

December 9, 2018

First Presbyterian Church

The Second Sunday of Advent



Following Jesus, Transforming Life

Mission Statement:

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington is transforming life by glorifying God, following Jesus, and loving our neighbor.

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.

Rev. Rich McDermott, pastor
Rev. Chris Campbell, associate pastor
Russell Farnell, minister of music
Shina Heo, organist
Cheryl Harris, assistant organist
Cassandra Kirby and Hunter Hendrickson,
Music Ministry Interns
The Chancel Choir and the Festival Brass

An Advent Festival

11:00 a.m.

Words in bold are spoken by the congregation.

§ Invites all who are able to stand.

Gathering

Greeting and Prayer of Preparation

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Bob Koch, Shannon Annen, Donna Vickers

§ Hymn 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5

Glory to God

Russell Farnell

I.

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.

Cassandra Kirby, conductor

§ Passing the Peace

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

II.

*Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.*

Time of Silent Meditation

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, we know that we have sinned against you and our neighbor.

We know that we have broken the Law of the Lord again and again.

We know that we seek our own way instead of yours.

Change our hearts, O God. Renew in us a right spirit.

Forgive us, and lead us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

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

§ The Gloria Patri

GREATOREX

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.

Proclaiming

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60:1-2

Glory to God

Russell Farnell

III.

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;*

VI.

*You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:8-14

§ Hymn 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

Children (age 3 to fourth grade) are invited to go to Kids For Christ (KFC) in room 216.

Pastoral Prayer and 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.

Responding

Offertory

Do you Hear What I Hear?

arr. Harry Simone

Edrea Ngwa, Ryan Farnell, Sarah Teel, trebles

*Said the night wind to the little lamb, "Do you see what I see,
Way up in the sky, little lamb? Do you see what I see?
A star, a star, dancing in the night with a tail as big as a kite."*

*Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy, "Do you hear what I hear,
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy? Do you hear what I hear?
A song, a song, high above the trees with a voice as big as the sea."*

*Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king, "Do you know what I know,
In your palace warm, mighty king?" Do you know what I know?
A Child, a Child shivers in the cold. Let us bring Him silver and gold."*

*Said the king to the people everywhere, "Listen to what I say:
Pray for peace, people everywhere! Listen to what I say:
The Child, the Child, sleeping in the night He will bring us goodness and light."*

Litany of Praise

Glory to God in the highest, **and peace to his people on earth.**
Lord God, heavenly King, **Almighty God and Father,**
we worship you, we give you thanks, **we praise you for your glory.**
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, **Lord God, Lamb of God,**
you take away the sin of the world: **have mercy on us;**
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: **receive our prayer.**
For you alone are the Holy One, **you alone are the Lord,**
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, **with the Holy Spirit,**
in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

I.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Glory to God in the highest. And on earth peace to men of good will.

Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.
We praise you. We bless you. We worship you. We glorify you.

Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.
We give thanks to you for your great glory.

Hunter Hendrickson, conductor

II.

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.
Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty.

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.
Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son.

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
Lord God, Lamb of God, only Son of the Father,

Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
You take away sins of world, have mercy on us.

Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.
You take away the sins of world, receive our prayer.

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.
You sit at right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

III.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus,
For you alone are the Holy One

Tu solus Dominus, tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe,
You alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,

cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Sending

§ Hymn 113

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

§ Charge and Benediction

the congregation joins hands



Christmas Poinsettias!

Today is the last day to place orders for the Poinsettias. Order forms are in the Narthex, Chapel hall and church office. Please complete the form and place it in the offering plate, the baskets in the Chapel hall and Narthex, or bring them to the church office. The cost is \$10.00 for each dedication.

Gifts of Hope Returns!

FPCA will once again be offering Gifts of Hope for the 2018 Advent Season. Gifts of Hope is an alternative gift market that offers a creative and caring way to honor friends, family members, colleagues, etc. through donations to a wide range of outreach organizations. "Shoppers" choose an organization, donate the amount specified, and then receive a card to give as a gift to friends or family. This program not only supports outreach organizations, but also seeks to offer a less materialistic option for gift giving.

