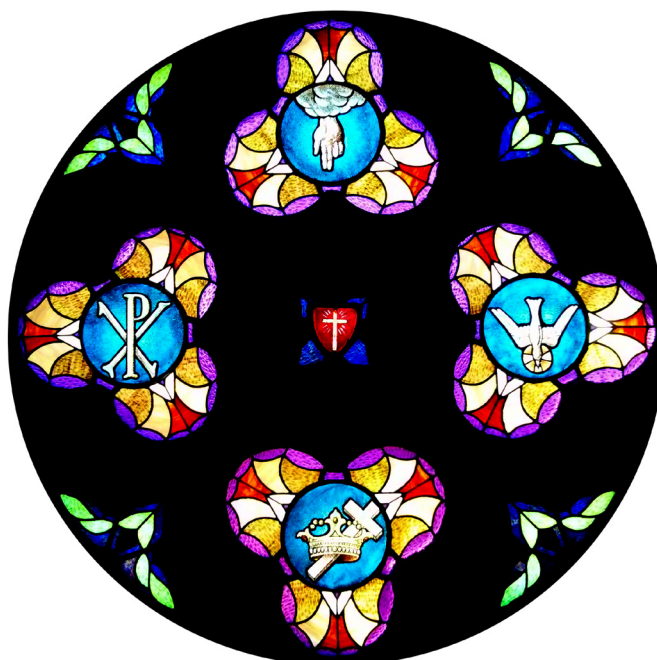


December 1, 2024

First Presbyterian Church

First 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.

Pastor: Rev. Chris Campbell

Lay Leader: Matt Annen

Organist: Shina Heo

The Worship of God

Words in bold are spoken by the congregation.

§ Invites all who are able to stand.

*Please silence all phones and devices.
Please fill out the Friendship Pad in your row.*

Gathering

Prelude Awake, Calls the Voice to Us Johann Sebastian Bach

Prayer for Preparation

Holy God, you have promised us that the day of our salvation is near. Keep us faithful in love and watchful in prayer, so that we may stand with confidence and joy at the coming of Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Opening Prayer Rev. Chris Campbell

Lighting the Advent Candles The Haury Family

We light the candle of Hope as a sign of the coming light of Christ,
who is called the Son of the Most High;

Of his kingdom there will be no end.

About the hour of Christ's coming no one knows; therefore keep awake,
for you do not know when the time will come.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the Word of God endures forever.

§ Hymn 105 People, Look East BESANÇON

§ Prayer of Confession

Lord God, our lives are filled with sin.

We forget our neighbor's needs and do not love you above all else.

We need a Savior.

Forgive us and help us to be ready for Jesus in our own hearts.

O come, O come, Savior of the world. Amen.

§ Assurance of Pardon

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

§ 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

Old Testament Reading Genesis 1:1-4a Old Testament page 1

Children's Time

Children, age 3 to fourth grade, are invited to go to Kids For Christ (KFC) in room 108.

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.

The musical score is written on a single staff in 3/4 time. It consists of six lines of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics. The lyrics are: '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:', and 'For Thine is the king - dom, and the pow - er, and the glo - ry, for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.' The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a clear melody and accompaniment.

105

People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more
 5 An - gels, an-nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
 nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

Peo - ple, look

a - ble; trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.

east and sing to - day:



Peo-ple, look east:

Love, the Guest, is on the way.
Love, the Rose, is on the way.
Love, the Bird, is on the way.
Love, the Star, is on the way.
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Peo-ple, look east:

(Love is on the way.)



Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 thee; here, Lord, a - bid. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7-10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.

An Advent Festival

a service of worship in song

celebrating the coming of the Savior with
choirs of children, youth, adults, and handbells,
along with readings and congregational carols

Sunday, December 8
11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

featuring *A Ceremony of Carols*
by Benjamin Britten

First Presbyterian Church
1200 S. Collins St Arlington, TX 76010
www.firstprestexas.org



Blood Drive

Sunday, December 15 in Fellowship Hall
from 8:45 a.m.~1:00 p.m.

