



WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us worship God.

CHIMES

PRELUDE.....*Of the Father's Love Begotten*.....Wilbur Held

INTROIT.....*Of the Father's Love Begotten*.....DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
The Sanctuary Choir arr. John Erickson

Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers and Youth Bell Choir

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega; he the source, the ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Every year we light candles as we prepare for the coming of Christ. More and more candles, more and more light, as we watch and wait for Jesus, the Light of the World, to come.

But why did he come?

Jesus came into this world so that we may have *hope*.

CANDLE RESPONSE.....*Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love*.....Randy Edwards
(*After the choir sings this chorus once, the congregation will join the second time.*)

Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love!

These are gifts you bring from above,

Jesus, Emmanuel, come to be

Light of your hope, reflected in me.

We light this candle to remember the *hope* of Christ. Hope that is established at the highest of mountains and teaches us the way of the Lord. Hope that comes when we least expect it.

Let us reflect the light of Hope.

†**HYMN, No. 104**.....*O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*.....VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you call us to wake up and pay attention, to live in your light and follow your ways. But we admit—we fall asleep to your presence. We get caught up in our routines, our worries, our opinions. We forget to look for you. We forget to live with hope. Forgive us for the ways we close our eyes to your coming. Help us to see again—to notice your peace taking root, your light breaking through, your love at work in us and around us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our light and our hope. Amen.

(Continue your personal prayer of confession in silence.)

RESPONSE, No. 90.....*Wait for the Lord*.....WAIT FOR THE LORD
(*We will sing this twice.*)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear the good news: The night is almost over, and the day is on its way.

In Jesus Christ, God's light has already broken into the world—and nothing can put it out.

So know this: you are forgiven, you are loved, and you are free to walk in the light of Christ.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made righteous! Thanks be to God!

†**ACT OF PRAISE, No. 583**.....*Glory to God*.....GLORIA (Taizé)
(*We will sing this twice.*)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

†**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Greet one another saying: **"The peace of Christ be with you."**

Respond by saying: **"And also with you."**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

A TIME WITH CHILDRENLynace Veit

Children: God be with you as you stay.

Congregation: God be with you as you go.

Children may exit at this time. Parents of children ages 3 years and younger may take their children to the CE building for Extended Session, Room CE 103. Children 4 years old through first grade may exit for Worship Center on the third floor, Room 322.

RESPONSE, No. 95*Prepare the Way of the Lord***PREPARE THE WAY**
(*We will sing this twice.*)

**Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people will see the salvation of our God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READINGIsaiah 2:1-5

Pew Bible, page 594 | Large Print, page 773

Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READINGMatthew 24:36-44

Pew Bible, page 26 | Large Print, page 33

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON*Waiting for the Dawn*Rev. Brent Anderson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

†**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles' Creed**

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.

†HYMN, No. 88.....*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*.....VENI EMMANUEL

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
Who orderest all things mightily:
To us the path of knowledge show;
And teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

MOMENT FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Response: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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.

OFFERTORY.....*Lost in the Night*.....Finnish folk tune
The Sanctuary Choir Nordic hymn

Lost in the night do the people yet languish,
Longing for morning the darkness to vanquish,
Plaintively sighing with hearts full of anguish.
Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?
Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow?
Shall those who have light no light let us borrow,
Giving no heed to our burden of sorrow?
Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?

Sorrowing wand'ers, in darkness yet dwelling,
Dawned has the day of a radiance excelling,
Death's deepest shadows forever dispelling.
Christ is coming soon! Christ is coming soon!
Light o'er the land of the needy is beaming;
Rivers of life through its deserts are streaming,
Bringing all peoples a Savior redeeming.
Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!

†DOXOLOGY.....LASST UNS ERFREUEN

(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 15, *All Creatures of Our God and King*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME

†HYMN, No. 384.....*Soon and Very Soon*.....SOON AND VERY SOON

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†**RESPONSE, No. 88**.....*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*.....VENI EMMANUEL

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

†**POSTLUDE**.....*Sleepers, Wake! The Night Is Flying*.....Johann Gottfried Walther

† *Worshippers standing if able*

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Jenni Frierson Couhig and Ben Couhig on the birth of their daughter Grace Marcelle Couhig. Grace is the granddaughter of Christy and John Frierson.

Liturgist: Frances Jenkins

Ushers: Robin Jones, Al Ogden, Janet Smith, Patti Shelton

Acolyte: Mac Buhler

Worship Center: Melanie Rogers

WORSHIP NOTES

WE WELCOME FRIENDS AND VISITORS. This church is for anyone who wants to be counted as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and who wants to be included in its worship and work. Thank you for signing your name and address on the attendance sheet.