Gifts of Hope will be available for sale after both worship services until Sunday, December 16th. If you have any questions or are available to help with the program (by selling Gifts of Hope before/after worship services, etc.), please email Laura Farnell at laura.farnell@gmail.com or call or text (682) 478-5676.

Please turn in your pledge card!

Thanks to all of you who have turned in your blue pledge card for 2019! We appreciate your diligence and commitment to Jesus' mission and ministry at First Presbyterian Church of Arlington. **If you have not turned in your pledge card, you should be receiving a mailing this week with another card and return envelope.**

We would be most grateful if you would please fill out your card, and send the two smaller parts to the church, so that we may know that you are committing yourself anew to the Lord's work at FPCA. Both your name and an

approximate annual amount you hope to give in the coming year will help our Stewardship Team know something of what to anticipate in 2019, and will encourage us to trust in the Lord's provision for our church.

Thank you so much for helping us to complete our Stewardship campaign, and for offering yourself anew to the Lord and his mission at FPCA!

December's Two Special Offerings

Our church supports two special offerings during the month of December. One is the Christmas Joy Offering which goes directly to Presbytery. The other goes to Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS). Offering envelopes can be found outside the sanctuary or chapel or designate on your check which offering you are supporting.

The receipts from the Joy Offering are distributed equally to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs and to the National Ministries of the General Assembly Council to support Presbyterian racial ethnic education. To view a brief video about the Christmas Joy Offering, visit <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/christmasjoy>.

Our church continually supports PCHAS but especially at Christmas. During the evening Christmas Eve services at our church, the undesignated offerings will benefit the Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS). To find out more about PCHAS, visit <http://www.pchas.org>. You could also speak to Marge and Bob Dawson, PCHAS Ambassadors and volunteers, about this very worthy organization which supports many children and families in a variety of ways throughout Texas.

Submitted by Sheri Quick and Bob Dawson, Mission and Evangelism Team

Senior Flexibility Class

Come get fit with us! The Senior Flexibility Class meet on Tuesday and Friday from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There is no charge, but participants will be responsible for purchasing and storing their own exercise equipment. If interested, contact Thomas Dombrowsky at 817-287-9773 or tomasdom@sbcglobal.net.

FIGHT BACK WITH JOY: Celebrate More, Regret Less, Stare Down Your Greatest Fears

FIGHT BACK WITH JOY, a Bible Study by Margaret Feinberg will be our Sunday School topic for five weeks during Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, Dec. 9, 16, 23, 30 and Jan. 6. This will be a great opportunity for friends and family who struggle during the holidays at this time of year. Margaret will be our teacher through an excellent DVD series.

She will teach us on six topics in five weeks:

Dec. 9: Secrets of Joyful People; The Hidden Treasure of Joy;

Dec. 16: Poke Holes in the Darkness;

Dec. 23: A Side of Joy No One Talks About;

Dec. 30: The Holy Mess of Joy;

Jan. 6: What to Do When Those You Love Are Hurting.

While no books are necessary for this study, a Bible Study book (yellow) and Margaret's book (green) on the topic are available to be purchased online through LifeWay.com, Christianbook.com, and Amazon.com.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 AM Sundays, and bring a friend or family member!



Can you offer a special gift to FPCA this year at Christmas?

As we face the end of 2018 at FPCA, we are encouraged by the generous giving this year by our congregation. We are in an excellent position to finish the year well. With a small deficit of about \$19,000 going into December, we are poised to eliminate the deficit and finish in the black, but we will need your help with some special year-end gifts. If you can give a special Christmas gift before the end of the year, we would be eternally grateful for your extraordinary generosity. May the Lord bless you richly for your great care for your church.

Remember, on Christmas Eve, December 24, FPCA generously gives all the undesignated gifts in the offering plate to the Presbyterian Children's Home and Services ministry, which assists at-risk youth and families to grow into their God-given potential. Thank you for joining us on that special occasion.

THE STORY Continues...

Sermon Series and Study Resumes January 13

Join us as we continue our 31-week overarching tour of God's Word in the entire Bible (pausing for Advent and Christmas), using a 31-chapter book of Scriptures chronologically arranged called THE STORY.

