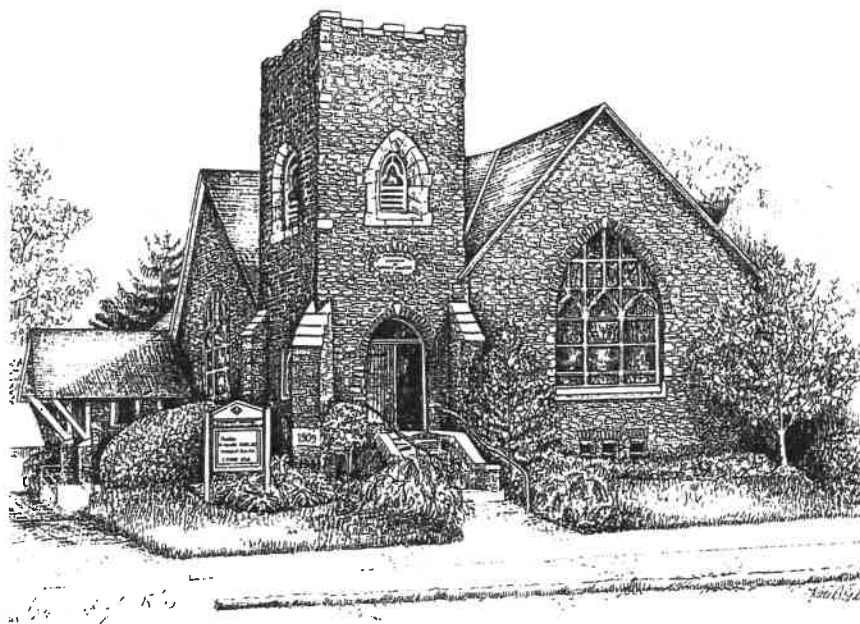


The Presbyterian Church of Kennett Square



**December 7th, 2025
10:30 a.m.**

Taste and see that the Lord is good! Psalm 34:8

For Reflection

“As our Lord Jesus tells us, unless we see the light of God clearly, what we call light is actually darkness: “how great is that darkness!”—Fleming Rutledge.



Act 1: Creation

Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship: Isaiah 60:1-3

Leader:

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.

People:

**And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Hymn: "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry"

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh.
Awake and harken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!

2 Then cleansed be every life from sin:
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.

3 We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward.
Without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.

4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more.
O let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.

5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Prayer of Adoration



Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O Christ, our light and our life, we confess with your word, "The light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed" (Jn. 3:19–20).

We confess the many ways that we have walked in darkness and have hidden ourselves from your brightness. Let not our hearts grow dim with fear and pride. Shine upon us, not because we are worthy but because your mercy is greater than our darkness. Expose what is broken within us and, by your Spirit, turn us back to you, so that we might walk in the light of your presence, clothed in your righteousness.

Silent Confession

Prayer Response: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Hymnal #120
(remain seated)

O Come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

Refrain:
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.



Act 3: Redemption God covers us with Grace

Assurance of Pardon: John 8:2

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Thanks be to God!

Greet One Another and Pass the Peace of Christ

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Moment For Mission: Advent Conspiracy

Storykeepers Prayer

Leader: What is our hope for these children?

People: That they would know the love of Jesus Christ, trust in his promise, and walk in his ways all their days.

57 Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. 58 And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. 59 And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have called him Zechariah after his father, 60 but his mother answered, "No; he shall be called John." 61 And they said to her, "None of your relatives is called by this name." 62 And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. 63 And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And they all wondered. 64 And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. 65 And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea, 66 and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Sent by the Light

Hymn: "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Hymnal #121

1 Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

2 Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.



Act 4: Renewal: God communes with us

The Lord's Supper

Behold the Light

We look to the Light, our life and our salvation

Behold the Lamb

We look to the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world

(The Communion Bread is gluten free.)

Prayers for Those Not Taking Communion

Prayer for Faith: God, in my places of pain, give me your song; in my places of darkness, give me your light; in my places of unbelief, give me faith. Help my unbelief and help me see. Amen.

Prayer Amid Habitual Sin: God, if I have given myself over to sin, making a home for it, please kick the door down and clean my heart. Please forgive me for ways I've sinned against you, others and myself. Free me. I want life, freedom, and the joy of victory. Only through Jesus is this possible. Amen.

