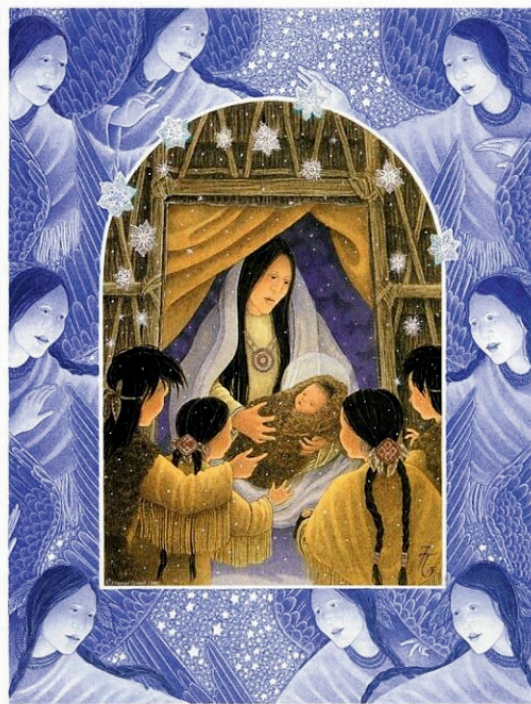
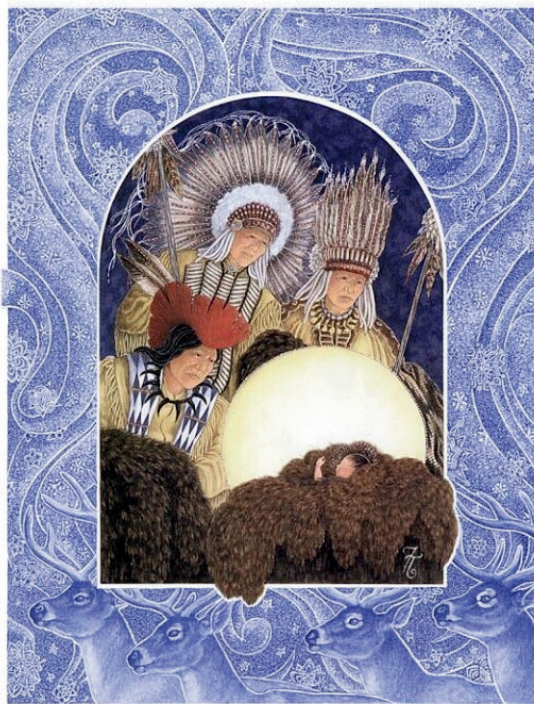




**NOVEMBER 30, 2025**  
**1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**WELCOME HOME, CHILDREN OF GOD**



# Integrative Method of Worship

There are many styles of worship. At First Presbyterian, our worship style, generally, is a traditional reformed service with liturgy, confession and classic Christian hymnody. Even with our traditional emphasis, we believe that relevant worship in the 21st century provides space for congregants and visitors to do integrative spiritual work. By this, we mean that our daily experiences inform and affect our theology and vice versa. In worship at First Presbyterian, we are striving to integrate experience and theology so that we feel responsive and genuine in our faith as we live our daily lives. Worship planning is anchored and planned around the sermon or the sermon series. Series are planned to address any one of four areas: mission of the church, life of the church family, Biblical literacy and current relevant topics. We strive to be balanced and thoughtful in what is offered for your prayer and reflection. However, because integration and responsiveness are the goal, we will often address sensitive issues. Prayers and confessions are written by our pastor. Our children's Spirit Box time is the opportunity for children to have a choice and voice in worship. We welcome you, as you are, to each worship service at First Presbyterian. Integrative work is not easy. It is not always comfortable, but it is essential to a vital church. Please feel free to reach out to our pastor with your questions.

## Statement of Mission

First Presbyterian Church of Waco, Texas, welcomes all as children of God through our worship, outreach, Christian education and congregational life events. By the liberating and compelling grace of God, and in accord with our Reformed theological heritage, we follow Jesus Christ's example by reaching out to seekers and those in need, nurturing disciples, honoring diversity and seeking to reconcile the world to God through ministries of justice and mercy.

