

Sunday, January 4, 2026
2nd Sunday of Christmas

READING THE ENTIRE BIBLE IN 2026

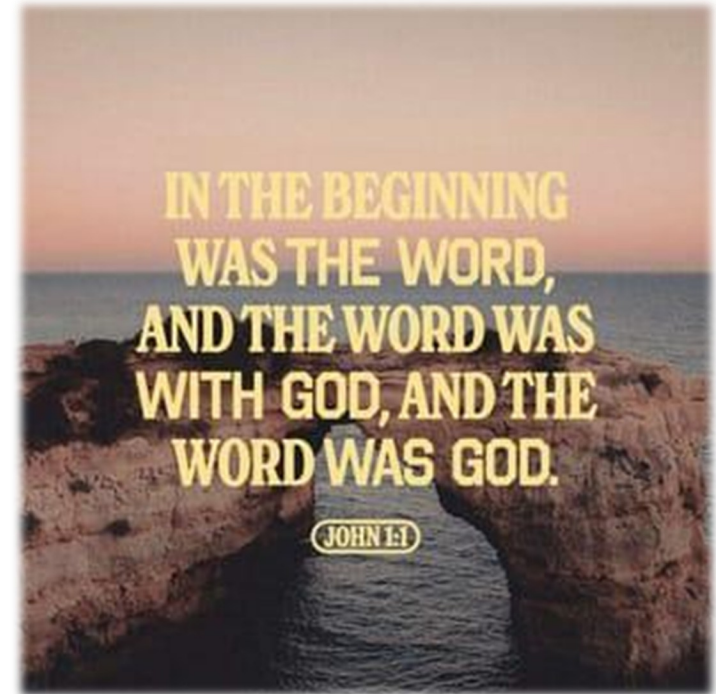
If you are reading the entire Bible in 2026 and would like to discuss what you are reading, Pastor Debbie will be at the church this Thursday, January 8 at 10:30 AM for you to come in and talk about the beginning of Genesis and Matthew. If you let her know ahead of time that you are coming, that would be helpful.

Christmas Joy Offering Total

Thank you to all who contributed to the Christmas Joy offering. The total amount received is \$ 475.00

THANK YOU FPC MEMBERS FROM PASTOR DEBBIE

Thank you so much Ocean City saints for the monetary gift given to me for Christmas. I was amazed, overwhelmed, humbled and grateful. I love you all! Pastor Debbie



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Pastor Debbie Johnson

"Do You Want to Know What God Looks Like?"

Jacob Todd, Organist and Choirmaster
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Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

Order of Worship: Sunday, January 4, 2026

2nd Sunday of Christmas

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds:

The word "dwelt" in the Greek means "to pitch a tent" or "tabernacle." Here's the idea that John is communicating to each of us: The living God didn't come down and simply make a pit stop on earth. He didn't simply pass through. He experienced what it means to be human. In Ezekiel 10, the glory of God leaves the Temple. It was this dramatic symbol of the Lord pulling his presence away from His chosen people. But he returned, but not in a symbolic way. He returned in a literal, physical way. He returned in the person of Jesus Christ.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship: (from Psalm 148:1-5a)

Deacon Dawn Butler

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;

Give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people."

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion;

They shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

With expectation and joy as we begin a new year, let us worship the living God!

Choral Introit

*** Hymn: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"**
133

*** Passing the Peace** - *Please turn to your neighbor and pass the peace of Christ*

A FEW CORRECTIONS TO THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Please note that at today's congregational meeting, the congregation will not approve the budget, because it has already been approved by the Session. You may, however, ask questions about the budget.

From Pastor Debbie:

In the newsletter, the last 2 Sundays in January: January 18 and January 25 are listed as Sundays in "Ordinary Time." The PCUSA no longer uses "Ordinary Time" as a designation. (Don't ask me why). So, January 18 is the 2nd Sunday after Epiphany, and January 25 is the 3rd Sunday after Epiphany. Epiphany is this week on January 6.

REMINDER ABOUT NO GRACE PARKER BREAKFAST ON JANUARY 7

A reminder that there will be no Grace Parker breakfast on January 7 or in the months of February or March. The next breakfast will be next November. Please pass this word to your friends who attend and folks in the community.

SESSION MEETING

The Session will meet for their regular meeting on
Tuesday, January 20 at 1:00 PM.

WOW January meeting

WOW will meet on Tuesday, January 20 at 11
AM. Please plan to bring a lunch to have fellowship
time with other members.

LUNCH BUNCH IN NEW YEAR

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Tuesday, January 27 at 11:30 at
Sophia's in Ocean City. Address is 11405 Coastal
Highway. New participants are always welcome!

Come join us!

Deacons Meeting

The Deacons will meet for their regular time on
Sunday, January 18 immediately following worship.

Call to Confession:

Prayer of Confession: (unison) (adapted from
Jeremiah 31:7-9, 13)

We cry out: "Save, O Lord, your people, the
remnant of Israel," for we are a people in need of
saving. You promise to gather your people, but
we confess that we want to put limitations on
who is saved. We want you to save those we
define as strong and beautiful and wise; You call
the blind and the lame, the children and those in
labor. Forgive us, O Holy God, for our prejudice
and narrow vision. Forgive us for our lack of faith.
Forgive us for doubting your promise and
declining your invitation. By your Spirit, renew us.
Turn our mourning into joy and our sorrow into
gladness that we might return to you and your
way.