Prayer of Belief: Lord Jesus Christ, I accept that I am weaker and more sinful than I dare to admit, but through you I am loved more than I ever dared hope. Thank you for dying for me, taking my place and offering me forgiveness. You've been raised from the dead, so I turn to you, my Redeemer. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer (All)

Heavenly Father, we come to you with thanksgiving for the gift of your presence with us. The bread and the cup testify that you draw near to us by your Spirit. As we share this meal, remind us that the light has come into the world. Shine your light into the dark places of our hearts. Cleanse us from every sin that clings to us. Strengthen our faith as we feed on Christ by faith. Shape us to reflect your Son, so that our lives may bear faithful witness to him and that we might walk as children of light.

Prayer of Intercession

Offering

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

In the Life of the Church

- **Corporate Prayer for Advent** - We will be gathering during the Adult Sunday school hour to pray during Advent.
- **Reverse Advent Calendar** - PCKS, in collaboration with other churches in Kennett, is supporting KACS by organizing a special food collection. Kindly bring your weekly donations to church each Sunday in Advent and place them on the bench in the parlor. Thank you!
- **Advent Conspiracy** - Each Sunday in Advent, an MPC member will highlight one of PCKS's missions that require additional support to fulfill its goals. This year's featured missions are: The Garage Community & Youth Centers, Joyful Hearts Children Ministries, and Creative Hands/Imbali.
- **Christ and Cookies** - We will be having a Christmas event with carols and a cookie exchange on December 14th from 12:30-2pm in the Gilmor room. Please bring two dozen cookies to participate in the cookie exchange.
- **Christmas Eve Service** - The traditional lessons and carols service will be at 7pm on December 24th.

Hymn: "As Sons of the Day and Daughters of Light"

1 As sons of the day and
daughters of light,
no longer we sleep like creatures
of night:
for Jesus has died that with him
we may live;
by all he has given, we learn how
to give.

3 Be constant in prayer, at all
times rejoice,
in all things give thanks - let God
hear your voice!
Alive to his Spirit, alert to the
word,
test all things, and hold to what
pleases the Lord.

2 One body in Christ, let all play
their part:
the lazy be warned, the timid take
heart;
let those who are hurt never pay
back with wrong,
but serve one another: together
be strong!

4 May God who first called, gave
peace and made whole,
preserve us from fault in body
and soul;
our Lord Jesus Christ keep us
firm in his grace
until at his coming we meet face
to face.

Benediction

Prayer Ministry is available in the sanctuary after the service.

Please join us for refreshments in the parlor!

Growth Groups

If you're not currently a part of a growth group, but have interest in learning more, feel free to reach out to the growth group leaders mentioned below.

All are welcome!

- **Sandy Meyer's Growth Group** will be studying and discussing the book of Deuteronomy using a 12-week study by Matthew H. Patton. Our usual dates for gathering together will be the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month, 1-2:30 p.m. If you have any questions, you may contact Sandy at 610-357-0443.
- **Barbara Handy's Growth Group** will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. We will continue our study of "Not Ashamed," Paul's letter to the Roman's by W. Robert Godfrey. Contact Joanne Taylor if you would like to join us at 610-444-0272.
- **Mackenzie Mojica's Growth Group** will be studying the book of John. The group will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 6:15-7:30 p.m. in the youth room. Anyone interested in studying the book of John is welcome to join! Childcare will be provided.
- **Liz Lawson's Growth Group** is currently studying "God's Big Picture" by Vaughan Roberts. This group meets twice a month at times that best suit the members. If interested in joining, email Liz at lizlawson98@gmail.com.

Come Pray With Us!

There are two 15-minute online congregational prayer times each week. Please join in on one or both! No registration needed. We meet at 6:45 a.m. on Tuesdays and at 11:45 a.m. on Fridays. Some participants pray out loud, others silently. The following zoom log on details are the same for both meetings:

Phone: +1 929 436 2866

Meeting ID: 914 1344 6893

Passcode: 156928

Our Session

John Beley

Davy Crumplar

RuthAnn Deveney

Bob Johnson (Clerk of Session)

Sandy Meyer

Bob Whitlock

Mary Ellen Whitmire

Eric Wilkins

Our Deacon Board

Caroline Beck

Debbie Beley

Sophia Beris

Beth Catranis

Belen Dusik

Nikki Paschall

Rana Sakr

Olga Stokes

Marion Whitlock

Marcia Wilkins (Deacon Moderator)

To Contact the Church

Call: (610) 444-5255

Email: office@pcks.org

The Presbyterian Church of Kennett Square

211 South Broad St. Kennett Square, PA 19348

pcks.org

If you'd like to receive our weekly updates and prayer points by email, please contact the church office. For those without email, paper copies are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Text to give: 84321 (include amount)