



CENTERING MUSIC

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”
Westminster Ringers

Hal Hopson
J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING PRAYER

THE AVENT CANDLE OF PEACE ~ *God is with us in our fear...*
Aleasha and Patrick Stanley

Join when prompted:

All: We light this candle to remind us that Christ is our peace and makes us one.

Sung Response: *It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven’s all-gracious King”:
the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing*

The Lighting of the Peace Candle

Candle Prayer: God of peace, as we light this candle, make us instruments of your reconciliation.
Where there is division, sow your healing; where there is fear, plant your peace.
Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

*HYMN OF ADVENT #93 ~ “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

INVITATION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of peace, from the stump of our brokenness you bring forth new life, yet we confess that we resist your renewal. We judge by appearances, cling to what is familiar, and build walls instead of seeking understanding. Forgive us, O God. By your Spirit, make us people of your peace, led by the One who gathers all creation into harmony. God, hear our prayers... *(silent confession)*

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news: The God who comes to us in Jesus Christ is faithful and full of mercy.
Even when we lack harmony, God’s grace is at work.

In Christ we are forgiven, renewed, and made whole. Thanks be to God!

*HOLY INTERRUPTION ~ *An intentional time to share the peace and fellowship of Christ*
May the peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING ~ *Matthew 3:1-12*

SERMON

“What Do We Do With John?”

Rev. Sharon Amstutz

SPIRITUAL RESPONSE

“Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow”

(No. 606, Glory to God)

CHORAL RESPONSE

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Cindy Berry/Gustav Holst

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN OF SENDING #106

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*GO FORTH IN PEACE

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

arr. Wilbur Held

2nd Sunday of Advent ~ Peace

December 7, 2025, 10:30am Sanctuary

*K-4th Sunday School is upstairs in the Children's Library 10:15am-11:30am
Childcare is available for younger children upstairs in our nursery*

Opportunities for Connection

Interested in baptism, becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church, or have a pastoral concern?
Please let us know. Talk to our Associate Pastor or call the church.

Offering Invitation

Tithes and Offerings can be given online, placed in the offering plate as you leave, or mailed to the church.

The Chancel Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God

and are given in praise and thanksgiving
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
by Ivey and Sue Redmon.

Ushers

Mike, Elizabeth, and Rhys Wilkins

Sound

Dan Dietrich

Birthdays & Prayers of the Week

December 8: Christopher Raines, Elizabeth Booher

December 9: Orris Harker

December 10: Rebecca Combs

December 11: Karen Bunch, Ella Deakins

December 13: Marcia Porter, Sam Barbour, Sue Wells

December 14: Dotty Gray, Braylee Williams, Nafisa Banda

White Gift Brown Grocery Bags for Waverly Road Food Pantry

Brown grocery bags with a list of food items will be in the foyer on two **Sundays, December 7 and 14**. Please take a bag or bags, shop, then bring your filled grocery bags to the foyer and place them by the white tables. The food bags will be taken to Waverly Road Presbyterian Church food pantry on the morning of **Monday, December 22**. The need is great. We hope to fill fifty or more bags. Also, monetary donations can be made to our church designated for Waverly Road Food Pantry. "Thank you" from your FPC Outreach Committee.

Church Night Supper & Vespers ~ Wednesday, December 10 ~ Beginning at 5:30 p.m.

On the Menu: Panda Express assorted entrees, vegetables and dessert. **(The reservation deadline is Monday, December 8, at noon for this meal.)** After dinner we will have a **Vespers** service at 6:20 p.m. in the Fellowship Center. The cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children under 10, with a family maximum of \$25.00. Reservations: sign up on the pew pads, church website, your REALM account, or call the church office.

Congregational Meeting

There will be a Called Congregational meeting **Sunday, December 14** at the 10:30 a.m. worship service for the purpose of electing Lylah Combs and Lleyton Good as Youth Elders for 2026.

New History Room Display for Advent

It is Christmas 1981-85 in the History Room at First Pres. We are celebrating the Madrigal Dinners held during that time. We have a coat of armor, a maid's cap and apron, costumes, programs, photographs, and many memories of this community event sponsored by our Church and involving almost every member of our church in some way. Come by and enjoy the exhibit until January. Special thanks to Agnese and Roger Goin for their creativity in developing the exhibit.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

4:00pm ~ Shadow Nativity and Carols in the Fellowship Center

5:30pm ~ Lessons and Carols in the Sanctuary

Please be aware the 10:30am service is live streamed on Facebook and YouTube

WIFI Network: FPCCK-GUEST Password: Genesis 1:3-4

www.firstpreskingsport.org

Church office: (423) 245-0104