



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF BRISTOL

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Worship

December 9
2nd Sunday of Advent

Lessons
Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 3:23b-38

Sermon
What's in a Name?
Sam Weddington

Hymns
Savior of the Nations, Come
O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

Anthem
Arise, Shine!

Last Sunday's Attendance
8:30: 117; 11:00: 140

Subscriptions & Deadline

To receive our e-newsletter, email your name and preferred email address to the editor, Kathy Acuff, at kacuff@fpcbristol.org. The newsletter is emailed a minute after midnight on Thursday morning. It is

Windows

on First Presbyterian Church

December 6, 2018

A Word from Scottie: A Christmas Devotion

'Twas the night before Christmas,
God glanced over the earth.
He looked to and fro
All over its girth.
They missed it again, He said with
a sigh,
A heavy heart, and a tear in His
eye.
I gave them my Son
So they could be set free,
My greatest gift
To them from me.
They traded me in
For a man in red,
A little tree,
And a horse-drawn sled.
How do I save them
And make them see
My love is complete,
My grace is free?
How do I help them,
When all they know
Is a talking snowman
And a box with a bow?
Maybe next year
They will stop and see
The biggest gift of Christmas
Is the little child from me.

My secret is out! I love Christmas! I love the music, the decorations, the food, the Hallmark movies, and the anticipation! I love it all! But best of all, I feel it is a season of *hope*. I feel there is hope for our world, our country, our town, our church, my family, and I feel there is hope even for me.

I love the Joy that I feel at Christmas. Not just because of the things I love but because God sent his son to us as a baby who would eventually die for us so that our sins could be forgiven. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all of the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11).

So all the things I love about Christmas and that bring me joy are just a reminder to me that the true Joy is in the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. My prayer this Christmas season is that among all of the movies, music, decorations, food, and yes, even the *Stress*, that we remember that there is a great *Joy*, who is Jesus Christ, sent to save us from our sins. We have three weeks to spread the Joy of Christmas! /*Scottie Bales*