

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
DECEMBER 31, 2023
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
10:00 A.M. (CHAPEL)

*Please stand if you are able.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity. Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GREETING Charles Qualls

PRELUDE *In Greatest Joy* J.S. BACH
Will Viverette, organist/pianist

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Travis Felts

Praise the Lord in the heavens; praise God with the hosts on high!

Praise the Lord, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!

Praise the Lord from earth to sky, for God commanded, and all was created.

**The name of the Lord alone is exalted,
and God's splendor covers heaven and earth!**

INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER Travis Felts

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as
we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*HYMN 94 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* REGENT SQUARE

RESPONSIVE READING 679 Birth Travis Felts

PASTORAL PRAYER Charles Qualls

*HYMN 96 *Good Christian Men, Rejoice* IN DULCI JUBILO

OFFERTORY *I Saw Three Ships, Var. 3* JASON PAYNE
Will Viverette, organist/pianist

*DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him, above ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Charles Qualls

SCRIPTURE READING Revelation 21:1-6 Charles Qualls
Pew Bible New Testament, Page 259
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Hopes and Fears of All the Years Charles Qualls

*HYMN 86 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* ST. LOUIS
(v. 1, 3, 4)

*BENEDICTION Charles Qualls

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

The hopes and fears, of all the years, are met in thee tonight.

*POSTLUDE *I Saw Three Ships, Var. 2* JASON PAYNE
Will Viverette, organist/pianist

PRAYER CONCERNS

Jim Briggs, Gerald Roberts,

Please remember to keep our community leaders in your prayers.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 31

Worship 10:00 am Chapel

Monday, January 1

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 2

Vision Oversight Committee 10:00 am Conference Room

AA Group 7:00 pm Community Room

Wednesday, January 3

NA Group 7:30 pm Community Room

Thursday, January 4

High Street Seniors 10:00 am Fellowship Hall



Save the Date!

The Vision Oversight Committee will be presenting a candidate for Associate Pastor-Music the first weekend of January. We hope that you will mark your calendar and plan to attend a meet and greet reception on Saturday, January 6th at 2:00 PM and the worship service on January 7th.

There will be a called business meeting after the worship service to vote on the candidate. We feel confident that you will be as happy as we are about our candidate. Thank you for your prayer support during this search process.



208 North High Street, Franklin, Virginia 23851
757-562-5135

www.franklinbaptist.org



EVERY MEMBER A MINISTER

Dr. Charles. L. Qualls, *Senior Pastor*

William R. Viverette, *Organist/Pianist*

Sharon James, *Associate Pastor/Education Emeritus*

Steven R. Gibson, *Associate Pastor/Music Emeritus*

Franklin Baptist Church – December 31, 2023

Welcome Guests

We are always grateful to welcome guests who worship with us! Please complete the brief information card found in the pew rack, directly in front of you and place it in the offering plate.

Church Offerings

Help our church remain vital by continuing to give. Gifts can be made online on our website at franklinbaptist.org/onlinegiving or mail your offering to the church. Thank you for your faithful and generous support!



Year-End Contributions

In compliance with IRS regulations, all contributions for 2023 must be **received by December 31, 2023**. Any contributions received after that day will be posted to 2024. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Anyone interested in donating stock to the church prior to the end of the year may use our accounts at Wells Fargo or Edward Jones in Franklin. If you have any questions, please call Bill Howell at 757-650-8893.



Christmas Mailbox

Don't forget to check for your mail! The "post office" in the narthex will **be available until January 2nd!**

Altar Flowers for 2024

As 2024 is quickly approaching, you can now contact the church office if you would like to reserve Altar flowers beginning in January. Each Sunday, the beauty of our Sanctuary shines through our livestreamed service and flowers on the Altar table. You can honor or remember a family member or friend by placing flowers on the Altar table. To reserve your preferred date, simply call the church office to be added to the Sunday Flower List.

Franklin Cooperative Ministry

Franklin Cooperative Ministry is in need of the following items: Toothpaste, lotion, deodorant and winter gloves (all sizes, all genders).

Wednesday Activities

All Wednesday activities will resume again on **January 10th**. See you then!

Faith on Draft Is On A Break

We'll be back in January for our usual monthly session at the Village. Mark your calendar now for **January 25th!**

Holiday Office Hours

The church office will be closed on **Monday, January 1st** for New Year's. Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

UPCOMING JANUARY EVENTS

- | | |
|------------|---|
| January 6 | Meet and Greet Reception for the Associate Pastor-Music Candidate – 2:00 PM, Fellowship Hall |
| January 7 | Presentation of Associate Pastor-Music Candidate 11:00 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary |
| January 10 | All Wednesday Activities Resume: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Bible Study• Dinner• Evening Bible Study• Choir Rehearsal |
| January 14 | Deacon Ordination and Installation |

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