### **If You Are New Here**

Stop by our Welcome Center in the Narthex for information. When you are seated, please fill out the Welcome Folder you will find in the pew. After all in the pew have signed, pass it to the center aisle or use the QR code to sign in online.

### **These May Help During the Service**

If you would like a large-print hymnal or hearing enhancement device, please ask an usher. We also have worship bags & fidget toys for children in the Narthex "parental discretion with these items please". Please return the bag after the service.

### **If You Are in Need of Prayer**

You will find prayer cards in the back of the pew. You may place them in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. Your prayers are confidential unless you request otherwise.

### **Childcare**

Childcare is available from 8:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. Contact the church office at (254) 752-1665 for more information.

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude: (8:30)  
(10:30)

*Ding Dong! Merrily on High  
Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Olson  
Held

**+ Please  
rise in  
body or in  
spirit.**

Lighters of the advent candles

(8:30): Cathy and Mike McPhee

(10:30): John and Avery Kerley

+ Call to Worship:

One: Rage and fury against the strong identity is a dynamic of the ages.

**Many: Those who understand their identity have a unique kind of power.**

One: We arrive to celebrate our identity in Christ.

**Many: This identity attends to the monstrous and enraged with an intent to  
move forward anyway.**

One: Let us worship God this day. Amen.

+ Hymn #94

*Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*

JEFFERSON

Prayer of Confession and Aspiration

**God of all Circumstance, we confess our experience with intensity in the  
form of anger or hatred. We have tried to assuage it, counsel it, cut  
wide around it, or fight against it. We have feared being consumed by it.  
How we long to use intensity to understand our own power, and your call  
upon us to use it well. Hear our prayer as we remember  
Nebuchadnezzar and Herod, while leaning toward Shadrach, Meshach,  
and Abednego. May our remembrances bring us more fully into Christ.  
Amen.**

**Scan the  
QR code  
to chat  
with the  
Zoom  
room!**

Moment of Silence

**8:30 AM**

Response Hymn #89 (10:30) *For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits*

For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.



Declaration of Grace & Sharing of the Peace of Christ

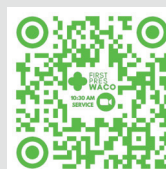
**10:30 AM**

+ Invitation to Our Children (10:30) *"Christ Before Me"*

St. Patrick's Breastplate

Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ beside me, Christ within me,

Christ in the face of those who love me



Spirit Box

Sadie & Evie Preddy

God be in my head. God be in my heart. God be on my left. God be on my right.

God be beneath me. God be above me. God be in the faces of all who love me.



**We are grateful for last week's giving of \$9,122.66.**

**Venmo can facilitate your offering or designated gift.**



Prayer of Illumination

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Daniel 3:14-28 (pew Bible OT pg.822)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. | **People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

*Lo, in the Time Appointed*

Healey Willan

*Lo, in the time appointed the Lord will come; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands: for the Lord God shall come in to his ever lasting kingdom: and upon the throne of David shall he reign forever. Alleluya.*

+ Gospel Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:16-18 (pew Bible NT pg.2)

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord. | **People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

+ Gloria Patri #581 (10:30)

*Glory Be to the Father*

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.

Sermon: Stations of Incarnation: Monsters

Leslie King, D. Min

+ Affirmation of Faith

We affirm the stations of incarnation. We affirm the arrival of Christ into the heart and mind of each person. We affirm that each person, a sort of station themselves, has a part to play in the journey of Christ to arrive again and again into the human experience. We affirm that our sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper impart the essence of Christ and kindle our awareness. We affirm that scripture tells the Old Old Story not for nostalgia but so that we can live our part in that story today. We affirm nativity, novelty, and God's inbreaking into unlikely circumstances. Amen.

Offering (10:30)

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Muskrat

+ Doxology #606 (10:30)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Sacrament of Holy Communion (8:30) *O Come, O Come Immanuel*

Tonioli

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

+ Prayer of of the People

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

+ Hymn #154

*Jesus Entered Egypt*

KING'S WESTON

+ Charge & Benediction

+ Closing Response: (10:30) #110

*Love Has Come*

BRING A TORCH

Postlude: (8:30)  
(10:30)

*Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy*  
*Prepare the Royal Highway*

Tchaikovsky  
Hobby

Scan and  
register your  
attendance.