WE WARMLY WELCOME CHILDREN as a vital part of our worshipping community! We understand that every family is different, and we strive to support each one in the way that fits them best. Children are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary during worship, and we offer worship bags and children's Bibles to help engage them in meaningful ways. Worship Center, a Montessori-based approach to worship, is available for 4-year-olds -1st graders following the Time with Children. Childcare is offered in the CE building when needed. In addition, a comfort room is located on the same floor as the sanctuary, equipped with a speaker so you can listen to the service while caring for your child.

WE WELCOME to the pulpit this morning Reverend Brent Anderson as our new Transitional Pastor/Head of Staff! Rev. Anderson brings more than two decades of ministry experience across diverse settings– from rural North Carolina to the heart of Paris, France, and vibrant suburban congregations in Georgia, Washington, and Illinois. Rev. Anderson is especially gifted in walking with congregations through seasons of change. As a trained transitional pastor, he helps communities reflect on their history, discern their identity, and prepare for the next chapter of ministry. In his free time, Rev. Anderson enjoys playing golf and watching his favorite NFL sports team, the Seattle Seahawks. Please join us for a reception following worship to welcome Rev. Anderson to our church!

PRAYER LIST - FOR HEALING, PEACE, AND COMFORT:

Martha Fitch, Joy Young, Zama Dexter, Jean and Jerry Sayres, Jean Mendenhall,
Leigh Taylor, Erika Asseff, Stephen Roberts, Josh Kilpatrick, Susie Nunnally,
Ken Copeland, Lorna Rodman, Michael Avery, Rocky Laha, Vernon Chance, Claudia Engi

Please keep the church staff updated on those who are listed.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING:

Mary Blackman and family, family of Marilyn Gallagher, Mary Anne Selber,
Anne Jenkins and family, Peggy Guilbert and family, Marilyn Madison and family, Glenn Jackson,
family of Jean Carroll, Amy Bowman and family, Susan Lavergne and family, Brian Carberry and family,
Mary Bush and family, Mary Jane Lowder and family, Bob Neff and family, Pam Naifeh and family

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERVING:

Ryan Markham, U.S. Navy; Jennifer Markham, U.S. Navy; Reed Markham, U.S. Army; Evan Akers,
U.S. Army; Josh Freidel, U.S. Navy; Evan Richey

CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP:

Rev. Brent Anderson.....Transitional Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Lynace Pabst Veit.....Pastor for Children and Family Ministries
Dr. Hollice S. Watson.....Organist/Choir Director
Dakota Dunn.....Youth Director
Ginger Garfield.....Church Administrator
Kathy Booth.....Director of First Presbyterian Day School
Susan W. Abney.....Communications Director
Jan Melton.....Church Librarian
Tanna McAteer.....Church Secretary
Lona L. Lockard.....Staff Secretary
Jeff A. McKenzie.....Sexton/Maintenance Coordinator
Sheri Rowell.....Kitchen Coordinator
Jacob Dickson.....Pastoral Care Coordinator

SESSION MINISTRY MODERATORS:

Calvin Head.....Administration
Gene Hodgson.....Church Facilities
Simone Hennessee.....Stewardship
Karen Day.....Congregational Life
Anne Jenkins.....Welcome Ministry
Piper Moritz.....Adult Ministries
Brett McCulloch.....Youth Ministry
April Carberry.....Children's Ministries
Brandy Williams.....Worship Ministry
Amy Bowman.....Outreach Ministry
Robin Jones.....Clerk of Session

DEACON, PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN & STOER MODERATORS:

Mary Bush-Board of Deacons; Ann Morell-Presbyterian Women; Liz LaBorde-Stoer Committee

IN OUR OUTREACH CENTER:

Volunteers for Youth Justice/CASA - Kelli Todd, Director
Youth Outreach Services – Jewell House

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN SECURITY OFFICERS:

Corp. Srederick Matthews 230-3628
Ofc. Troy Jackson 453-3908

WEEKLY LINK – WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 2025
THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Current Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, November 30

9:15 a.m. – Children's Choir – CE Building
9:30 a.m. – Advent All Ages Sunday School – Gym
10:45 a.m. – Sunday Worship Service – In-Person - Sanctuary and also Live Streamed on the Website:
<https://www.fpcshreveport.org> and First Presbyterian Facebook Page
Welcome Reception for Rev. Brent Anderson After Worship
2:00 p.m. – Youth Group Turkey Bowl
5:00 p.m. – Youth Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
5:30 p.m. – Youth Bells – Bell Room

