**Frenchtown Presbyterian Church**

908-996-2227

Email: office@frenchtownpres.org

 Website: www.frenchtownpres.org

**Worship Service** 9:30AM

**Session (Elders)**

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| --- | --- |
| **Building and Grounds** | **Mission and Outreach** |
| Paul Pfisterer 267-884-6198 | Maureen Breiner 908-235-8431 |
| John Fiebig 908-996-6436 | Jennifer Campbell 908-502-2575 |
| Carl Stokes 215-429-1010 |  |
| **Christian Ed**Tonya Reese 908-310-9240  | **Worship & Music**Kathy SkerbetzFran Volski 908-625-0974 |
|  | Bill Penyak 908-625-6575Jennifer Griffith 908-625-2943  |
| **Personnel** | **Clerk of Session** |
| Bill Penyak 908-625-6575 | Kathy Skerbetz 908-720-6533 |
| Dave Griffith 908-693-0405Bernard Volski 908-797-9807 |  |
|  |  |

**Board of Deacons**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Benevolence** | **Shut-ins and Long-Term illness** |
| Ken Gerhardt 908-310-1884 |  |
| **Short-Term illness** | **Bereavement** |
| Carole Barrett 908-419-7082 | Carole Barrett 908-419-7082 |
|  |  |
| **Hospitality** |  |
| Sharon Beck 908-752-3822 |  |
|  |  |

**Church Staff**

**Pastor** pastormerideth@gmail.com

Rev. Dr. Merideth Mueller-Bolton 1-609-303-0500

**Church Secretary Financial Manager**

Lea Raymond 908-996-2227 Mary Ann Hampton 908-996-2227 office@frenchtownpres.org finance@frenchtownpres.org

**Treasurer Music Director**

Nick Barrett 908-996-2227 Josh Wilson 610-393-8670

 pianomanjosh@117@gmail.com

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**FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**December 11, 2022 - Third Sunday of Advent**

**Welcome to all who worship with us this morning!**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Advent Candle Lighting

Introit Hymn#137 vs 1 “He Came Down”

 *He came down that we may have joy;*

*he came down that we may have joy;*

*he came down that we may have joy;*

*Hallelujah forevermore.*

 **God Gathers Us in Love**

Call to Worship

 Leader: The God who speaks comfort to us calls us here.

**People: The God who addresses us with tenderness meets us here.**

Leader: The God who guides us with gentleness cares for us here.

**People: We come to prepare a way for the Lord.**

Leader: We come to ready ourselves for the transformation of our lives.

**People: For the glory of the Lord will be revealed,**

**and all people will see it.**

\*Hymn #100 “My Soul Cries”

Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison)

 **God of tenderness and love, breathe your grace into our lives. Forgive our wandering ways, and guide us along your**

 **paths of peace. When we lose our way and forget the reason**

 **and purpose of this season, carry us back to you. Lead us up to that high mountain of faith and hope, that we might truly proclaim: "Here is our God!" In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

\*Passing of the Peace

\*Gloria Patri #113 (refrain) “Angels We Have Heard on High”

**God Speaks to Us Through God’s Word**

Scripture 1 Corinthians 2:12-16

\*Hymn #90 (Psalm 27) “Wait for the Lord”

Scripture Matthew 7:7-14

Sermon “The Giver’s Heart”

**God Calls Us to Respond**

Choral Anthem “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

\*Doxology – Hymn #108 v.6 “Of the Father's Love Begotten”

\* Prayer of Dedication

**\*** Affirmation of Faith for Advent (by N. Nettleton)

**We believe in God, creator and lover of the earth, origin**

**and destiny of us all.**

**We believe in Jesus the Christ— God coming to us in the**

**fragile promise of a baby yet unborn—**

**who emerges as the herald of hope, God's laughter in the**

**face of despair. Plunged into death and hell, he broke free**

**the captives, and is leading the way to the land of promise**

**where justice and peace will flourish.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who implants the seed of**

**truth, brings us to birth as the body of Christ, and empowers**

**us to confront and transform all that is corrupt, degrading**

**and deceitful.**

**We believe in the coming reign of God. Announced by the**

**Baptist, it has drawn near to us in Jesus, and will be**

**consummated in the glorious marriage of earth and heaven,**

**when all who have passed through the world's deep sorrow**

**will be raised from the waters, robed in righteousness, and**

**gathered into the joyous fulfillment of God's desire.**

**For the coming of that day on this day, we work and pray:**

 **Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

 God of our salvation, **hear our Prayer**.

**God Sends Us Out to Reflect God’s Love**

\*Hymn #82 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Charge and Blessing

Benediction “While We Are Waiting, Come”

Postlude “To a Maid Whose Name was Mary”

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**Christmas Eve Services**

Christmas Eve Services will be a 5:30pm

Family Service & 8pm Traditional Candlelight Service

Christmas Day will be an online service. (more info coming)

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We are a body of believers in Jesus Christ the Lord that strives to be a living reflection of God’s love. We come together to confirm our individual faith while spreading the message of hope and love by serving those in need through mission and outreach.

**NEWS AND EVENTS**

**EVENTS DURING THE WEEK – Dec. 12-18**

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

 AA Meeting 6:30am

 Senior Program, 11:15am

 Card Games, 2-4pm in Fellowship Hall

 AA Meeting, 8pm

**Wednesday**

 AA Meeting 7:30pm

**Thursday**

 AA Meeting 6:30am

 Chancellor choir rehearsal 7:30-9pm.

 Food Pantry meeting, 2pm at the church

 Blood Drive, 2-7pm

**Friday**

 Alanon Meeting 12-1pm

**Saturday**

 Saturday Women's AA Group Meeting 9am

 AA Meeting 7pm

**Next Sunday**

 Cantata, 1pm

 Monthly Breakfast

**Poinsettia Orders**

Last call to order Poinsettia’s for the Christmas Season. Red or White plants available for $9.00 per plant. Placed in memory of, in honor of, or to the Glory of God. Orders due TODAY. Order forms are available at the back of the sanctuary. Call the church office if you have any questions.

**Book club**

The book club that was scheduled to meet on December 5th has been postponed until January 9th at 1pm downstairs in the church.  The books the will be discussing are "3 Sisters" by Heather Morris and "Eternal" by Lisa Scottoline.

**Christmas Cantata**

Join us on Sunday December 18th at 1pm for a musical celebration of the Christmas story by Lloyd Larson, “The Glory of Christmas.” This is a fun cantata that tells the Christmas story through music featuring favorite carols and some original music

This is a free event. Refreshments will be served after.

Help with finger food snacks would be greatly appreciated.

**Blood Drive**

Blood Drive this Thursday, December 15th from 2-7pm at the church.

Appointments are preferred. Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor keyword: FrenchtownPresby.