### Sanctuary Flowers

In loving memory of our parents  
Mr. & Mrs. Buton Kuhns, and Mr.  
& Mrs. Anthony Vroegindewey.

Given by: Ken & Ruth Kuhns



### Parlor Plants

In memory of our mothers, Marie  
Adeline Bouffard McPhee &  
Margaret Inez Calcutt Woods  
Johnson.

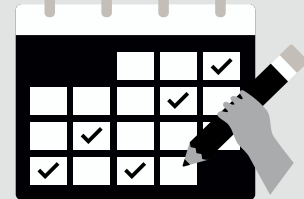
Given by: Mike & Cathy McPhee

**Thank you to  
Krystal and  
Jeremy  
Goodman  
for hosting  
Coffee  
Fellowship!**

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

Join us on Saturday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. for a beautiful Service of Lessons and Carols celebrating the Advent season. Through scripture, music, and poetry, we'll reflect on the promise and wonder of Christ's coming. Come and share in this inspiring evening of worship and anticipation.

# UPCOMING THIS WEEK



**SUN**

**30**

**8:30 A.M.**  
**9:15 A.M.**  
**10:30 A.M.**  
**11:30 A.M.**

Worship Service - Hybrid  
Christian Formation Classes for all ages  
Worship Service - Hybrid  
Coffee Fellowship

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**TUE**

**2**

**8:30 - 11:30 A.M.**

Meals on Wheels - For more information  
contact Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305

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**WED**

**3**

**6:00 P.M.**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**7:00 P.M.**

Youth Christmas Party - Cooper House  
St. Cecilia Bell Choir Practice - Sanctuary  
Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

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**THU**

**4**

**8:30 - 11:30 A.M.**  
  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**12:00 P.M.**

Meals on Wheels - For more information contact  
Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305  
Classic Voice Ensemble - Choir Room  
Finance Committee Meeting

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**FRI**

**5**

**6:00 P.M.**

Reel Spirituality - Pinewood Public House  
2223 Austin Ave Suite D

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**SAT**

**6**

**7:00 P.M.**

Lessons and Carols - Sanctuary

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**SUN**

**7**

**8:30 A.M.**  
**9:15 A.M.**  
**10:30 A.M.**  
**11:30 A.M.**

Worship Service - Hybrid  
Christian Formation Classes for all ages  
Worship Service - Hybrid  
Coffee Fellowship

# FIRST PRES NEWS

## OUR HYBRID HOUSE

Our Hybrid House is the newest committee of the Diaconate, focusing on enriching our environment for hybrid worship and meetings. We are particularly interested in your opinions and experiences if you are a non-local participant of First Presbyterian. Look for our Hybrid House meetings on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 5:00 P.M. **This month's topic is "Sharing a Favorite Christmas tradition," on December 14th.**



### 2025 CHRISTMAS OFFERING

This year's Christmas offering will go towards recovery and flood relief efforts in Kerr County. We will partner with the Kerr County Flood Relief Fund, organized through the Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country, to support local organizations engaged in ongoing recovery efforts.



### CAROLS AND SOUP

Join us for Soup and Caroling on Saturday, December 20, at 3:00 p.m.! We'll visit our homebound members and those in assisted living with joyful Christmas carols, then return to the church at 5:00 p.m. for warm soups and desserts. Special thanks to our choir for helping lead the singing!

### YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join us for the Youth Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 3rd, from 6:00–7:30 P.M. at The Cooper House, 1801 Austin Ave, Waco, TX 76701. We'll walk from the church to the Cooper House, tour the home, and learn about Madison Cooper, the Presbyterian who established a benevolent foundation for the Waco community. Enjoy an evening of Christmas fun, festive activities, a delicious holiday meal, and a white elephant gift exchange—bring a friend and celebrate the season with us!

