

HOPE

MY WHOLE BEING HOPES,
AND I WAIT FOR GOD'S PROMISE.



PSALM 130:5 (CEB)

First Presbyterian Church
1st Sunday of Advent
Sunday, November 30, 2025

Prelude *“Come, Saviour of the World”* J. S. Bach

Welcome, Greetings and Announcements

Introit..... *“Soon A Tiny Child Will Come”* Don Besig

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Frankie and John Ochsner

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Christ, Be Our Light!

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent



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Opening Prayer Paul Mills

Holy One of Light, in this season when shadows sometimes feel long, we gather around Your promise: that the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. During this season, remind us that Your love chooses vulnerability over force, mercy over fear, and belonging over division. So come, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting One, Prince of Peace— not only into this worship, but into every corner of our lives. **Amen.**

* Hymn of Praise No. 2 *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”* HYFRYDOL

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of Light, we confess that we have gone astray and have left your light. We follow the dim lights of the world of success and fortune. We follow the dim lights that call us to be more religious by following rules. Forgive us. Call us to be light-bearers of love, compassion and justice, in which the mystery of your love is revealed. In the name of Jesus the Messiah, we pray.

(A moment of silent personal confession)

* Assurance of Forgiveness

* Glory to the Father (Gloria Patri) (Unison)Hymn No. 579

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.

Prayer for Illumination..... Paul Mills

First Scripture Reading Mark 1:1-8NT Page 34

Time with Young Disciples

Anthem..... *“Emmanuel is Coming”*Don Besig

Second Scripture Reading..... Isaiah 9:1-7OT Page 638

SermonThe Light is Coming.....Rev. Leslie Roper

* Hymn No. 3..... *“Comfort, Comfort You My People”*PSALM 42

* Affirmation of Faith (Unison)-Apostle’s Creed Paul Mills

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Giving of Our Tithes & Offerings Paul Mills

Offertory *“Creator of the Stars of Night”* David Lasky

* Doxology – Praise God, from Whom All Blessings FlowHymn 592

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

* Prayer of Dedication Paul Mills

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (Unison) Traditional, Hymnal Page 16

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.

* Closing Hymn No. 332 *"Live Into Hope"* TRURO

* Charge & Benediction

Postlude.....*"People, Look East"*Robert Lau

*It is the practice of this congregation to sit back down for the postlude.
Please join us in enjoying a few moments of reflection as our service concludes.*

*Congregation Standing (Please remain seated if standing is uncomfortable.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Sanctuary Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Carolyn Beane, as she is grateful for Pastor Leslie, the staff and congregation.

Join us for Family Night Supper's "Annual Christmas Dinner" on Wednesday, December 10, at 6:00 p.m. The Fellowship Committee will furnish the ham. Members are asked to bring the traditional fixings for a Christmas Dinner. To add to the festivities, we will enjoy the beautiful sounds of Christmas music.

Christmas Eve Service



Reverse Advent Calendars: As the tradition continues, your Mission Committee is again using the Reverse Advent Calendar to help support our Blessing Box. Instead of getting something each day, you get to give!! Each day in December, add a different item to a grocery bag. Once you have completed your bag, bring it to the church and it will be used to keep our blessing box and food pantry well stocked during the winter. No time to shop?? Let the Mission Committee do it for you. A donation of \$75.00 will cover one bag. You can also give towards the bags as you are able too. Please find the Advent Calendar in your bulletin.

The 2026 Flower Chart is available to sign up to donate Sunday flowers! Located on the wall by the 2 large closets in the Fellowship Hall, pick your date, add your name and special dedication. If you do not wish to write it on the board, or if space does not allow, please call, email or visit the office. You may do this at any time well in advance of your day. ***Cost is \$38.50***

Welcome Visitors! Please take a moment to fill out the visitor information card, located in the pew in front of you. Please drop them in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. We'd love to get to know you better! After Worship, join us for a time of fellowship and beverages in the Fellowship Hall. There, you'll find the Welcome Center, with more information about our church!

Children are always welcome in worship at First Presbyterian Church. Older children are encouraged to participate in worship and are welcome to pick up pre-packed activities on the table in the back of the sanctuary just for them. A nursery is available upstairs for children under 5. Please ask an usher if you need assistance.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

<p><u>December 1</u> Sophia Hardin</p> <p><u>December 3</u> Barbara Helm Cindy Meyers</p> <p><u>December 5</u> Gerald Murders</p> <p><u>December 6</u> Helen Murders</p> <p><u>December 7</u> Jim Matheney Johnnie Roebuck Taylor Simmons</p>	<p><u>December 8</u> Tom Hopkins Brady Leonhard</p> <p><u>December 15</u> Rev. Leslie Roper</p> <p><u>December 17</u> Marilyn Ridge</p> <p><u>December 19</u> John Talpas</p> <p><u>December 21</u> Mark Phillips</p> <p><u>December 26</u> Pam Christian Ann Westbrook Raines</p>	<p><u>December 27</u> Jacob Mills</p> <p><u>December 29</u> Kathy Farrar Cory Leonhard</p> <p><u>December 30</u> Frankie Ochsner</p> <p><u>December 31</u> Mike Muzny</p>
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DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

<p><u>December 10</u> Dus and Steve Spivey</p> <p><u>December 13</u> Candace and Grant Muzny</p>	<p><u>December 19</u> Barbara and Michael Helm</p> <p><u>December 26</u> Karolyn and Dick Mohrman</p>
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We are so very lucky to have a congregation that is willing to invest in our graduating seniors each year. Each month on the 3rd Sunday, members celebrating their birthdays that month are encouraged to make a special "Birthday Blessing" to our scholarship fund. We have been so blessed in the past to be able to contribute to the continuing education of our Youth. We hope that you will consider this month to give in honor of your birthday.



Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Office Lunch Hour:

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 30 – 1st Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Handbells

Monday, December 1

9:00 a.m. Bargain Box Marking
12:00 p.m. PW Coordinating Team Meeting
1:00 p.m. Jackson House Grocery Bagging

Wednesday, December 3

10:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
12:00 p.m. Bargain Box Open until 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 4

10:30 a.m. Mission Committee Lunch Prep at Jackson House

Saturday, December 6

9:00 a.m. Master Naturalist Meeting

Sunday, December 7 – 2nd Sunday of Advent - Communion

9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship/Communion
11:30 a.m. Handbells
3:30 p.m. Session Meets
5:30 p.m. Spa City Youth

Save your Quarters for the Heifer Project! The quarter tube is located just inside the sanctuary doors near the steps leading into the sanctuary. **Save your Dimes!** All dimes put into the offering plates go to the Vera Lloyd Home to purchase Bibles. “Make a joyful noise to the Lord.”

Prayer Requests: Anyone who wants prayer from the Prayer Chain should email or call Jamie Williams, jsar43@gmail.com / 276-2852 or Patricia Mills, paulpatmills@yahoo.com / 545-5250 with your request. You may also email the Church Office office@firstpreshotsprings.org. A request can be for yourself, a family member, or a family friend. *You may ask that the request be kept confidential. Only the Prayer Chain members will be notified and they will also be told to keep it confidential.*

Please remember to recycle your bulletins by placing them in the blue recycle container in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you.

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Worship Leadership

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Dr. Ian Aipperspach, Organist and Handbell Director

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