

CALENDAR

**Today, 1/5** Sunday School, 9:00 am; Worship, 10:30 am  
**Monday, 1/6** Church office closed on Mondays  
**Tuesday, 1/7** SIBS (Sisters in Bible Study), 9:30 am; Men's ZOOM Bible Study, 12:00 pm; Adult Bible Study (ABS), 5:15 pm; Chancel Choir, 6:30 pm  
**Wednesday, 1/8** Worship/Discipleship Mtg., 9:00 am; First Wed. Book Club, 9:30 am; Youth Group & First Kids, 6:00 pm; Carillonners, 7:00 pm  
**Thursday, 1/9** Staff mtg., 10:00 am; Ministry Outreach mtg., 5:00 pm  
**Friday, 1/10** Prayer mtg., 9:30 am

Hearing devices are located in the Narthex to assist in listening to today's service  
 FEPC Wi-Fi guest password is Guest2101\*

FEPC provides clipboards with crayons and children's bulletins for children to use during the Worship service. There are two options, based on the age of your child. They are located in the baskets in the Narthex and Ramp Room located in the back of the Sanctuary. We encourage parents to use these resources. As a courtesy, please return materials to the baskets for the next service.

**Children's Nursery**

There is a nursery available for infants and children up through and including kindergarten.  
 Children from first grade up should remain in the service and worship with their family.

**Elders**  
Class of 2024  
 Rea Brown  
 Mike Bumpass  
 Bob Collis  
 Bill Gearhart  
 Al Soltis  
  
Class of 2025  
 Don Andree  
 Stuart Bain  
 Richard Harvey  
 Doug McLaughlin  
 David Smith  
  
Class of 2026  
 Mike Abbott  
 Robert Broyles  
 Scott Rice  
 Michael Ridenhour

**Sunday School 9:00 am**

It is never too late for Children and Youth to join our Sunday School Classes. If you need more information, please contact Melanie Rice (Children) or Pete Guillard (Youth).

| Class - Age                  | Room     | Teachers      |
|------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| <b>Children's Ministry</b>   |          |               |
| Infants & Toddlers           | 115      | Amanda Young  |
| PreK-K-1                     | 114      |               |
| Children's Sunday School 2-5 | Library  | Melanie Rice  |
| <b>Youth</b>                 |          |               |
| Grades 6-12                  | Youth Rm | Pete Guillard |

Adult Sunday School  
 McClanahan /Good News - Room 207  
 Koinonia/Cornerstone - Parlor

**Deacons**  
Class of 2024  
 Debra Bennett  
 Alison Boozer  
 Linda Brown  
 Clifford (Bud) Derey  
 Sheila Harms  
 Carolyn Keyes  
 Kim Smith  
 Mary Thornhill  
 Brenda White-Edwards  
  
Class of 2025  
 Susan Blanding  
 Karen Brooks  
 Donna Broyles  
 Marlene Flynn  
 Marcia Ridenhour  
 Helen Thompson

**Reminders**

**Elders:** Scott Rice, Dave Smith  
**Sound System:** Kaye Wilkerson, Scott Rice, Rea Brown  
**Greeters Ramp Room (8:50-9:00 & 10:00-10:30):**  
 Jan. 5 - Nancy Poore  
 Jan. 12 - David & Kathy Akers  
 Jan. 19 - Teal Bennett  
 Jan. 26 - Diana Harvey  
**Greeters Narthex (10:00-10:30):**  
 Jan. 5 - Brenda White-Edwards  
 Jan. 12 - Sandy McCullar  
 Jan. 19 - Jeff & Pat Povtak  
 Jan. 26 - Martha Minter  
**Deacon on Duty:**  
 Jan. 5 - Susan Blanding  
 Jan. 12 - Helen Gearhart Thompson  
 Jan. 19 - Marlene Flynn  
 Jan. 26 - Wendy Andree

Class of 2026  
 Wendy Andree  
 Tamara Caldwell  
 Bobby Caudle  
 Cameron May  
 Sandy McCullar  
 Carolyn Moore

**First Evangelical Presbyterian Church**

2101 South Jefferson Street  
 Roanoke, Virginia 24014-0538  
 (540-344-3204)  
 www.fepcroanoke.org



JANUARY 5, 2025  
 10:30 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Don Hardman  
 Director of Music: Rev. Keith Olivier  
 Director of Christian Education: Mr. Pete G. Guillard  
 Organist: Mr. William Turner  
 Handbell Director: Dr. Erma Rose



**Presbyterian Community Center Food Needs**  
 Jan. - Tuna

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

JANUARY 5, 2025

## PREPARATION, PROMISES AND PRAISE

(We invite you to quiet yourself in preparation for the worship of God when you hear the prelude music.)

