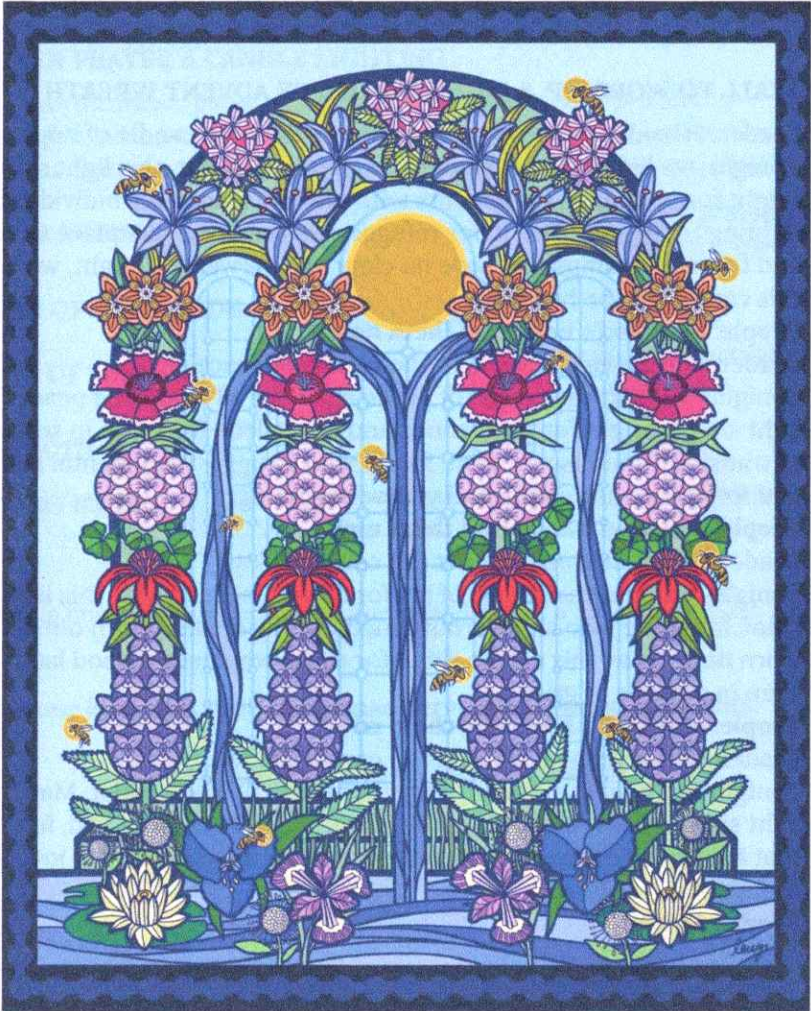




Providence Forge Presbyterian Church

to further God's kingdom on earth, one soul at a time

9310 Townsend Road | Providence Forge, VA 23140 | (804) 966-2079 | www.PFPC.org



Saturday, December 21, 2024

Blue Christmas Service

**Please stand if you are able.*

GATHERING MUSIC

Melody Raef

WELCOME

Rev. Crystal Varner Parker

READING

*words are an opening poem
by Rev. Sarah Speed*

***CALL TO WORSHIP & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Leader: Friends, in the Advent season, we light the candle of hope. Tonight, we light it for all who feel hopeless. Tonight, this light shines bright for prisoners, for patients with chronic illness, for individuals fighting to get out of debt, for refugees waiting for a safe place to rest, and for relationships that have no clear way forward. Tonight, we light this candle for the hopeless.

People: May God's hope find them now.

Leader: In this season, we light the candle of peace.

Tonight, we light the candle of peace again for all who need peace. This light shines bright for the anxious and unsettled—for those in seasons of transition and discernment, for all who struggle with mental health, and for people navigating rocky, new beginnings.

People: May God's hope find them now.

Leader: In this season, we light the candle of joy.

Tonight, we light the candle of joy for all who need it. May this light shine for those who are overburdened, overstretched, worn out, and worn down. May this candle shine for those who need a good laugh, even in seasons of grief.

People: May God's hope find them now.

Leader: In this season, we light the candle of love.

Tonight, we light the candle of love again for all who need it. May this light shine for loved ones lost, for love that has been betrayed, for love that has been neglected or forgotten, and for all who long for love and find themselves lonely

People: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

*#9 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
(verses 1 & 2)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Lamentations 3:19-24;
Pew Bible p. 669

SECOND LESSON

John 14:25-27; Pew Bible p. 877-878

HOMILY

"Feeling Allowed"

Rev. Crystal Varner Parker

WRITTEN PRAYER & CANDLE LIGHTING

*As the music plays, please write your anonymous prayer.
As you feel led, come forward and place your prayer in the basket. You
may also light a candle, offering your thoughts and feelings up to God.*

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Night of Silence"
sung by Tom Ballou

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

***HYMN OF SENDING**

*#36 In the Bleak Midwinter
(verses 1, 2, & 5)*

BENEDICTION

SENDING MUSIC

Melody Raef

Worship liturgy and prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC

It is our hope this Blue Christmas Service brought you comfort.

May peace be with you this holiday season.

PROVIDENCE FORGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Crystal Varner Parker
Administrative Assistant	Kristel Lamp
Organist & Choir Director	Melody Raef
Sunshine Nursery School Director	Cathy Davis
Church Treasurer	Paul Robinson

THE SESSION 2024

Ruth Hopke	Clerk of Session (2024)
Pete Adamson	Administration (2024-2026)
Jamie Gray	Administration (2022-2024)
Ayars Lore	Administration (2022-2024)
Nathan Richards	Administration (2023-2025)
Paul Davis	Christian Life (2023-2025)
Patricia Robinson	Christian Life (2024-2026)
Mary-Catherine Sheridan	Christian Life (2024-2026)
Davis Gammon	Community & Mission (2024-2026)
Jo White	Community & Mission (2022-2024)