

FAIRFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 1, 2023

New Year's Day

Prelude

Little Drummer Boy

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

Go Tell it On the Mountain

The Greeting

Leader: Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

People: **You are the one true God who reigns forever.**

Opening Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Song

We Three Kings

Scripture Lesson(s)

2 Kings 23: 1-3

Psalm 50

1 Peter 1

John 15: 1-8

Song

A Peace Carol

The Proclamation

The Confession

Leader: We are those who seek to live as true disciples of Jesus Christ, but sometimes we fall short. Let us now examine ourselves before God, humbly confession our sins and submitting our hearts so that we do not deceive ourselves and cut ourselves away from God. Let us pray:

People: **Father God, You have set forth the way of life through Your Son Jesus Christ, whom You love dearly. We shamefully confess that we have been slow to learn of Him and have been reluctant to follow Him. You have spoken and called to us but we have not listened. You have revealed Your beauty to us, but we have been blind. You have stretched**

**out Your hands to us through our friends, but we have passed by them.
We have accepted Your gifts and offered little thanks.
We are unworthy of Your unchanging love.**

Leader: We now confess to you our sins.
Please forgive us for the poverty of our worship...
for the selfishness of our prayers...
for our inconsistency and unbelief...
for the ways we neglect fellowship and Your grace...
for our hesitation to tell others about Christ...
for the ways we deceive others...

People: Forgive us when we waste time and when we misuse the gifts you have given us. Forgive us for when we have made excuses for the wrong things we have done and when we have purposefully avoided responsibility.

Leader: Forgive us that we have been unwilling to overcome evil with good and that we have not been ready to carry our cross. Forgive us that we have not allowed Your love to work through us to help others and that we have not made their suffering our own. Forgive us for those times when instead of working for unity we made it hard for others to live with us because of our lack of forgiveness, inconsiderate judgment, and quick criticism.

People: Forgive us for when we have not tried to reconcile with others and when we have been slow to seek redemption.

Leader: Forgive us also for these sins that we silently confess to you now.

Words of Assurance and Pardon

Leader: God, the Father of all mercies, is faithful to cleanse us from our sins and restore us to Christ's image. Praise and glory be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen.

Song *Do You Hear What I Hear?*

The Invitation

Leader: Jesus Christ, we offer You this prayer:

People: Let me be Your servant. Let me follow your commands. I will no longer follow my own desires. I give myself completely to your will.

Leader: The power and strength to live as true servants is given to us in Christ. We accept the place and work that He gives us, acknowledging that He alone will be our reward.

People: I am not my own. I am Yours alone. Make me into what You will. Rank

me with those You will. Put me to use for You. Put me to suffering for You. Let me be employed for You. Let me be laid aside for You. Let me be lifted high for You. Let me be brought low for You. Let me be full or let me be empty. Let me have all things or let me have nothing. With a willing heart, I freely give everything to Your pleasure and disposal.

Leader: Christ is Savior to those who are His true servants. He is the source of all salvation to those who obey. To be His servant is to consent fully to His will. Christ accepts nothing less. Christ will be all in all, or he will be nothing...
... And last, be prepared to renew your covenant with God. Fall on your knees. Lift your hands. Open your hearts.

The Covenant Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together:

People: My righteous God, for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, see me now as I fall down before You. Forgive my unfaithfulness when I have not done your will. You promise mercy if I turn to You with my whole heart.

Leader: God requires that you rid yourself of every idol in your life.

People: From the bottom of my heart, I here and now renounce every idol in my life, covenanting with You that I will not commit any known sin. By turning against Your will I have turned my love toward the world. In Your power I will watch for any temptation that will lead me away from You.

Leader: Through Jesus Christ, God offers to be your God again, if you allow Him to be.

People: Before all heaven and earth, I here and now acknowledge You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as my Lord and God. I vow to give all of myself, body and soul, to be Your servant and to serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.