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the Peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## WELCOME AND INVITATION TO SHARE OUR LIFE IN CHRIST

Prelude "In Thee Is Gladness" arr. Manz

Call to Worship Rev. Don Hardman

Leader: Long ago, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;

**People: now God has spoken to us by a Son.**

Leader: God made the world through the Son, who has been appointed heir of all things and the perfect reflection of God's glory.

**People: The Son is the exact representation of God's being, sustaining all things by his powerful Word.**

Leader: Praise God for the gift of the Son.

**People: We welcome the light of the world!** —based on Hebrews 1:1-3

\*Hymn "The Church's One Foundation" No. 347

\*Prayer of Adoration

\*Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of the Bethlehem star, everyone is searching for your light shining in the face of Christ. The Magi sought Christ simply to worship him. But Herod sought him to appease his jealous anger. We confess that our motives in seeking Jesus are not pure. We do not come simply to worship: we come to Christ, asking his benefits of reassurance, health, wealth; asking him to fulfill the hundred petitions for not-so-important requests that we heap before him. But the Magi sought first the kingdom. Help us, God, to follow their example, putting our own need in perspective, worshiping the Christ in love, content to be in your presence, and laying our gifts before you. Then may we journey, trusting that your goodness and light will accompany us all the days of our life. Amen.

—based on Matthew 2:1-16; 6:33

\*Assurance of Pardon

Beloved, this is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. Thanks be to God!

—1 John 1:5-7

\*Gloria Patri No. 735

(Let the children come forward during the singing of the Gloria.)

Children's Time Susan Blanding

\*Hymn "For the Beauty of the Earth" No. 116

Prayers of the People of God and Our Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your 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.**

Anthem "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night" by G. F. Handel, arranged by Dan Forrest

Offering of Our Gifts and Tithes

Offertory "Lord Christ, the Only Son of God" Walther

\*Doxology No. 731

\*Prayer of Dedication

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:17 page 1145

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon "The Glorious Freedom of the New!" Rev. Don Hardman

\*Affirmation of Faith "The Apostles' Creed" Page 845

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

\*Hymn "How Firm a Foundation" No. 94

\*Benediction No. 739

Postlude "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star!" Nicolai/Bach

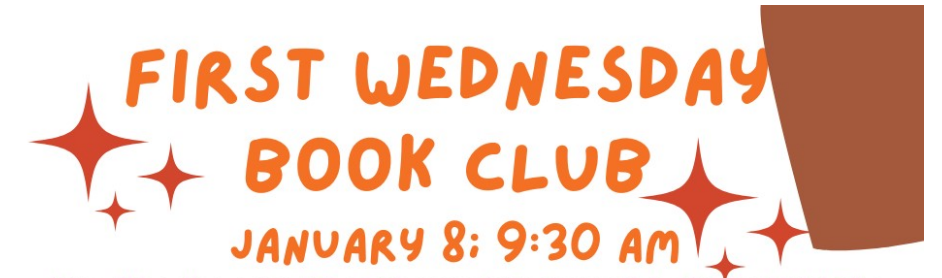
\*The congregation is asked to stand, as you are able.

## Announcements

Welcome to First Evangelical Presbyterian Church. We are glad you are here and we pray that, as we share with each other and worship our God, you will find here a special presence and blessing of God.

If you are a guest with us this morning we hope you will come again and, if so led, consider making First EPC your church home.

Prayer Focus  
Pray for discipline in your devotional life.  
John 15:4-10



We will be discussing "The Fisherman's Testament" by Caésar Vidal. The year was 62 AD, the emperor Nero, the prisoner is an elderly Jewish fisherman named Petros.

Come, bring a friend or neighbor, and prepare for a time of discussion and fellowship. Kathy Akers 540-761-2008.

**PLEASE NOTE - the meeting will be on January 8 in the Library.**

