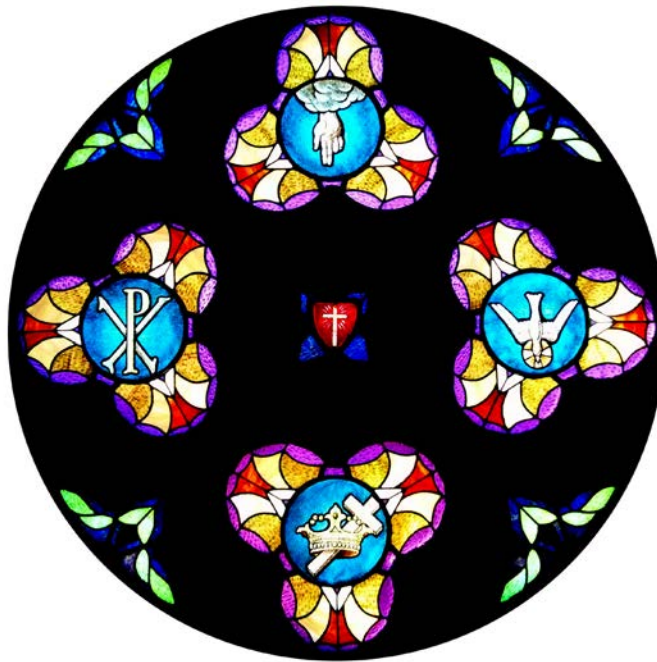


December 4, 2016

First Presbyterian Church

The Second Sunday of Advent



Glorify. Grow.

Mission Statement:

We, as the Church, are the Body of Christ equipped through prayer by the Holy Spirit to glorify God; through passionate worship, nurturing fellowship, sacrificial service, respectful evangelism, and active discipleship, we encourage and challenge all ages of our congregation and community to grow in relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Ask an usher for a large print bulletin, Bible, or hearing enhancement device.

Prayer cards, visitor information cards, and offering envelopes can be found in the pews. Please place them in the offering plate.

Preaching: Rev. Rich McDermot

8:30 Lay Leader: Tina Hanson

Advent wreath: The O'Malley Family

11:00 Lay Leader: Maggie Johnson

Advent wreath: The Gavalda Family

The Worship of God

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Words in bold are spoken by the congregation.

§ Invites all who are able to stand.

The flowers in the narthex are given to the
glory of God by Allen and Carole Ray.

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

Isaiah 9:2

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

Prelude

Suite Médiévale: Improvisation

Jean Langlais

Lighting the Advent Candles

Voluntary (11:00)

Go Tell It On the Mountain

arr. Laura Farnell

Children's Music Ministries

Cassandra Kirby, director Dolly Hall, clarinet

§ Hymn 83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTGART

§ Prayer of Confession (said together)

**We are captive and exiled, O God, because we, each in our own way, have chosen our own
path away from you. We are hungry for wisdom and knowledge, because too often we have
substituted our judgment for yours. We are lost and in need of guidance.**

Come, Lord Jesus: forgive us and restore us.

Come, Lord Jesus: guide us and deliver us.

Come, Lord Jesus: teach us and renew us.

Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

§ Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel! **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

§ Hymn of Assurance 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN 42

**Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace! So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load.
To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.**

§ Passing the Peace

Greet those around you with, "**The peace of Christ be with you.**"

§ Hymn 95

Prepare the Way of the Lord

PREPARE THE WAY

Community Joys and Events

Proclaiming

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:2–7

Old Testament page 638

Anthem (8:30)

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus
Pat May, soprano Cheryl Harris, piano

Douglas Wagner

Anthem (11:00) Unto Us a Child Is Born Laura Farnell
Children's Music Ministries

Laura Farnell, director Cheryl Harris, piano Jeanne Chin, violin

For unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given. God is with us, Emmanuel.

For unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given. Alleluia! A savior has come.

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.

The stars in the sky looked down where he lay. The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

He shall be called Emmanuel, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace!

Children's Time (11:00)

Children ages 3 to Kindergarten are invited to go to Kids For Christ (KFC) in room 218.

Scripture Reading Luke 1:26–38 New Testament page 56

The Sermon The Announcement of the Messiah Rev. McDermott

The Table

Offertory (8:30) Suite Médiévale: Offertoire Jean Langlais

(11:00) Mid-Winter Bob Chilcott

Text found in Hymn 144

Invitation to the Table

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.**

Prayer of Consecration and the Lord's Prayer sung (see page 4)

Words of Institution

The Bread and Cup

8:30: Come forward to partake.

