

CALENDAR

Today, 12/29 Sunday School, 9:00 am; Worship, 10:30 am
Monday, 12/30 Church office closed on Mondays
Tuesday, 12/31 Church office closed
Wednesday, 1/1 Church office closed
Thursday, 1/2 Church office closed
Friday, 1/3 Church office closed

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
Children's Ministry		
Infants & Toddlers	115	Amanda Young
PreK-K-1	114	
Children's Sunday School 2-5	Library	Melanie Rice
Youth		
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

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

Reminders

Elders: Don Andree, Bob Collis
Sound System: Kaye Wilkerson, Scott Rice, Rea Brown
Greeters Ramp Room (8:50-9:00 & 10:00-10:30):
 Dec. 29 - Don & Wendy Andree
 Jan. 5 - Nancy Poore
 Jan. 12 - David & Kathy Akers
 Jan. 19 - Teal Bennett
 Jan. 26 - Diana Harvey
Greeters Narthex (10:00-10:30):
 Dec. 29 - Ed & Debbie Bennett
 Jan. 5 - Brenda White-Edwards
 Jan. 12 - Sandy McCullar
 Jan. 19 - Jeff & Pat Povtak
 Jan. 26 - Martha Minter
Deacon on Duty:
 Dec. 29 - Brenda Edwards, Marlene Flynn
 Jan. 5 - Susan Blanding
 Jan. 12 - Helen Gearhart Thompson
 Jan. 19 - Marlene Flynn
 Jan. 26 - Wendy Andree



Presbyterian Community Center Food Needs

Dec. - Beef Stew
 Jan. - Tuna

First Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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



DECEMBER 29, 2024

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

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

DECEMBER 29, 2024

PREPARATION, PROMISES AND PRAISE

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

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO SHARE OUR LIFE IN CHRIST

Prelude "Away in a Manger" arr. Busarow

Call to Worship Elder Edward Bennett

Leader: The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;

**People: on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.**

Leader: Jesus Christ is our life and light.
In his name and in his power, let us worship God!

—based on Isaiah 9:2

*Hymn "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" No. 218

*Prayer of Adoration

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Holy God, in Jesus you entered our world with a love and power beyond what had ever been known. But we have not believed with our whole mind, nor trusted him with our whole heart. We confess the sinfulness of our lack of faith in the active presence of Christ in our midst and in the power of the Holy Spirit to do in and through us far more than we can ever ask or think. We confess the poverty of our hopes, dreams, and expectations. Because we fail to expect you to comfort and heal us, we unconsciously hold onto our distress and disease. And because we fail to expect you to supply the words for witness, we pass over opportunities to share the good news of Jesus Christ with friend or stranger. We confess that focused upon the world that is, rather than the world that will be, we limit, rather than contribute to the coming in fullness of Christ's reign on earth. Forgive us. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the Good News! The Lord's grace is sure. God has looked with favor upon his people and has redeemed them. God has raised up a mighty savior from the house of David. God spoke through the prophets of old so that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. God has shown mercy and has remembered his promises.

Thanks be to God! —based on Luke 1:68-72

*Gloria Patri No. 735

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

Children's Time Susan Blanding

*Hymn "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing" No. 227

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 "Gesu Bambino" by Pietro Yon

Offering of Our Gifts and Tithes

Offertory "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" arr. Held

*Doxology No. 731

*Prayer of Dedication

Scripture: Isaiah 9:1-7 page 683

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon "From Darkness to Light through the Prince of Peace"

Rev. Seth McCormick

*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 "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" No. 207

*Benediction No. 739

Postlude "O Come, All Ye Faithful" arr. Young

*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 you will be faithful in your worship attendance
& study of scriptures.
Acts 2:42

First Wednesday Book Club selection for Jan. 8 is "The Fisherman's Testament" by Caesar Vidal.

