruno

*Hymn #9*

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-33, 46-49 (N.T. pg. 69)

Carol Berns

*Music Offering*

*"Mary, Did You Know"*  
*Kelli Bruno, Soloist*

Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 1-7 (N.T. pg. 71)

Larry Imboden

*Hymn #44 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 8-20 (N.T. pg. 71)

Ginette Bracke

*\*Hymn #31*

*"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

## *We Respond to God's Word*

### **We Worship With Our Offerings**

*Offertory*

*"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" by Chapman  
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist*

*\*Hymn #40*

*"Joy to the World" (Verses 1 and 4)*

Prayer of Dedication

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Rev. Chris Kile

**\*Invitation to the Table and Affirmation of Faith - The Apostle's Creed, Traditional**  
**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 life everlasting. Amen.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, Prayers of the People and **The Lord's Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

The Words of Institution

Communion of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

### **SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

Scripture Reading : John 1: 1-5, 9-14 (N.T. pg. 111)

Rev. Chris Kile

**\*Hymn #60 "Silent Night, Holy Night"**

**\*Benediction**

*Postlude*

Robert Grube, Jr.

**Go In Peace – to Serve the Lord in Love**

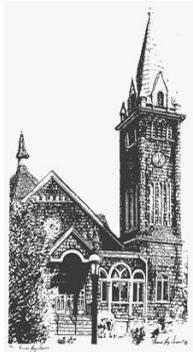
# **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CRANFORD**

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Phone (908) 276-8440

[www.firstprescranford.org](http://www.firstprescranford.org)





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The Ministers of the First Presbyterian Church, Cranford, NJ:

The Entire Congregation of FPCC

Pastor and Head of Staff – Rev. John Christian Kile

Music Director – Alison R. Nead

Assistant Music Director– Elsa G. Hahn

Organist – Robert Grube, Jr.

Administrative Coordinator – Carol Thee

Sunday School Coordinator – Beth Marshall

### **Our Church**

#### **Mission Statement**

“As the body of Christ inspired by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be faithful disciples, living our lives as a testimony of Christ's love for all. We welcome diversity, and we respect and care for all of God's creation. We seek to spread God's Word and invite others to live Jesus' command to love one another as the Lord first loved us.”

We offer regularly scheduled Membership Exploration classes. These discussion groups meet at various times throughout the year and provide a forum for asking question, building relationships and learning about membership at First Presbyterian Church. Other programs include Adult Education, Sunday School and Youth Fellowship which provide disciples with loving guidance, a sense of identity as children of God and tools they can use as they live their Christian faith with integrity. Music programs include children's choirs, a bell choir and an adult choir that all enrich our worship throughout the year. Community Outreach programs include a monthly labyrinth walk, an on-going grief recovery program, service at a Soup Kitchen and a hospitality network serving the homeless. For more information, go to our website listed above.

### **Our Worship Life**

*Worship is held at 10am in the Sanctuary. Sunday School and childcare are available.*

The proclamation of God's Word, inspiring music and prayer are the foundations of our worship. We welcome visitors of all backgrounds and ages to share our faith in Jesus Christ as we face the challenges and joy of living in today's world.

All children begin each Sunday in the Sanctuary. After participating in a special children's message, they move on to their Sunday School classrooms.

**Come! Worship with us at 10am on Sunday mornings!**

## *Christmas Flowers 2018*

*Donations have been made*