11:00: Eat the bread as it is served. Hold the cup to drink together.

While passing the elements, you may say, "the body of Christ," and, "the cup of salvation."

Prayer after Communion

Sending

§ Hymn 105 People, Look East BESANÇON

§ Charge and Benediction the congregation joins hands

§ Postlude Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland Andreas Nikolaus Vetter



The Lord's Prayer

for the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Arlington, Texas



Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be thy name; _____

Thy king - dom come; Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heav - en.

Give us this day our dai - ly bread; for - give us our debts as we for - give our debt - ors;

Lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil:

For Thine is the king - dom, and the pow - er, and the glo - ry, for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Comments for Contemplation

The Announcement of the Messiah

Isaiah 9:2–7, Luke 1:26–38

1. These remarkable words were delivered by Isaiah of Jerusalem more than 700 years before Jesus Christ was born. And as we will discover, Jesus is clearly the only person to whom these _____ titles can appropriately apply.
2. Many Christians simply try to keep their faith in a place where it doesn't get too intrusive in their lives. They limit their commitment to Christ, and as a result, they also limit what they can hear and _____ from God.
3. It might be fair to say that if Mary had not responded in faith to Gabriel's message, we might not be here today, and the two-thirds of the world that claims to believe in our Lord Jesus Christ would be dramatically different. But, by the grace of God, Mary did respond in faith and offers us the ultimate _____ of faith. In fact, Mary is a perfect example of how we are to receive God's love.
4. Of course, at this point, I believe Mary had a choice. She could have rejected the news as terrible, and protested this call to her from the Lord. Like Zechariah in the story before this, she could have shown no faith and complained. She was young, unmarried, poor, had a plan for the future that this would foul up, and had to figure out a way to tell _____ to whom she was engaged.
5. Mary, who is elevated, remains humble. Her elevation did not create a barrier between her and others so that they became her servants. She, who is honored above all women, did not become proud. She is known to the disciples and the early Christian believers as one who bore the Christ child but who remained humble. She not only _____ the gospel, she lived it.

This week @ FPCA

Sunday 12/4

8:30 a.m.	Worship in Chapel
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Worship in Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.	Congregational Meeting
1:30 p.m.	Children's Music Ministries
2:00 p.m.	PCGRC

Monday 12/5

3:30 p.m.	Blanton Kids Beach Club
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Tuesday 12/6

3:30 p.m.	Ellis Kids Beach Club
6:30 p.m.	HOPE Tutoring
7:00 p.m.	Festival of Tables

Wednesday 12/7

7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
10:00 a.m.	Quilting Group
6:15 p.m.	Ring of Praise Handbells
7:00 p.m.	Library Group
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 12/8

6:30 p.m.	Preschool Christmas Program
6:30 p.m.	HOPE Tutoring

Friday 12/9

6:00 p.m.	Kids Night Out
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Saturday 12/10

6:00 p.m.	Youth Christmas Party Movie Night
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Information for the December 18th bulletin should be turned in to the church office today, or emailed to kim@firstprestexas.org by this Monday.

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns:

Esther Albright, Chona Pacot Anwar, David Boice, Shirley Bragg, James (Andrew) Bridges, Carl Carpenter, Crystal Castaneda, Kevin Chin, Jerry Colleps, Lee Carol Copeland, Dorothy Curtis, Ted Dysart, Ken Floyd, Bobbie Fowler, Tom Fowler, Nadine Freeman, Lila Glenn, David Goff, Susan Graham, Dick Haney, Margery Harrand, Edna and Ken Harris, Brandon Hay, Bill Hayden, Doyle Malone, Allen Miller, Mary Ellen Miller, Pat Mingle, Barbara Mooers, Ruth Moore, Bill Moulton, Bill Olsen, Jim L. Quick, Albert Ross, Eulabel Sheldon, Linda Smith, Al Smithson, Bob Spriggs, Brooks and Connie Taylor, BJ Thomas (Rev. Larry Thomas' wife), Jerry Thomas, Allen Underwood, Donna Vickers, Jessica Villarreal, Mary Jane Wright

Prayers for family serving in the armed forces:

Aaron Alonso, Ben Boughton, Riley Curnutt, Austin Curran, Eric Dill, Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Damien King, Mike Mancini, Jack Murtha, Colin Peden, Jason Polk, Ryan Powell, Ryan Regalado, Christopher Young and Robbie Wallace

Prayers for our home-bound members

Prayers for those who do not know Christ

If you have any congregational care needs, please contact Pastor Rich McDermott at the church office 817-274-8286 or his cell phone: 970-218-3689.

