

*“The First Nowell” arr. Mack Wilberg*

*The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay. In fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter’s night that was so deep. Nowell! Born is the King of Israel! They looked up and saw a star shining in the East beyond them far. And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Nowell! Born is the King of Israel! Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our Heavenly Lord that hath made Heaven and earth of nought, and with His blood mankind hath bought. Nowell! Born is the King of Israel! Nowell! Nowell, Nowell, Nowell! Born is the King of Israel! Nowell!*

## First Presbyterian Church

[fpcbge@gmail.com](mailto:fpcbge@gmail.com) ~ [www.fpcbainbridge.com](http://www.fpcbainbridge.com) (Website)

200 East Shotwell Street ~ P.O. Box 7067 ~ Bainbridge, GA 39818 ~ (Mailing Address)

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Visit our Facebook pages:

First Presbyterian Church Bainbridge, GA and First Presbyterian Youth Group Bainbridge, GA

### Officers and Ministry Leaders

Treasurer	Elder Virginia Smith
Clerk to the Session	Elder Bud Holleman
Building & Grounds	Elders Dr. David Bryan, Mike Holt
Christian Education	Elders Bill Allen, David Kendrick
Fellowship & Nurture	Elder Peggy Shingler
Mission & Outreach	Elders Virginia Smith, David Wiggins
Personnel & Ministry Development	Elders Bob Glover, Dr. Angie Davis
Stewardship & Finance	Elder Steve Poitevint
Worship & Music	Elders Bill Allen, Mills Brock

### Church Staff

Interim Pastor	Rev. Stephen Webb
Office Manager	Cindy W. Markham
Choirmaster	Dr. Don Mobley
Pianist	Myra Williams
Nursery Director	Rhonda Gay
Janitorial Service	Blessings Cleaning-Elaine Smith
Dietitians	Beulah Handsford, Alice Stubbs

### Pastor Emeriti

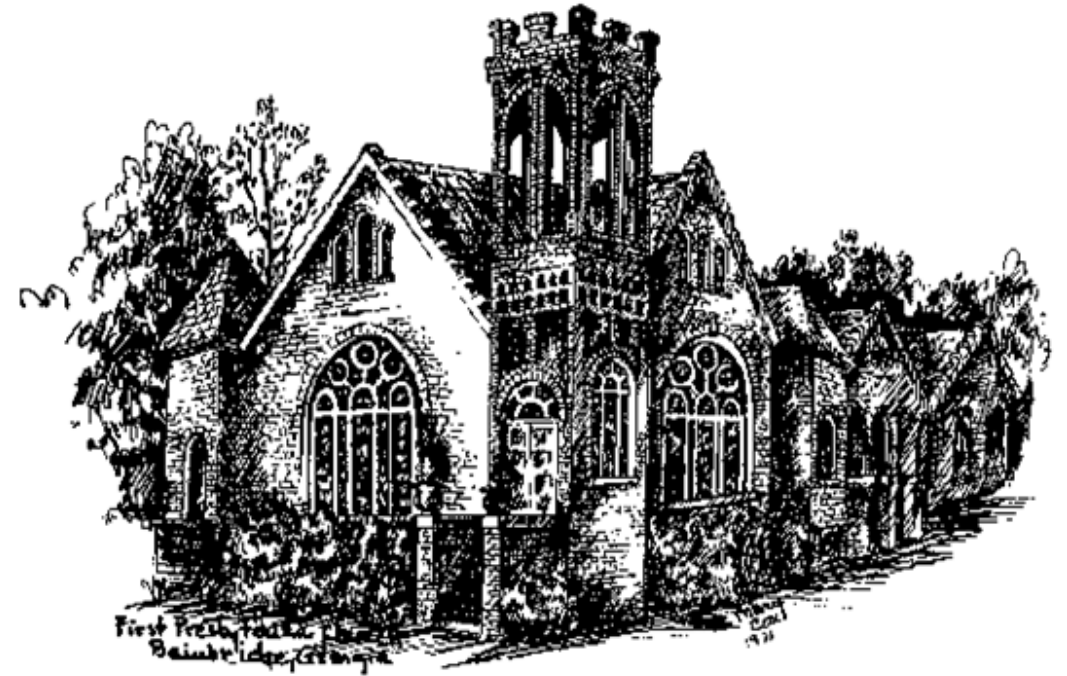
Dr. Albert L. Reese, Jr. ~ Dr. Gerald A. Little

### Elder Emeriti

Vera Custer ~ Jim Mitchell  
Dr. Gordon Miller ~ Ray Inman

### Our Corporation Officers:

CEO, Bill Allen ~ CFO, Virginia Smith ~ Secretary of Corporation, Bud Holleman



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Bainbridge, Georgia**  
**Service 10:30 a.m.**  
**December 24, 2023**

*This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.*

# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent/Christmas Eve

*Glorify God this day. Magnify the Lord with all your heart.*

*Sing praises to God who reigns above.*

*Glorify the Lord with gladness.*

**December 24, 2023**

Elder on Call ~ Mills Brock (229) 416-6136 ~ December 25-31, 2023

Liturgist ~ Kimm Powell

## Striking of the Hour

## Greetings and Announcements

### Prelude

*“Fantasia per Natale”* *Francesco Zane*  
*Vito Bell and Jeremy Perkins ~ trumpets*

### Introit # 271

*“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”*

## Call to Worship

**Kimm Powell**

L: Relatives conceive – one a barren woman, the other a young girl who no man has known.

**P: How can this be?**

L: With God, all things are possible.

**P: Our hearts beat with joy. Our lips sing of God’s glory.**

L: Let us magnify the Lord as we worship God this day.

## Prayer of Invocation

**Kimm Powell**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

**Tom, Nancy, Anna, and Katie Griffin**

### \* Carol # 277

*“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

### \* Congregational Prayer *(Unison)*

**Kimm Powell**

Come to us, Promised One, in this season of awaiting your arrival. Set our hearts ablaze with the glory of your salvation. Set our minds on fire with the richness of your Word. Reveal to us the secret of your ways; for you alone are wise, you alone are worthy of our thanks and praise. The secret that was kept quiet for so long has been revealed in Christ. All are loved and saved by the searching love of Christ. In Christ we pray. Amen.

### \* Carol # 278

*“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

## Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

**Rev. Stephen Webb**

### \* Carol for Mission # 279

*“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”*  
*(Please come forward and place your mission offering in the Mission Box in front of the Communion Table during the Hymn for Mission.)*

## Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

### Offertory

*“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”* *J. S. Bach*  
*Vito Bell and Jeremy Perkins ~ trumpets*

### \* Doxology # 815

*“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

## Prayer of Dedication

**Kimm Powell**

### Solo

*“The First Nowell”* *arr. Mack Wilberg*  
*Jake Armstrong ~ tenor*

## Scripture Reading

**Luke 1:26-38**

*(Pew Bible Pages 56 & 57 NT)*

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

*“Mary Didn’t Know”*

**Rev. Stephen Webb**

### \* The Apostles Creed ~ Traditional *(Unison)*

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 arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth at 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.

### \* Carol # 281

*“What Child Is This?”*

## Pastoral Benediction

### Postlude

*“Away in a Manger”* *James R. Murray*

*\*Those who are able please stand.*

NURSERY IS AVAILABLE – IF ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED, PLEASE ASK ONE OF OUR USHERS.

*If there is a pastoral need, you may contact Rev. Stephen Webb by phone @ 229-220-5591 or the church office.*