MONDAY, December 1

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS
10:00 a.m. – PW Council Meeting – PW Suite
12:00 p.m. – AA
6:00 p.m. – Circle 9 Meeting – Carole Mullen's Home

TUESDAY, December 2

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS
12:10 p.m. – Noonday Noel #1 – Chapel
12:40 p.m. – Noonday Noel Lunch – Gym
1:15 p.m. – Adult Ministry – Conference Room
5:30 p.m. – PNC Meeting – Conference Room
6:15 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

WEDNESDAY, December 3

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS

THURSDAY, December 4

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – FPDS
4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – FPDS Cocoa With Santa – Gym
6:15 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

FRIDAY, December 5

10:00 a.m. – Tower Art
12:00 p.m. – AA
6:30 p.m. – Young Adult and Sojourners Christmas Party – Sarah Kirkpatrick and Grant Summers' Home

SUNDAY, December 7

9:15 a.m. – Children's Choir – CE Building
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School
10:45 a.m. – Sunday Worship Service – In-Person – Sanctuary and also Live Streamed on the Website:
<https://www.fpcshreveport.org> and First Presbyterian Facebook Page
5:00 p.m. – Youth Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
5:30 p.m. – Youth Bells – Bell Room
6:00 p.m. – Youth Group – 4th Floor Youth Area

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



MEET
**REV. BRENT
ANDERSON**

NOVEMBER 30TH

Please join us for a reception
after worship to welcome
our new interim pastor!



SMALL SEEDS
MOVE MOUNTAINS



SCAN CODE TO
PLEDGE ONLINE

**PARABLE OF THE
MUSTARD SEED**
Truly I tell you, if you have faith
as small as a mustard seed,
you can say to this mountain, 'Move!'
COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS ON
NOVEMBER 16, 2025


FPDS invites all FPC families to attend ...
a very merry event...

**Wednesday
Dec. 4th
4:30-6:30pm
FPC Gym**

**Cocoa, Treats
& Crafts,
Story Reading
and Santa
will visit!**

**Cocoa
WITH
Santa!**

Wear your
favorite holiday
attire & bring the
whole family for a
Jolly Good Time!



**FALL
VIRTUAL
FOOD DRIVE**

Donate online in the month of November!

The Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana invites FPC to shop online through their virtual food drive. With the Food Bank's wholesale buying power and partnerships with food suppliers, every dollar you donate provides even more food for meals for our hungry neighbors.

proceeds benefit:



Food Bank of
Northwest Louisiana

**SCAN THE
QR CODE!**



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
SHREVEPORT**

<https://giving.myamplify.io/App/Form/20c9458b-e566-454f-8c16-7ddf0832f785>

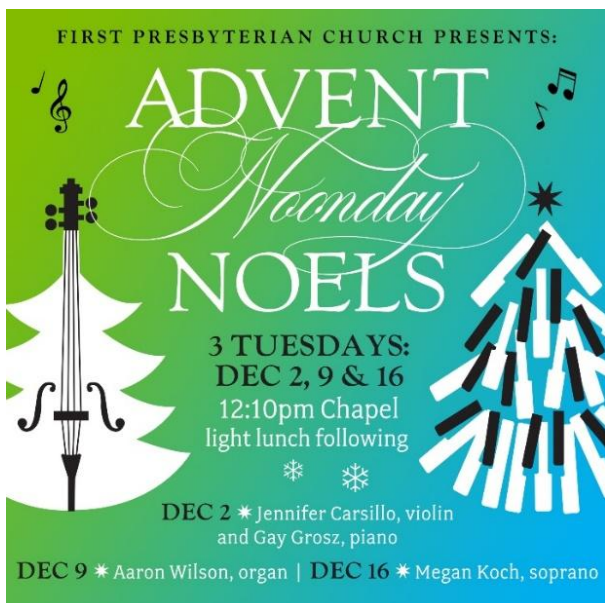
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS:

**ADVENT
SECONDARY
NOELS**

**3 TUESDAYS:
DEC 2, 9 & 16
12:10pm Chapel
light lunch following**

DEC 2 * Jennifer Carsillo, violin
and Gay Grosz, piano

DEC 9 * Aaron Wilson, organ | DEC 16 * Megan Koch, soprano



*Advent
Poinsettias*

Congregants can purchase poinsettia plants
in honor of, or in memory of a loved one.

The cost of each plant is **\$13.00** and all orders must
be placed by **December 7th**. Make checks payable to
Presbyterian Women. Return payment and form
to FPC or mail to 900 Jordan Street, Shreveport 71101.

For a downloadable form, go to our website and
click on the Poinsettia image on the homepage.

fpcshreveport.org