### POSADA

Join us for Posada at First Presbyterian on Sunday, December 14, at 5:00 p.m. Enjoy a meal, then join a candlelit procession with Mary and Joseph, ending in the sanctuary for prayer and reflection—a joyful celebration of hope and Christ's coming.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISIT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.FIRSTPRESWACO.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTPRESWACO.ORG)  
OR FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @FIRSTPRESWACO



## Staff

Pastor	Leslie King, D. Min. (lking@firstpreswaco.org)
Director of Congregational Life	Taylor Holleyman, Ph.D (tholleyman@firstpreswaco.org)
Operations Manager	Shane Montoya, MBA (office@firstpreswaco.org)
Communication & Design Specialist	Evan Cole (ecole@firstpreswaco.org)
Garland School of Social Work Intern	Peighton Pulley (peightonp@firstpreswaco.org)
Chancel Choir Director	Austin Ingalls (chancelchoir@firstpreswaco.org)
Handbell Director	Amy Goodman, Ph. D (amy_goodman@baylor.edu)
Organist	Becky Ward, M.M. (vward@hotmail.com)
Pianist (8:30 am service)	Trisha Anderson (trishaanderson0926@gmail.com)
Nursery Coordinator	Chelley Breemes (bigcatz2000@yahoo.com)
Parish Associate for Theology & Ethics	Dr. Neil Messer (Neil_Messer@baylor.edu)
Church Historian	Katelyn Jaynes, Ph. D (kljaynes204@gmail.com)
Parish Assoc. for Gerontology	Jim Ellor, D. Min. Ph. D, H.R. (james_ellor@baylor.edu)
Streaming Team	Sondra Dubowsky, James Karney, Amanda Lassetter, Thomas Munn, Adam Redmer, Mike Vale
Custodian	Adriana Goytortu

## Organizational Officers

Clerk of Session	Ken Kuhns
Church Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer	Mark Harren, Donna Black
First Presbyterian Church Foundation	President - Chuck Weaver, Carr DuPuy, Carol Miller, Malorie Montoya, Charles Stern
Forman Fund	David Smith, Phil Hering, Cathy McPhee, Patsy Norman, Bob Grayson
Presbyterian Women	Susan Sommerville, Sherry Cragen, Mary Lynn Klingman and Sue Young
Sanctuary Guild	Sherry Cragen, Leigh Marcus
Sanctuary Flowers	Brenda Stephens, Susan Somerville, Kathy Jones
Celebration Way	Cary DuPuy

## Session Committee Members

Administration Committee	Charlie Olson, Mike Morrison
Christian Formation Committee	Jamie Jackson, Shannon Field, Anita Karney
Congregational Life Committee	Sharon Stern
Facilities Committee	Mark Anderson, Christine Miller, James Hill, Bob Cragen
Finance Committee	Phil Hering, Chip Somerville, Lyndon Olson
Outreach Committee	Sam Parler, Brenda Stephens, Matthew Malavanti
Personnel Committee	Mike Harper, Todd Ehlers, Elouise Frazier
Worship Committee	Jamie Delk, Meredith Palm

## Diaconate Committee Members

Diaconate Moderator/Vice Moderator	Malorie Montoya, Bricker Bruner
Diaconate Secretary	Bricker Bruner, Kitty Huneke
Agape Committee	All Deacons
Our Hybrid House	Helen Harris, Christine Dennis, Dave Reagan, Jen Ferretter, Avery Kerley, Cynthia Perry, Zdzislaw Wieckowski, George Ahrens
Power of the Pen	Helen Harris, Peggy Graham, Michelle Plaskett, Parker Adamson
Prayer Committee	Sarah Davis, Toni Percivill, John Jovicich, Kathy Jones
Stork Committee	Drew Risinger, Jerry Barrett, Kevin Bartley
Ushering Coordinator	Wes Field



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - WACO, TEXAS**  
1100 Austin Ave. - Waco, TX 76701 - 254.752.1665 - [www.firstpreswaco.org](http://www.firstpreswaco.org)  
Church Office Hours: 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.  
Sunday Services 8:30 A.M. (Weekly Communion) and 10:30 A.M. (Morning Worship)  
Pastor - Leslie King

