

**Southold Presbyterian Church  
First Sunday after Christmas Day  
December 31, 2017 10:00 AM**

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**Tower Bells**

**WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

**The Gathering**

*(The Worship Service begins with the prelude. Let us silently prepare our hearts and allow others the same opportunity.)*

**Prelude** Carillon on Ding Dong! Merrily on High Callahan

**\*Call To Worship**

One: For God to become a baby he had to squeeze himself into a small space.

**All: Confine himself into a fallible body.**

One: Restrict himself to humanity.

**All: Reduce himself to limited movements.**

One: Become weak and vulnerable.

**All: Rely on humans to take care of him.**

One: For Christ to become one of us he had to be born like us.

**All: The light was hidden within the womb.**

One: The bread of life had to learn how to eat.

**All: The one who holds us, first had to be held.**

One: The Lover was loved.

**All: The Way had to learn to walk.**

One: The Word had to learn to speak.

**All: The Teacher was taught.**

One: The Creator how to create.

**All: With gratitude and joy, let us worship God!**

**\*Hymn** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" No. 8

**Prayer of Confession** *(Please Be Seated)*

Loving God, we confess that ours is still a world in which Herod seems to rule: the powerful are revered, the visions of the wise are ignored, the poor are afflicted, and the innocent are killed. You show us that salvation comes in the vulnerability of a child, yet we hunger for the "security" of weapons and walls. Forgive us, God, when we look to the palace instead of the stable, when we heed politicians more than prophets. Renew us with the spirit of Bethlehem, that we may be better prepared for your coming. In Christ we pray, amen.

**Prayer of Confession** (In Silence)

**Hymn** "You Are The Lord Giver Of Mercy" (See Insert)

**The Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Gloria Patri** (No. 579)

**\*The Peace**

Leader: God sent the world the only Son. Because God loves us so much, we are able to love one another.

People: **LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER, SINCE LOVE COMES FROM GOD.**

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

(Greet those about you, sharing signs of peace and reconciliation)

**WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

**Old Testament Lesson** Psalm 148 (Blue Bible p. 550; Black Bible p. 582)

**Hymn** “This Is the Day” *“This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made, that the Lord hath made. We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day that the Lord hath made, we will rejoice and be glad in it. This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made.”*

**A Time For Children** “Jesus Loves Me”( No. 304) as children & leaders leave for Sunday School  
*Nursery is Available for young children*

**New Testament Lesson** Luke 2: 22-40 (Blue Bible p. 55; Black Bible p.59)

### **WE RESPOND IN FAITH**

**Sermon Title:** “Christmas/New Year Thoughts” The Rev. Ralph B. Wright, Jr.

**\*Hymn** “Jesus Calls Us, O’er The Tumult” (see insert)

**\*Affirmation Of Faith**

One: The God whom we worship calls us to discipleship.

**All: To follow where Christ leads;**

One: to obey what Christ commands;

**All: to follow when it is not easy;**

One: to follow when others think us foolish;

**All: to follow where justice leads;**

One: to follow where love guides us;

**All: to follow even when it leads to the cross. For we follow One who loves us and leads us and promises to never let us go! Amen.**

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

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory** Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts Saint-Seans arr. Bish

**\*Doxology (#592) and Prayer of Dedication**

### **WE GO FORTH TO SERVE IN GOD’S NAME**

**\*Hymn** “Come, Thou Almighty King” **No. 139**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Postlude** Glory to God in the Highest Pergolesi arr. Bish

\*(Those who are able may stand.)

Liturgist: Linda Fasbach  
Music Team: Kim Palermo-Bogardus and Mary Mraz  
Ushers: Terry Gonzales and Betty Kiernan  
Greeters: Ken and Barbara Poliwoda

***For those worshipping with children under the age of 3, our downstairs Nursery is a clean, safe space and is staffed with a qualified and trained Nursery Care Giver. Ask an Usher or Greeter for instructions.***

**We Welcome back to the pulpit** The Reverend Ralph B. Wright, Jr. Rev Wright is honorably retired, having most recently served as pulpit supply for the Community Presbyterian Church of Merrick, the pastor of the Remsenburg Community Church (Presbyterian), the First Presbyterian Church of East Moriches and the Yaphank Presbyterian Church. He presently serves on the Budget Committee and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Task Force of the Presbytery of LI. Most of Pastor Ralph’s ministry has been that of a Tentmaker, namely serving as a church while being employed in a secular occupation.

**First Sunday for Food** – please remember those in need by bringing non-perishable food to church with you on the First Sunday of each month.

### **THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

TODAY 11:00 AM Fellowship Time  
MON., Church Office Closed  
TUES., 10:00 AM Prayer Group

	12:30 PM	AA Meets in the 1836 Manse
WED.,	6:00 PM	Maureen's Haven
THURS.,	7:00 PM	Board of Deacons
FRI.,	6:00 PM	Overeaters Anonymous
SAT.,	10:30 AM	Women's AA Meeting
SUN.,	9:00 AM	Bible Time – Genesis 1: 1-5; Ps. 29; Acts 19: 1-7; Mark 1: 4-11

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated next on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of Southold!** Our identity can be seen in our most recent vision statement: *"We rejoice in the variety of talents, experience, and concerns each individual brings to this congregation through the Holy Spirit. We will gain strength from this diversity as we strive to be nurturing, relevant, and vibrant disciples of Jesus Christ."* If you would like more information about our church, please indicate this in the Attendance Registration. Rev. Kelley or one of the members of the Church Growth Committee will be glad to speak with you.

**In Times Of** illness or need, please inform the Church Staff. It is not safe to assume that they will hear of it any other way. Privacy laws make it difficult for us to "find you" in hospitals; in the event of a hospitalization, please give the information to Jan or Carol in the office (765-2597).

**WANTED: New or VERY Gentle Used Warm Clothing**  
(sizes L, XL and XXL) mostly men

**The First Presbyterian Church Family is once again participating in Midnight Run to help feed and clothe NYC's homeless. We need coats, sweatshirts, hats, gloves, scarves, warm socks and blankets. All donations can be dropped off in the CE Building up until January 12<sup>th</sup>. Midnight Run: An Act of Justice. An Act of Sharing**

**Price Increase for Cemetery Plots**

The price of a plot for two in the Cemetery will increase from \$1,400 to \$2,000, effective January 1, 2018. Plots may be purchased in installments. Plot prices have not been raised for almost a decade, and the new price is needed to maintain the Cemetery's high standard of perpetual care. It will be in keeping with prices charged by other North Fork cemeteries. The Cemetery will always buy back a plot at the original purchase price.

The Memorial Section, which is the easternmost part of the Cemetery, is the only section that now has plots for sale. It lies just to the east of the Cemetery's entrance road. Its gravestones are laid flat, creating a meadow-like appearance.

The price of a niche in one of the columbaria remains the same at \$1,350. A niche holds two urns for cremated remains. To purchase a plot or to ask questions, stop by the Church Office or call (631) 765-2597. The email address is [fpcsouthold@optonline.net](mailto:fpcsouthold@optonline.net). Thank you, Jane Andrews, Cemetery Director (for the Cemetery Committee)