



First Presbyterian Church

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The mission of historic First Church is to bring diverse people of metropolitan Buffalo together to follow Jesus Christ through worshipping God, fostering spiritual growth, and serving the community.

EPIPHANY SUNDAY JANUARY 5, 2014

*Wherever ♦ appears, you are asked to stand if you are able to do so.
Text in **bold print** indicates congregational responses.*

PRELUDE

Prelude on *Slane*

Craig Phillips

♦CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

In the beginning, was the Word,

and the Word was with God, and the Word was God

The Word became flesh and lived among us,

and we have seen his glory.

♦PRAYER OF THE DAY (*responsive*)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:

Giving God, you have adopted us as your children, sisters and brothers of your beloved, Jesus Christ. Empower us to be holy and blameless witnesses to your glorious reign of peace and love now come into this world. **Amen.**

♦HYMN 68

“What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright”

Puer Nobis Nascitur

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God-with-us, we confess that we have not embraced your love. Christ has come into the world, and yet we do not know him. He has called us to be his own, and yet we do not accept him. Forgive us, loving God. Show us your grace and truth until we know in fullness good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Amen.**

◇CANTICLE

“Glory to the Father”

Richard Wetzel

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as in the beginning, so now, and forever. Amen.**

◇PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING: Matthew 2:1-23

NT page 2

ANTHEM

The Little Door

Herbert Howells

Here is the little door. Lift up the latch; O lift! We need not wander more, but enter with our gift. A gift of finest Gold, Gold that was never bought nor sold; Myrrh to be strewn about his bed; Incense in clouds about his head; all for the Child who stirs not in his sleep, but Holy slumber holds with ass and sheep. Bend low about his bed: for each he has a gift! See how his eyes awake--lift up your hands! O lift! For Gold he gives a keen-edged sword (defend with it thy little Lord)! For incense, smoke of battle red. Myrrh for the honoured happy dead. Gifts for his children, terrible and sweet, Touched by such tiny hands and oh! such tiny feet.
—Frances Chesterson

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10-18

NT page 219

SERMON

“Made Like His Brothers”

Rev. Bryan Powell

◇HYMN 411

“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

Festal Song

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY

Ave Verum Corpus

Franz Liszt

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, who having truly suffered, was sacrificed on the cross for mankind, whose pierced side flowed with water and blood: May it be for us a foretaste [of the Heavenly banquet] in the trial of death. O sweet Jesus, O pious Jesus, O Jesus, son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.

◇DOXOLOGY 591

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

◇PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LORD’S PRAYER (*unison*)

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OFFICERS



SESSION AND TRUSTEES BY CLASS AND TERM

Clerk of Session

Janet Hill

Class of 2014

Mark Armesto (T) (1)
John Darby (T) (2)
Lauren Hill (T) (2)
Marv Riegler (2)
Erica Wichtowski (1)

Class of 2015

Jean Hess (2)
Tim Hess (1)
Janet Hill (2)
Don Houck (T) (2)
Susan Koeppel (1)
Virginia McIntyre (1)

Class of 2016

Ian Bradford (T) (2)
Mike Henry (T) (2)
Stephanie Smith (1)
Ryan Nadbrzuch (T) (1)
Maria Oakley (1)

BOARD OF DEACONS BY CLASS AND TERM

Class of 2014

Pat Brown (1)
Russell Carlson (2)
Mary Field (2)
Karen Frieder (2)
Olga Rico-Armesto (1)
Lou Ann Luther Riegler (1)

Class of 2015

Eleanor Kamke (1)
Liz Kamke (1)
Tina Osei (1)
Judith Paradzai (2)
Phil Sims (2)
Denis Wettlaufer (2)

Class of 2016

Jackie Addo (1)
Cleo Alexander (2)
Mark Juan Armesto (2)
José Gomez (2)
Gifty Koramoah (1)
Ken Madell (2)



(T) indicates that the Elder has also been nominated or elected to serve as a Trustee while on Session.

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, January 5	<i>Epiphany Sunday</i>
11:00 a.m.	Worship & Communion, Rev. Bryan Powell preaching — Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.	Fellowship Time — Narthex
Monday, January 6	Building Closed
Tuesday, January 7	
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting — Pastor's Study
12:30 p.m.	Food Bag Assistance — Historical Hall
4:30 p.m.	Literacy Tutoring — Chapel
5:30 p.m.	Worship & Music Committee Meeting — Pastor's Study
5:30 p.m.	Membership Committee Meeting — Historical Hall
7:00 p.m.	Lands & Buildings Committee Meeting — Historical Hall
Wednesday, January 8	
1:00 p.m.	Bible Study — Pastor's Study
4:30 p.m.	Literacy Tutoring — Chapel, CE Wing, & Nursery
5:45 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting — Pastor's Study
Thursday, January 9	
7:30 p.m.	One Symphony Circle Board Meeting — Historical Hall
7:30 p.m.	CMO Committee Meeting — SPoT Coffee Hertel
Friday, January 10	No events
Saturday, January 11	No events
Sunday, January 12	
9:30 a.m.	Adult Christian Education — Pastor's Study
11:00 a.m.	Worship, Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings preaching — Sanctuary
11:15 a.m.	Sunday school — CE Wing
12:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hour — Narthex
12:15 p.m.	Discussion Meeting re: Village Church — Chapel
12:30 p.m.	Board of Deacons Meeting — Historical Hall