Both the sermon series and several Sunday School classes will follow the themes of THE STORY, which requires reading less than three pages/day, or fifteen pages/week. Copies of THE STORY can be ordered through Christianbook.com. Come and discover how your story connects with God's story of steadfast love and mercy.

The Dove Tree

The Dove Tree will be up December 1 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.

The Mitten Tree

Please help families during this Christmas season and during the cold winter months by bringing new warm gloves, hats, and scarves and hang them on the Mitten Tree! These will be given to Arlington Charities for children and adults in time for Christmas. The Mitten Tree is located by the choir room. Please stop by and make someone's Christmas happy...and WARM!

SUPPORT THE CHURCH'S ONLINE PRESENCE

MAKE SURE TO LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

GO TO

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FIRSTPRETEXAS



This week @ FPCA

Sunday 12/9	8:30 a.m.	NO 8:30 SERVICE
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Advent Festival Service
	2:00 p.m.	PCGRC
Monday 12/10	3:30 p.m.	Blanton Kids Beach Club
Tuesday 12/11	9:00 a.m.	Senior Flexibility Class
	10:00 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
	2:45 p.m.	Mentoring Program
	6:30 p.m.	HOPE Tutoring
Wednesday 12/12	8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Quilting Group
	6:00 p.m.	Ring of Praise Handbells
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday 12/13	2:45 p.m.	Mentoring Program
	6:30 p.m.	HOPE Tutoring
Friday 12/14	9:00 a.m.	Senior Flexibility Class
	6:00 p.m.	Kids Night Out

Information for the December 23 bulletin should be turned into Kim in the church office by this Monday.

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns:

Esther Albright, Richard Ankele, Elaine Bahn, Jack Bos, Shirley Bragg, James (Andrew) Bridges, Kevin Chin, Frank Coburn, Edna Collins, Lee Carol Copeland, Mike Copeland, Michael Deardorff, Laura, Moses and Abe Duffney, Neal Estes, Don Farrell, Bobbie Fowler, Tom Fowler, Joe and Lila Glenn, Jack Gray, Andrew Hydock, Bob Johnson, Tim Karnes, Pat May, J. Fred Miller, Allen Miller, Barbara Mooers, Ruth Moore, Cosme Pacot, J.D. Paulk, Bill and Sue Perry, John Pittman, Nita Price, Jim L. Quick, Sarah Rabb, Joanna Rouborn, Al Smithson, Kyle Terwilliger, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Richard Whitenight, Jake Winkler, Karl Winter, Mary Jane Wright, Bob Zakrzewski

Prayers for family serving in the armed forces:

Ben Boughton, Riley Curnutt, Austin Curran, James Dailey, Eric Dill, Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Damien King, Mike Mancini, Amie Murtha, Jack Murtha, Stephen O'Neil Sosa, Colin Peden, Jason Polk, Ryan Powell, Ryan Regalado, Peyton Steeno, Christopher Young, 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.

For questions about specific concerns listed above, please contact Marge Dawson at mdawsonarltx@att.net or 817-980-6825.

Staff Directory

Rich McDermott	Senior Pastor	rich@firstprestexas.org
Chris Campbell	Associate Pastor for Missional Discipleship	chris@firstprestexas.org
Russell Farnell	Minister of Music	russell@firstprestexas.org
Shina Heo	Organist	shina@firstprestexas.org
Gary Lindley	Office Manager	facilities@firstprestexas.org
Adrian Rodriguez	Director of Youth Ministry	adrian@firstprestexas.org
Kyle Terwilliger	Director of Children's Ministry	kyle@firstprestexas.org
Sandra Ybarra	Preschool Director	sandra@firstprestexas.org
Eric Gottmann	Director of Social Media	eric@firstprestexas.org
Cheryl Harris	Music Ministry Associate	cheryl@firstprestexas.org
Jeanne Chin	Finance Manager	jeanne@firstprestexas.org
Kim Lewis	Administrative Ministry Assistant	kim@firstprestexas.org
Jane Leatham	Finance Assistant	jane@firstprestexas.org