

PEACE

PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU. MY PEACE I GIVE YOU....
DON'T BE TROUBLED OR AFRAID.



JOHN 14:27 (CEB)

First Presbyterian Church
2nd Sunday of Advent / Communion
December 7, 2024

Prelude *“Gabriel’s Message”* Edgar Pettman

Welcome, Greetings and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath The Roper Family

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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Lesson 1 Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9OT Page 640

Carol..... *“Solemn Vespers”* W. A. Mozart
Jace Blair, Soloist

Lesson 2Micah 5:2-5a.....OT Page 865

Carol – Page 44..... *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*ST. LOUIS
Congregation and Choir

Lesson 3	Luke 1:26-35, 38.....	NT Page 56
Carol.....	<i>“Angels Watching Over Me”</i>	Joel Raney Choir
Lesson 4	Luke 2:1-7.....	NT Page 58
Carol.....	<i>“All Bells in Paradise”</i>	John Rutter Choir
Lesson 5	Luke 2:8-16.....	NT Page 58
Carol – Page 38.....	<i>“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”</i>	CAROL Congregation and Choir
Lesson 6	Matthew 2:1-11.....	NT Page 2
Carol.....	<i>“Do You Hear What I Hear?”</i>	Regney/Shayne, Simeone Choir
Lesson 7	John 1:1-14.....	NT Page 91
Giving of Our Tithes & Offerings		Ian Poole
Offertory	<i>“Sure on This Shining Night”</i>	Morten Lauridsen
* Doxology – Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow		Hymn 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		Ian Poole
Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper (all are invited to participate)		
Invitation to the Lord’s Table		
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer		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.	
Words of Institution		

Communion of the People

You are invited to hold the elements until all are served.

..... *“Christmas Oratorio”* Camile Saint-Saëns
Choir

Closing Prayer

* Closing Hymn No. 9 *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* VENI EMMANUEL

* Charge & Benediction

Postlude..... *“There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth”* Felix Mendelssohn

*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 Miriam Murthy in memory of Hanabe Shantha Murthy.

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.

There are Still Many, Many Openings on The 2026 Flower Chart! 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, 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

Monday, December 8

9:00 a.m. Bargain Box Marking
12:00 p.m. Bargain Box Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 10

10:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
12:00 p.m. Bargain Box Open until 3:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m. Family Night Supper

Thursday, December 11

9:00 a.m. PW Mission Sewing Project

Friday, December 12

6:00 p.m. Scouts Court of Honor

Sunday, December 14 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Handbells
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

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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Ms. Deleen Davidson, Choir Director 504.382.3804
Dr. Ian Aipperspach, Organist and Handbell Director

Church Staff

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Ms. Jessica Rowton, Financial Administrator bookkeeper@firstpreshotsprings.org
Mr. Randall Pierce, Sexton

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