

WELCOME! Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, we are glad to have you with us today. If you are visiting, you are our honored guest!

FOR PRAYER . . .

CHURCH FAMILY:
Jeanette Ramey; Bob & Joan Brown; Harriet Beavers; Richard Yost; Wanda Deskins; Dorothy Wright; Julia Butler; Dawn Olinger; Doris Branam; Connie Fletcher; Lois Angles. Leesa Peery; Debby Crews; *Heritage Hall:* Betty Kelly, Patricia Justice. *Dogwood Crossing:* Marlene Buffalow; *English Meadows in Abingdon:* Madeline Hurt; *Homebound:* Renia Hale Peery; Louise Smith.
OTHERS:
Dixie Mitchem & family; Freddie Gillespie; Geoff Gilbert; Eve Bishop; William Ramey; Lynn Jones; Ed Smith; Linda Cross; Kathy Melton Jackson.
ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL: Jon Wright; Jason Hacker.
To pass along a prayer request, contact Eunice Lester at (276.988.4412) *jinseun@aol.com*); or by contacting the church office at (276.988.4724; *sectazpresb12@yahoo.com*). Names will remain on the Prayer List for 4 weeks, unless otherwise requested.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sunday, December 26			
<i>First Sunday of Christmas</i>			
Worship Service	9 A.M.		Black’s Chapel
Sunday Morning Bible Study	10:10 A.M.		Fellowship Hall/ Zoom
Worship Service	11 A.M.		Sanctuary
Nominating Committee	12 P.M.		Fellowship Hall
Monday, December 27			
Church Office Closed			
Boy Scouts	7 P.M.		Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, December 28			
Table Talk Book Group	11 A.M.		Front Porch Restaurant/ Zoom
Sunday, January 2 (Holy Communion)			
<i>Second Sunday of Christmas: “Epiphany Sunday”</i>			
Worship Service	9 A.M.		Black’s Chapel
Sunday Morning Bible Study	10:10 A.M.		Fellowship Hall/ Zoom
Worship Service	11 A.M.		Sanctuary

FINANCIAL AND ATTENDANCE SNAPSHOT

Donation Income (November)	\$10,035.00				
Total Expense (November)	<u>\$12,441.81</u>				(includes staff salaries)
Net (November)	- \$2,406.81				
December 19: Giving	\$1,715.00				
November 12: Attendance	Black’s Chapel 9	TPC 36	YouTube 24	Total 69	

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE DAY

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26	Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12-17	Luke 2:41-52

COVER ART

Heavenly Window: stained glass, Chapelle Notre Dame de Grace et de Toute-Joie in the town of Villeneuve sur Lot, France.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the Interests of Everyone’s Health

Please wear a mask while entering and exiting the building and maintain physical distance between you and other worshipers who are not part of your immediate household. Extra space is available in the chapel for those desiring it. During worship you may remove your mask if you wish, but we ask that you wear it while singing or speaking. The sanctuary windows have been opened to facilitate ventilation. Please do not close them. During these cooler months you will want to dress accordingly.

Food Pantry Needs for January

The Food Pantry’s special emphasis for January is “soup and crackers.” Donations may be placed in the basket in the church narthex (front entry).

Today: Christmas Joy Offering and Christmas Project Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering provides support to current and retired church workers in need (50%) and to students attending Presbyterian related racial ethnic schools and colleges (50%). *The Christmas Project Offering* will help underwrite the Tazewell Ministerial Association’s Benevolence Fund to provide emergency aid to persons and families in need in our community.

“Epiphany Sunday”

Epiphany is Thursday, January 6. We will celebrate “Epiphany Sunday” on January 2. You will get to pick out your personal “star word” for 2022.

I Wish the Pastor Would Talk About_____.
Jan. 9 – Feb. 20

Over the coming weeks we will delve into some of the subjects that have been suggested to me (Pastor Dave), ranging from the suffering in the world, to heaven, to the mystery of God, to the “end times.” Thank you for your suggestions. Other suggestions will, no doubt, be helpful in formulating future sermons, but for now the most commonly asked about topics are:

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| Jan. 9 | Predestination: Does That Sound Like Good News to You? |
| Jan. 16 | The World is a Mess. Why Doesn’t God Do Something? |
| Jan. 23 | When Death Comes, What Happens to Whatever It Is That Makes You You? |
| Jan. 30 | The Earth is the Lord’s (A Word about Climate Change) |
| Feb. 6 | Why Did Jesus Talk So Much About Money? (Doesn’t He Know that Makes Us Uncomfortable?) |
| Feb. 13 | Shouldn’t We Thank God for What We Don’t Know? |
| Feb. 20 | Do We Need the Book of Revelation? |

Tazewell Presbyterian Church

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TAZEWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
& Black’s Chapel

First Sunday of Christmas
December 26, 2021

GATHERING	
CHIMING OF THE HOUR AND PRELUDE	<i>In Dulci Jubilo</i> 15 th c. melody/ arr. Martin
WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE	Rev. Dr. Dave Gilbert
*CALL TO WORSHIP	
Lord Jesus, You have come.	
You have come with high choirs of angels, and with lowly shepherds and sheep. You have come with Magi from the east, and with treasure chests and stars.	
Lord Jesus, You have come.	
Bringing good news to the poor, and release to the captives. Bringing hope, peace, joy and love.	
Lord Jesus, You have come.	
And we have come to adore You.	
*HYMN 133	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i> ADESTE FIDELIS
PRAYER OF CONFESSION	
God of goodness and love, You call us to keep Christmas alive: to consider the needs of others, to care for both young and old, to keep in prayer what others carry inside, to bury ugliness, and grow joy. We ask for the help of Your Spirit. When we give in to cynicism, or self-centeredness, or apathy, forgive us and receive us anew so that Christmas may again rule in our hearts and light shine forth and shadows fall behind. (Silent Prayer)	
ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE	
*PASSING OF THE PEACE	
*RESPONSE (from Hymn, No. 113)	
Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!	

SINGING THE WORD	
TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11 a.m.)	Barbara Kincer
*SING YE OF CHRISTMAS!	
Hymn 124	<i>Still, Still, Still</i> STILL, STILL, STILL
Still, still, still, he sleeps this night so chill! The virgin’s tender arms enfolding, warm and safe the child are holding. Still, still, still, he sleeps this night so chill.	
Sleep, sleep, sleep, he lies in slumber deep while angel hosts from heaven come winging, sweetest songs of joy are singing. Sleep, sleep, sleep, he lies in slumber deep.	
Hymn 128	<i>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</i> W ZLOBIE LEZY
Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!	
Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of the gospel true. Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet the morrow: Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!	
Hymn 143	<i>Angels, from the Realms of Glory</i> REGENT SQUARE
Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth; you, who sang creation’s story, now proclaim Messiah’s birth: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!	
SCRIPTURE READING	Colossians 3:12-17 (<i>Pew Bible, pg. 958</i>)
MEDITATION	<i>Keeping Christmas</i> Rev. Dave Gilbert

RESPONDING TO THE WORD	
*HYMN 145 (vss. 1 & 2)	<i>What Child Is This</i> GREENSLEEVES
*INVITATION TO OFFERING	
OFFERTORY	<i>Gentle Mary Laid Her Child</i> 13 th c. carol/ arr. Summers
*RESPONSE	<i>What Child Is This</i> HYMN, NO. 145, VS. 3
So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby. Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!	
PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PETITION	
THE LORD’S PRAYER (<i>contemporary</i>)	
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.	
SENDING	
*HYMN 136	<i>Go, Tell It on the Mountain</i> GO TELL IT
*BENEDICTION	
*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY AND POSTLUDE	