A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
The First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING

The Prelude
Prelude on Pacardi
arr. Gilbert M. Martin

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introsit
I Want to Walk as a Child of Light

The Lighting of the Advent Candle: HOPE

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5

Prayer

Sung Response
Hymn 110 verse 1
Love has come; a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
Hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Spoken Response:
People of God, in hope
Let us walk in the light of the Lord!

The Hymn 367
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.
Come to God’s own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.
All the world is God’s own field, fruit in thankful praise to yield,
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.
Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
There forever purified, in thy presence to abide:
Come, with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home!

*The Prayer of Confession

God of the future, you are coming to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek the things that will endure when Christ comes to fill all in all. Amen.

*The Assurance of Pardon

God comes to us in mercy, with forgiveness and healing, and with the promise of a new beginning.
We give thanks for the Good News of Jesus Christ, whose grace uplifts and restores.

*Sung Response:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy!

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. And also with you!
(Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ. For those worshiping at home, please share Christ’s peace with someone outside your home this week.)
HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Psalter Lesson: Psalm 122

The Anthem

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God; Comfort, those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.

Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Hark, the voice of one that crieth in the desert far and near, Calling us to new repentance since the kingdom now is here.

Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way: Let the valleys rise to meet Him and the hills bow down to greet Him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain; Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits His holy reign.

For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad; And all flesh shall see the token that the word is never broken.

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 13:11-14

A Moment With the Children

* Hymn 83

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set they people free; from our fears and sins release us: let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art: dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now they gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone: by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 24:36-44

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

Intrusive Hope

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.
CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Presbyterian Church welcomes and invites everyone - children and adults - baptized in the name of Jesus Christ to come to The Table of the Lord and participate in The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise...

. . . who forever sing to the glory of Your Name,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. . .
. . . Great is the mystery of faith.
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Lord’s 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.

Communion

The Prayer after Communion

God our hope, we give You thanks that You have given us this foretaste of the heavenly realm of justice and peace. Strengthen us with this food from Your table as we seek to serve You in our daily walk. Lead us in lives of purpose and joy as we await the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE IN GOD’S NAME

The Hymn 104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you a right? Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart’s delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast, to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.
Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me; your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace in love, all loves excelling, our lost and fallen race.
You come, O Lord, with gladness, in mercy and goodwill, to bring an end to sadness and bid our fears be still.
In patient expectation we live for that great day when your renewed creation your glory shall display.

*The Charge & Benediction

The Postlude

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

Please be seated in personal reflection until the Postlude ends.

The Advent Lighters are Gerry Zekert and Sherman Brown at the 8:30 service and Eric and Elizabeth Snader at the 11:00 service.

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Announcements for November 23-November 30

I am grateful for your gracious welcome into this church community and for this wonderful staff.
~Kim Clayton

I am grateful for this new job and all of the wonderful people I have met.
~Deanna Ferares

I am so grateful for the love and friendship from our church family.
~Mary Ann Casey

I am grateful for mercy and hope.
~Larry Casey

I am grateful for MUSIC because it brings us together and provides joy, solace, and meaning for many.
~Amy Shirk

I am grateful for the youth and families of this church and their endless energy, incredible passion and service-minded hearts.
~Eric Snader

How are you? I’m GRATEFUL!

I am grateful for the faith and fellowship of this congregation. It has been a joy to serve as your Interim Associate Pastor.
~Michelle Abel

I am grateful for my grandsons, Riley and Rowan Eland and McCully, McCrae, and McKane Kave.
~John Howe

I am grateful for the life we share and the friends we meet along the way.
~Frank Johnson

I am grateful for the sound of laughter echoing in the hallways.
~Jen Rowe

I am grateful to live somewhere that we can experience all of the seasons.
~Brittany Harvey

I am grateful for each other.
~John Copley

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, Nov. 27
Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122;
Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, Dec. 4
Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7,18-19;
Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