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. Help us who have shared Christ's body and received his cup, to be his faithful disciples so that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

◇HYMN 420 "God of Grace and God of Glory" *Cwm Rhondda*
 ◇CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
 POSTLUDE Fanfare *Kenneth Leighton*

FIRST CHURCH STAFF LIST

The Reverend Dr. Philip S. Gittings , <i>Interim Pastor</i> RevPhil@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 13 / Cell: 548-0466	Christina Banas , <i>Business Manager</i> CBanas@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 11
The Reverend John Long, D.D. , <i>Parish Associate for Community Outreach</i> johnrlong17@verizon.net	Quinton Meyer , <i>Volunteer Assoc. for Pastoral Care</i> meyer405@aol.com / Cell:909-2259
Dr. David Bond , <i>Organist/Choirmaster, Bookkeeper</i> DBond@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 17	Liz Kamke , <i>Outreach Assistant</i>
Jason Bravo , <i>Contemporary Musician</i>	Tom Hollfelder , <i>Custodian/Security Guard</i> Church Office Voicemail extension 10 email@firstchurchbuffalo.org Weddings Voicemail extension 15 weddings@firstchurchbuffalo.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2014

Today's Liturgist is Marv Riegle.

Today's acolytes are Case Darby and Kofi Osei.

The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of our parents, Elizabeth and Frederick Neuschel, who provided us with unconditional love and support, by Faith Burke, Joan Dana and Frederick Neuschel, Jr.

Today we welcome Rev. Bryan Powell to preach and lead worship. First Church is providing a neutral pulpit for a sister congregation seeking to call a pastor.

Welcome to all visitors— you have a friend at First Church! If you would like to learn more about our diverse, welcoming faith community, please speak to a Deacon after worship.

If you have a prayer request to include during Prayers of the People, please use one of the blue prayer cards available in the Narthex or by asking a Deacon. Please write neatly and give your card to a Deacon.

TODAY IS FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

Communion Sundays are designated "Food Pantry Sunday." Donations of canned goods can be placed in the shopping cart that will be near the chancel. Monetary donations to the Lyon Food Pantry are also appreciated. First Church feeds an average of 20 hungry people every Tuesday, right here in our neighborhood. This is an opportunity for hands-on mission that helps many. Thank you!

PLEDGE ENVELOPES

2014 pledge envelopes for those who requested them are available for pickup in the Narthex. Generic envelopes in the pews may always be used for a donation.

JAN/FEB NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

A newsletter for the months of January and February will be issued the week of January 14th. **The deadline for this issue is Tuesday, January 7th.** Please submit articles to Christina Banas.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book group will meet on **Thursday, January 23rd** at 6:00 p.m. for a pot luck meal, and discuss the book A Visit from the Goon Squad by Jennifer Egan. The gathering will be at Karen Stephenson's (52 Bondcroft, Eggertsville).

HELP FEED THE HUNGRY

Join us on **Wednesday, January 29 at 4:30 p.m.** to serve meals to the hungry at Friends of Night People (corner of Wadsworth and Hudson). Wear First Church gear if you have it! Sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Sponsored by the CMO Committee.

WINTER GLOVES & HATS

Donations of new and gently used hats and gloves are being collected for our food pantry patrons. Donations may be left in the basket on the stairs in the chancel. Thank you!

VILLAGE CHURCH

We are excited to announce that beginning in February of 2014, 202 years after our founding, we will be honoring our history as the mother of churches. Village Church will be leasing worship and community space from First Church. We are enthused that we are able to support this growing spiritual community. We feel it fits our mission to "bring diverse people of metropolitan Buffalo together to follow Jesus Christ by worshipping God, fostering spiritual growth, and serving the community." We are blessed with this space and blessed to offer it.

While it will entail some minor changes to our habits, this is part of the plan of growing the congregation and becoming the spiritual body that we strive to be. **The Session will be available to discuss the coming changes and answer any questions or concerns in open forum meetings following worship on January 12th and January 19th.**

NURSERY CARE

Nursery care is provided Sundays during worship at First Church and is designed to serve infants and toddlers ages birth through 4 years old, their parents and the church as a whole. After the Children's Message, little ones are invited to the nursery where there are many stimulating toys to explore and other children the same age to socialize with. Our nursery caretakers will provide your child with quality care and teach them about God's love.

Children of Sunday School age, who are 3 and older, are invited to join us for Sunday School in the CE classrooms. For the first fifteen minutes, children will stay with their parents in worship. After the Children's Sermon, we will walk as a group up to the Sunday School classrooms. Parents are asked to come to the CE Wing at the close of worship to pick up their children and go together to fellowship hour.

On communion Sundays, all children will stay in worship with their parents for the duration of the service.

By providing loving care for the children, we are helping them form the impression that church is a pleasant place to be where people love them!