Assurance of Pardon: (from Ephesians 1)

God chose us in Christ before the foundation of
the world to be holy and blameless before him in
love. According to the riches of Christ's grace, we
are redeemed.

Hear and believe this good news: In Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven! Amen.

* Gloria Patri (unison) #622

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* Doxology (unison) #625

Prayer of Dedication

Choral Anthem:

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)
Inspire us by your Holy Spirit that the words we read on the page might become living words in our hearts and lives as we encounter the grace, love, and peace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

1st Scripture reading: Jeremiah 31: 7-14
(Pp.782-783 in pew Bible)

Elder Mabel Rogers

2nd Reading: John 1: 1-18
(p. 1049 in pew Bible)
Pastor Debbie Johnson

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Time with Children & Youth
Pastor Debbie Johnson

Sermon "Do You Want to Know What God Looks Like?"
Pastor Debbie Johnson

*** Hymn: "The Word Made Flesh" # 121**

Affirmation of Faith

(The Nicene Creed) (Unison)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

Current Prayer Concerns:

Virginia Miller
Lydia Frasca,
Bob & Dee Lebo
William Steger
Christine Ruskin-*friend of Marty*
Joe Nasatka-*friend of Marty*
Eric Richardson-*friend of Lisa Bayles*
Amy Etheridge- *Friend of Beth Fisher*
Mark Payne- *Friend of Beth Fisher*
Larry Steele — *Family of Dee Lebo*
Pat and Ben Steele — *Family of Dee Lebo*
Beth Miller — *Friend of the Hales*
Chuck Shorley — *Friend of the Hales*
Scott Blank — *Friend of the Hales*
Chris Hazard — *Brother of Ann Hales*
Carol Reese
Sarah & Cliff Dypsky
Maria Kontoyianni— *Friend of Carol Scott*
Gene Peavley - *friend of the Hales*
Brooke Cannell - relative of the Hales.
Janet Bischler - sister-in-law of Rich and Nancy Wright
Steve LaBrunda
Jonelle Jones
Rich Wright

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

Jan	4	Jan Owens
Jan	11	Nancy Wright
Jan	18	Carol Reese
Jan	25	Mabel Rogers

Pastor Debbie will now be taking all prayer requests.. Email her at djhj3675@gmail.com or text her at 843-568-6480.

Calendar, Birthdays, and More ...

Wed	Jan 7	Bells Practice	5:00 PM
Wed	Jan 7	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Thurs	Jan 8	Discussion Whole Bible Reading	10:30 AM
Fri	Jan 2	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays: *Lisa Bayles (1/6) Summer Brenner (1/10)*

Flowers:

~ A basket is placed in loving memory of our parents Irv and Juanita Mumford on Mom's 94th birthday on January 2, and the 15th anniversary of her rebirth in Heaven on January 11; and on the 14th anniversary of Dad's rebirth in Heaven on January 14. They are celebrating with Sue and our grandparents and our Lord and Savior. From David and Julie and Danny and Liz

Chancel vases open for dedication:

01-11-26	2 vases
01-18-26	2 vases
01-25-26	2 vases

Thank you, Marty

Pastor Debbie's Info:

Email: djhj3675@gmail.com
Cell phone: (843) 568-6480

Always available by texting or calling.

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

Let us lift up our hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you have freely bestowed your glorious for you have freely bestowed your glorious grace on us.....

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

The body of Christ broken for you.

The blood of Christ poured out for you.

Prayer after communion and the Lord's
Prayer (unison)

* Hymn: " O Word of God Incarnate" # 269

Charge
Benediction
Response
Postlude

*Liturgy credit: Book of Confessions; Rev.
Matthew A. Rich for the Presbyterian Outlook;
Laughingbird.net.
Music license: CCLI-#1650329.*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOLLOWING WORSHIP TODAY

The annual congregational meeting of First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City will be held today, January 4, following worship for the purpose of receiving reports from various committees, viewing the budget for 2026, and accepting the slate of new officers as prepared by the Nominating Committee with nominations to be received from the floor. Please be aware that if you are nominating someone, that this person has agreed to serve.

FREE BOOK GIVE-AWAY

Pastor Debbie is giving away a lot of books that she will not be using once she is retired. This includes hymnals, Bibles, commentaries, and Bible study books that can be done as an individual. They are now displayed in the one room adjacent to the main part of the Fellowship Hall. Stop by and look during the Fellowship time and take a few books home. The books will be there on January 4 and January 11. Leftover books will be donated to Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA. These are different books than the last two Sundays

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 11.

The new deacons and elders will be ordained and installed next Sunday, January 11, during the worship service.

CHRISTMAS I.Q. TEST ANSWERS

If you took a copy of the "Christmas I.Q. Test" before Christmas, you can pick up an answer key on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Hope you had fun with the test!