Leader: Jesus Christ is the only way and means to God. God has given us Jesus as the way and means to salvation.

People: Jesus, I here and now accept You as the only new and living Way. I join myself in covenant with You. I come to You hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked, unworthy even to wash the feet of Your servants. With all my power, I accept You as my Lord and Head. I renounce my own unworthiness, and vow that You are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom and take You for my only guide. I renounce my own will and take Your will as my law.

Leader: Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

People: Jesus, I here and now make this covenant with You and accept whatever

comes in life. Through Your grace I promise that neither life nor death will separate me from You.

Leader: God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

People: I here and now willingly take on Your yoke and burden. All Your laws are holy, just, and good. I accept them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions, promising I will strive to order my whole life around your direction. I will not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.

Leader: The Almighty God searches and knows you, even the thoughts of your heart.

People: O God, You know that we have made this covenant today in sincerity, without deceit or reluctance. If You find anything false in us, guide us and help us to set it right. And now, glory be to You, God the Father. From this day forward, I shall look upon You as my God and Father. Glory be to You, God the Son. You have loved me and washed me from my sins in Your own blood. From this day forward, I shall look upon You as my Savior and Redeemer. Glory be to You, O God the Holy Spirit. By Your almighty power, You ave turned my heart from sin to God. From this day forward shall look upon You as my Comforter and Guide. O mighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you have now become my Covenant Friend. And I, through Your infinite grace, have become Your covenant servant. You are mine and I am Yours. So be it. May this covenant that I have made here on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.

Song

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Dismissal with Blessing

Leader: May our God, who establishes covenant relationship with those who seek to enter the Kingdom, be with you always. May Jesus Christ, who seals the new covenant with his blood on the cross, bring you peace. May the Holy Spirit guide your life both now and for ever. Go in peace to serve the Lord!

People: Amen!

Welcome! We begin worship and this new year as we always live: in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We thank our **Men's Quartet** for their wonderful music this morning. The quartet is made up of: Randy Green, A. T. Scruggs, Dennis Byrd and Jerry Williamson.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Becky Clark

Myra Compton

Merrilyn Jones

Joyce Nuckols

Helen Rigsby

Gene Rosen's niece, Tracy

Mike Shaner

Joan Sprinkle

Herta Wenninger

All who serve our nation here and abroad

There is no Nursery Care this morning.

MCEF Collection is today. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please write MCEF in the memo part of your check and mark it on the offering envelope as well.

Are you ready to play pickleball? Come out and play or learn to play Monday night in the Family Center from 5:30-7:30pm. We have 3 courts set up so everyone gets a turn!

The Prayer Shawl Knitting Group will meet this coming **Wednesday, January 4th** at 10:00am in the Barlow Parlor. Come work on a shawl or your own personal project. If you don't know how to knit, the ladies will teach you. Contact Anna Barrowclough (804-730-3143) if you have any questions.

The January newsletter is online! Go to our website www.fairfieldpcusa.org and check it out.

Interested in joining Fairfield? We'd love to talk to you! Call the church office between 9:30am - 3:30pm, Monday - Thursday to talk to one of our ministers.

THIS WEEK'S CHURCH MEETINGS & EVENTS

Jan. 1	Combined Worship Service (sanctuary)	10:30am
	New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center)	11:00am
Jan. 2	Church Office closed	
	Pickleball (Family Center)	5:30-7:30pm
	AA Group (#29)	6:00pm
	Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	6:00pm
Jan. 3	Deacon's Meeting (#20)	7:00pm
Jan. 4	Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor)	10:00am
	AA Group (#29)	6:00-8:00pm
	Pilates Class (Heritage Hall)	6:00pm
	Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary)	7:00pm
	Praise Band Practice (Family Center)	8:00pm
Jan. 5	C.A.P. (Family Center)	6:30-9:30pm
	Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	7:00pm
Jan. 7	Communion Set-up (small kitchen)	
	New Beginnings Choir Practice (#14)	12:30-1:30pm