For questions about specific concerns listed above, please contact Juanice Young at juanicey@gmail.com or 817-794-5626.

December Special Offerings

A Presbyterian tradition for almost seventy years, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of four special offerings supported by our church. Three of these are designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church to provide congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes that help those in need.

The receipts from the Christmas Joy Offering are distributed equally to 1) the Board of Pensions for The Assistance Program, a means to provide financial assistance for current and retired church workers in need; and 2) the National Ministries of the General Assembly Council to support Presbyterian racial ethnic education and leadership development. To view a brief video about the Christmas Joy Offering, visit www.pcusa.org/cjoffering.

Also, continuing a local tradition of many years, all offerings (except for those otherwise designated) received at our Christmas Eve services at FPCA will go to benefit the wonderful ministry of Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS). To find out more about PCHAS, visit www.pchas.org.

Offering envelopes for the Joy Offering can be found outside the Sanctuary and Chapel.

Printing provided by The Fowler Group
Please recycle. 

1200 South Collins
Arlington, Texas 76010

www.FirstPresTexas.org
817-274-8286

Congregational Meeting

Join us today for the Congregational Meeting after the 11:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary. We hope to elect Elders, Deacons, two members of the CNT, one Trustee and Pastor's Terms of Call. Please plan to attend! Childcare will be provided.

Festival of Tables on December 6

The Festival of Tables will be held on Tuesday, December 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

To have a successful event, we need volunteers to serve as hostesses for the tables.

Contact Bev Koch at 817-261-3202

The Mitten Tree

As winter arrives, remember the people who do not have basic necessities to keep them warm. During the month of December, the congregation can extend the joy of sharing by bringing mittens, gloves, hats, new socks and underwear, books, games, small toys and other gifts to be placed on the Mitten Tree. These items will be given to children and adults who need them this winter at the Life Shelter and Arlington Charities. This year the need is greater than ever!

The Mitten Tree is located in the hall across from the crosses, or you can place items in the SOS boxes. As always, the Mission and Evangelism Team thanks you for all your wonderful support in helping in our local outreach to the community.

The Dove Tree

The Dove Tree is in the Westminster Hall. Each dove will have a name and address of one of our home bound members. Advent is a great time for us to spread love to those who cannot get out easily. Please take a dove from the tree and visit one of our home bound. A small gift, a card, a poinsettia, etc. will brighten their holiday season and you will be blessed in return.

Preschool Christmas Program

The Preschool will be celebrating the birth of Jesus with a special program titled, "Angel Band." We would love for everyone to join us Thursday, December 8th at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Santa will be in the Fellowship Hall after the program.

Gifts of Hope

FPCA is launching a new opportunity called "Gifts of Hope" for the 2016 Advent Season. Gifts of Hope is an alternative gift market that offers a creative and caring way to honor friends, family members, colleagues, etc. by donating to a wide range of outreach organizations. "Shoppers" choose an organization and donation amount from the list and in turn receive a card to give as a gift.

This program not only supports outreach organizations, but also seeks to combat the materialism of Christmas.

Note: Because the donation will not be a direct contribution to FPCA, the donation is not tax deductible and will not appear on your yearly contribution statement. Stop by a table before and after both worship services between Sunday, November 27th and Sunday, December 18th to purchase your gifts of hope! You may also turn in Gifts of Hope order forms in the church office.

Feel free to email Laura at Laura.Farnell@gmail.com or call or text (817) 478-5676 for more information.

It's time to purchase your Gifts of Hope!

An Advent Festival

a service of worship in song
celebrating the coming of the Savior
with choir and chamber orchestra

featuring Benedictus

by Dan Pinkston

Sunday, December 11, 11:00 a.m.
in the sanctuary

First Presbyterian Church

1200 S. Collins St

Arlington, TX 76010

www.FirstPresTexas.org

Don't miss this worship opportunity!

Belize Mission Trip 2017 - 365 Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the Belize Mission Trip Fundraiser! If you missed it, you can still support us. Please contact Suzie McCoy at 817-271-5995 or smccoybelize@gmail.com.

Checks should be made payable to FPCA and include "Belize Mission" in the memo line.

The Belize Mission Team appreciates all of the support from the congregation each year. Our trip would not be possible without your support. Thank you, The Belize Mission Team