

December 29, 2019
10:30 am

Prelude *Joyous Pastorale* E. Bottigliero

* Call to Worship

Leader: Hope has come -

People: awakening us to new possibilities.

Leader: Peace has come -

People: inviting us to be agents of reconciliation.

Leader: Joy has come -

People: turning our hearts from fear to wonder.

Leader: Love has come -

People: transforming our lives, transforming our world.

Leader: We have come -

**People: amazed and humbled by God's grace, to worship
the newborn king!**

* Prayer of the Day

Welcome and Announcements

* Hymn #133 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Holy God, you are the Light of the World. Yet, too often, we shroud your light with our indifference. There is much we must confess: When we turn a blind eye to suffering, forgive us. When we are silent in the face of injustice, forgive us. When we choose comfort over compassion, forgive us. When we neglect to offer grace and love, forgive us. Gracious God, you entered into our broken world and made a home among the desperate and despairing. Give us eyes to see you in the faces of those whose vulnerability frightens us. Give us the will to care for our neighbors in need, and open our hearts to receive your grace.
(moment of silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: ...Friends, believe the Good News!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* Hymn #581 - *Glory Be to the Father*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

* Passing the Peace of Christ

* Hymn #134 *Joy to the World*

Scripture Reading Isaiah 63:7-9 Page 653

Anthem *What A Beautiful Name* Fielding & Ligertwood

The Word with Children

Children up to the 2nd grade are invited to "Children's Chapel" for worship-centered activities.

Scripture Reading Matthew 3:1-10 Page 2

Sermon *Worthy Fruit*

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

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.

Prayers of the People

Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* arr. J. Carter

* Doxology #606

* Prayer of Dedication

* 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.

* Hymn #265 *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

* Postlude *Swiss Noel* Daquin

* Please stand, if it is comfortable for you.

Welcome to Forest Presbyterian Church! Church School for all ages at 9:30, worship service at 10:30. Child-care for infants and toddlers is on the lower level. During the 10:30 service, children up to the second grade are invited to Children's Chapel on the lower level following The Word with Children. Older children are invited to join in the worship service.

Visitor Cards are located on the welcome table. Please fill out the card and either give it to the Pastor, or place it in the offering plate.

CD's of today's service are available at the sound booth. Sermons are available on our church website (forestchurch.org).

Liturgist Sarah Bibeau

Usher John (Biz)Klingenfus

Today is Two-Cents-A-Meal. Place your offerings in the basket as you leave the worship service.

Pledge Cards are still available on the table in the Commons. Please fill out and place them in the offering plate on Sunday.

Today is the last Sunday to contribute to FPC for 2019. You can also postmark gifts for 2019 by December 31. All vouchers & bills from ministry teams for 2019 must be in the church mailbox by Tuesday, December 31.

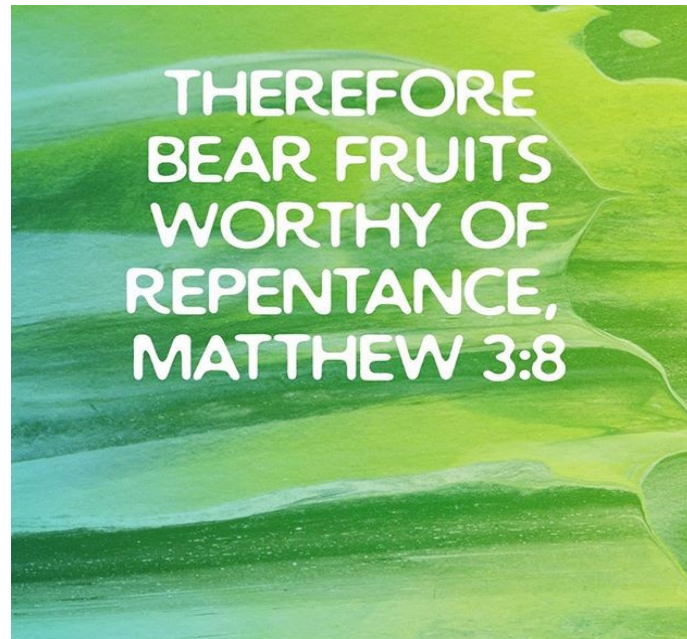
2020 Contribution Envelopes - 2020 envelopes are available for pick up now. They are located on the table outside the church office. If you did not have envelopes for 2019 but would like some, or have questions regarding your pledge or giving to date contact Catherine Justis (434-546-7534).

February newsletter deadline is Monday, January 13. Please have your information into the church office by that day.

Our Cupola Christmas ornaments are on backorder but should be in for dedication in early January. Sorry for the delay! We are still taking orders. See Lisa Klingenfus.

NO FYRE Youth Group on Sunday, January 5.

NO Chimes/Handbells on Sunday, January 5.



Week at a Glance...

Today, Sunday, December 29 Two-Cents-A-Meal

9:30 am Church School
10:30 am Worship Service

Wednesday, January 1 New Year's Day

Thursday, January 2
12:00 pm TOPS

Sunday, January 5 Communion

9:30 am Church School
10:30 am Worship Service

P. O. Box 311
1226 Two Church Lane, Forest, VA 24551
Church Office: 434-525-5500
Church Website: forestchurch.org
E-Mail: office@forestchurch.org

Staff

Morgan Whitfield, Pastor

Joan Austin, Secretary

Norma Stein, Organist

DaShay Glover, Choir Director



*Forest
Presbyterian*
CHURCH

Living God's Heart, Hands, & Voice

You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, We have Abraham as our ancestor; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.