Weekly Meetings & Activities
Thurs. (11/24)—Office Closed—Happy Thanksgiving
Fri. (11/25) — Office Closed
Sat. (11/26) — Micah Breakfast, 7:00am (FH)
Sun. (11/20) — Worship, 8:30am (Sanct./YouTube)
  LIFT Hour, 9:45am (FH)
  Worship, 11am (Sanct.)
Mon. (11/28) — Keep it Moving-Body and Soul, 3:15pm (FH)
Tues. (11/29) — Men’s Breakfast Group, 7:30am (Conf.rm)
Wed. (11/30) — Meditation Group, 6pm (Zoom)

Church Family News
Capsule of Concern: Trina Parsons, Bobbie Korns, Kim Fischer, Doris Glidden, Doris Gulatsi, Lou Silvey

Looking Ahead
November 24-25—Church office closed
December 7 - Pints and Parables, 7:00pm at 6 Bears and a Goat
December 8 - Make Space for Advent opens
December 9 - Food Truck/Christmas movie night, 6:00-8:00
December 18 - Lessons in Carols, 11:00 am worship service.
Birthdays this week Nov. 23-Nov. 30
23. Grace Hynden, Joan Dunbar, Kathryn Rexrode
24. Jayce Wright
25. Emily Wright, Liz Ross
26. Mike Porter, Robert Fidler
27. Logan Coddington
28. Rachel Statler
29. John Parkinson, Jim Van Hulzen, Josh Hoover
30. Bill Stewart

Poinsettia Orders-Poinsettias will be used to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. The deadline to purchase Poinsettias is Sunday, December 4. Purchases can be made online, in person, or through the mail using the order form.

Suppers for Seven is a small group fellowship opportunity for groups of about 7 people to gather together for dinner in homes or at restaurants. People who sign up are placed in groups, and will begin to meet in the new year. Sign ups are online or contact Scott Fischer, VaNavigator@msn.com Couples and singles are welcome to sign up.

Sunday, November 27th, the Faith and Movies class will discuss Victoria and Abdul (2017). Victoria and Abdul is available from Netflix, the library, and Amazon (rental or purchase)

The “Being Reformed” Class is our hybrid LIFT class. You can participate in this class in person in the conference room, or you can tune in via zoom. The zoom link is on our website or click on the following link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88141244845

LIFT News
LIFT classes - Click the link here for the list of classes or check the website. We hope you can join us.

If you are looking for ways to continue engaging with the lessons and materials mentioned during our weekly LIFT hour, check out our take home resources on our website. Follow this link to download different take-home resources for you and your loved ones to explore together at home: https://fredericksburgpc.org/resource-page

“Make Space for Advent” is an interactive experience for all ages. Stations around the Fellowship Hall engage families and individuals in creativity and reflection. Activities include a cooperative mosaic, luminaries, stars of gratitude, and a walk through the Christmas story. Opening night is Friday, December 9, from 6:00 to 8:00 in conjunction with Food Truck and Christmas movie night. “Make Space” will also be open the first 2 Sundays in December and select weeknights the first two weeks of December.

The Micah Lessons and Carols service will be December 6, at 5:00 in Market Square. Families are invited to bake cookies for the event, as well as attend. The service will be interactive.

Donations needed for the Micah Cold Weather Shelter (CWS): packages of Men’s (boxer style) and Women’s underwear sizes medium through X-large and packages of Men’s and Women’s socks. Items can be placed in the Micah Bin located in the Lobby of the CE building.

Clothesline Ministry
The winter Clothesline Ministry will begin the first week of December. Please bring hats, gloves, mittens and earmuffs. There will be a bin in the CE lobby prior to December 1 for donations. Starting the first week of December, you are invited to hang your donation inside a resealable plastic bag on the line with a clothespin or clip.

Calling all Knitters and Crocheters: Presbyterian Women are off to a good start with hats and scarves for the winter clothesline. Please continue to knit and crochet. We have a long winter ahead of us and our neighbors can use out help. If you are interested in more information about how to be involved, please contact Pam Hinds, hindspw@aol.com. Be on the lookout for another mission get together. Keep on knitting and crocheting!!

Cookies, bagged 6 to a bag, are needed for the December 17 dinner. You can drop them off at church on Friday 16th or after 2 pm on December 17th. Contact Karen Johnson, ksjohnson422@msn.com, (540) 621-5685, if you would like to help at the dinner together in the new year.