



DECEMBER 7, 2025
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



"God is With Us," 2006 by Hanna Varghese

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.

Worship Service - December 7, 2025 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Greetings and Announcements

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

Love Came Down at Christmas
O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Thygerson
Sherman

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

Lighters of the Advent candles

8:30 Larry & Sandra LeFevre

10:30 Malavanti Family

+ Call to Worship: Psalm 62

One: For God alone my soul waits in silence, from him comes my salvation.

Many: God alone is my rock and my salvation.

One: For God alone my soul waits in silence, my hope is from him.

Many: God alone is my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

One: Pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. Amen.

+ Hymn #106

Prepare the Way, O Zion

BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

Prayer of Confession and Aspiration

Lord of quiet and light, we confess that silence unsettles us. We struggle to know when to embrace silence and when to combat it. Soothing silence is often interrupted by noise. We rush to fill the gaps with words, to drown the stillness with sound, fearing what might surface in the hush. Other times, we stay quiet when we ought to speak. We wish to interject and to advocate, but fear arrests us and words fail us. Teach us to navigate our silence and to welcome the quiet of Advent. Slow our steps, soften our speech, and open our hearts to the mystery that waits in silence. 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

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
\$9,425.80.**

Prayer of Illumination

Hebrew Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 1:9-18 (pew Bible OT pg.244)

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

Anthem

Keep Silence

Helgen

The blessed son of God only In a crib full poor did lie; With our poor flesh and our
poor blood Was clothed that everlasting good. Kyri'eleison. The Lord Christ Jesu,
God's son dear, Was a guest and a stranger here; Us for to bring from misery, That
we might live eternally. Kyri'eleison. All this did he for us freely, For to declare his
great mercy; All Christendom be merry therefore, And give him thanks for evermore.
Kyri'eleison.

+ Gospel Scripture Reading: Luke 1:5-14 & 18-20 (pew Bible NT pg.56)

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: The Silence of the Season

Taylor Holleyman, Ph.D

+ Affirmation of Faith - page 35 of Hymnal

Apostles' Creed

This creed, spoken together, allows us to feel, summarily, the major
movement of the gospel. Speaking it allows us to be cradled in the elements
of the gospel that give us the most comfort. Equally, it allows us to ponder
and wonder about elements that are more challenging to understand. Our
recitation of it is not a call to uniformity and conformity. Rather, it is a call to
continue to explore our mysterious gospel for the ministry and mission of First
Presbyterian Church.

Offering (10:30)

Once He Came in Blessing

Burkhardt

+ 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.

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





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 #123 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* CAROL

+ Charge & Benediction

+ Closing Response: (10:30) #110 *Love Has Come* BRING A TORCH

Postlude: (8:30) *March* Tchaikovsky
(10:30) *People Look East* Lasky

Thank you to
Christine
Dennis
for hosting
Coffee
Fellowship!



Parlor Plants
In joyful celebration of my family,
both near and far.
Given by: Sarah Lieber



As is life, education is a crazy adventure. This spring, I will be transitioning to a new placement as I complete my social work education.

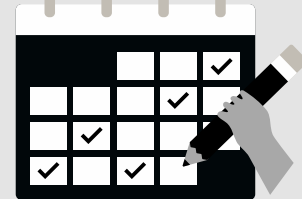
I have truly had a wonderful time at First Presbyterian this semester. To those who shared their stories with me, know that I will always carry them with me. And to those who worshiped, celebrated, and served alongside me, please know that I will remember your kindness and graciousness.

I am deeply grateful to have been part of this church, and I will never forget how warmly I was welcomed here.

With gratitude,

Peighton Pulley

UPCOMING THIS WEEK



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

MON

8

1:00 P.M.
5:30 P.M.

Presbyterian Women - Fellowship hall
Joint Session & Diaconate Meeting

TUE

9

8:30 - 11:30 A.M.

6:00 P.M.

Meals on Wheels - For more information
contact Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305
Faith on Tap - One Day Bar
618 Columbus Ave STE B, Waco, TX 76701

WED

10

11:00 A.M.
6:00 P.M.
7:00 P.M.

Forman Fund Meeting - Zoom
St. Cecilia Bell Choir Practice - Sanctuary
Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

THU

11

8:30 - 11:30 A.M.

9:00 A.M.

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

SUN

14

8:30 A.M.
9:15 A.M.
10:30 A.M.
11:30 A.M.
5:00 P.M.
5:30 P.M.

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

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 at 5:00 P.M."**



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.



CAROLING & SOUP

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

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Join us on Christmas Eve for worship at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The 5:00 service includes communion, candlelight, and carols, and the 7:00 service features candlelight and carols. Both services will also be available on Zoom.



POSADA

Join us for Posada at First Presbyterian on Sunday, December 14, at 5:30 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
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

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

