

# First Presbyterian Church

Christmas Day Worship, 2016



Mary treasured all these words and  
pondered them in her heart. – Luke 2:19

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
9 West Calhoun St. (*at the corner of Main*)  
Sumter, South Carolina 29150  
803-773-3814  
[www.fpcsumter.org](http://www.fpcsumter.org)  
[info@fpcsumter.org](mailto:info@fpcsumter.org)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Luke 1:78-79)

One: By the tender mercy of our God,

**Many: The dawn from on high will break upon us,**

One: To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,

**Many: To guide our feet into the way of peace.**

One: Come, for the time has drawn near;

**Many: Come, let us welcome the Christ-child into our hearts anew!**

HYMN 170

*O Come all Ye Faithful*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, we confess that Jesus is Lord. We confess that Your love has come into the world, incarnate in the person of Jesus the Christ, and that You have been revealed to us through His love, grace, and truth. We confess that through Christ we have the promise of eternal life, the hope of salvation, and the forgiveness of our sins. We confess that through Christ we are challenged to love our neighbors as if they were ourselves, we are encouraged to seek reconciliation and wholeness, and we are empowered to work for Your justice. We confess that You are the One in whom we live and move and have our being. We confess that You are the Love that saves the world. In the name of Emmanuel, God With Us, Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

What has come into being through Christ is life, and the life is the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it. The light now lives in each of us. Go, share the Light of the World, for the Light of the World is Christ the Lord. Amen.

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

HYMN 156

*The First Noel*

### SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-21

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*Emmanuel*

Tomlin

### SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-14

### REFLECTION

*“Sharing the Gift of Emmanuel”*

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in God whose light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never smother it.**

**I believe that on a night like last night in Bethlehem there was born a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.**

**I believe in the Word who has become incarnate, our very flesh and blood, yet full of grace and truth.**

**I believe in the blessed appearing of the salvation of our God, that is for the happiness of all people.**

**I believe in his name as Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of peace;**

**Of the increase of his rule and of his unique peace, there will be no end.**

**The zeal of the God of hosts will do this. This I surely believe!**

### CHRISTMAS DAY PRAYER

HYMN 161

*Joy to the World!*

### BENEDICTION