Appointments can be made online:
https://www.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/156690

or contact Bob Dawson (214-415-5396)
to make an appointment.

Allow 45 minutes for a donation.



Congregational Meeting

Sunday, December 15

The session has called a congregational meeting for after worship on December 15th.
The purpose of this meeting is to elect new officers.
All members are encouraged to stay after worship and participate.

Christmas Poinsettias

Help prepare the Sanctuary to celebrate the birth of the Savior by ordering a poinsettia that will be placed through the Christmas season. Poinsettia orders can be dedicated in honor or memory of a loved one. Order forms are available in the Narthex. Place completed forms in the basket or the offering plate, or bring it to the church office. The cost is \$13.00 each, and the deadline is December 8.

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 near the Fellowship Hall. Please stop by and make someone's Christmas happy...and WARM!

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.

Gifts of Hope

FPCA will again be offering Gifts of Hope, an alternative gift market, with an opportunity for you to participate in this creative and caring way to honor friends and family through donations to a wide range of outreach organizations. Cards are provided to share with honored recipients to indicate the support of outreach organizations that shows God's love around the globe. Gifts of Hope will be available for purchase before and after worship the first three Sundays in December.

For more information contact Suzie McCoy – txt 817-271-5995.

FPCA's Two Special Offerings in December

Our church supports two special offerings during the month of December. One is the Christmas Joy Offering which goes directly to Presbyterian Church - USA. The other goes to Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS). Special offering envelopes can be found in the narthex or you can designate on a blank envelope or on the memo line of your check which offering you are supporting.

A Presbyterian tradition for over seventy years, the Christmas Joy Offering is designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church to provide congregations a direct way of supporting specific causes that help those in need. 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 read brief accounts of those who have benefited from the Christmas Joy Offering, visit: <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/christmas-joy/>.

Our church continually supports PCHAS but especially at Christmas. During FPCA's Christmas Eve services, the undesignated offerings will benefit PCHAS. You could also speak to Marge and Bob Dawson, PCHAS Ambassadors and volunteers, about this very worthy organization which supports many children and families with services you or someone you know might find helpful. To find out more about the many services PCHAS offers, visit: <https://www.pchas.org/who-we-are/pchas-way>.

FPCA MUSIC MINISTRIES

PRESENT

Christmas

WITH

TEXAS BOYS CHOIR

SATURDAY, DEC. 14

7 PM IN THE SANCTUARY

SAVE
the
DATE

*to celebrate
the ordination of*

ADRIAN J. RODRIGUEZ

DECEMBER 15, 2024

4 p.m.

Rest in the Lord

Women's Advent Party
Tuesday, December 10, 2024
7:00 p.m. in the Library

The FPCA Women's Ministry Team invites you to enjoy a night of fellowship with your sisters in Christ as we celebrate the start of Advent - a time of anticipating the coming of our Savior.



Don't let Christmas stress you out this year! Come join the fun and enjoy some treats, as we spend time with friends, rest our souls, and welcome in the season. Wear something comfy and cozy . . . can't wait to see you there!

Registration: Free to Register, but Let Us Know You're Coming

- FPCA Website (www.firstprestexas.org) → Ministries → Adult Ministries
- Scroll down to Women's Ministry and register

Wednesday Women's Bible Study

The Wednesday Women's Bible Study meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. Currently the meeting location is in the Fellowship Hall. This year's study is the 2024-2025 PE/Horizons Bible Study "Let Justice Roll: God's call to care for Neighbors and All Creation." A light snack is served at each meeting. Members volunteer to lead the discussion and/or to bring a snack. All women are invited.

Questions?

Contact Debbie Richardson (der817@gmail.com) or Sheri Quick (sheriq@aol.com).

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 12/1

Sunday School	9:45 am
Worship Service	11:00 am
CMM and YMM Lunch	12:00 pm
Youth and Children's Music Ministries	12:45 pm

Monday 12/2

Tuesday 12/3

Senior Flexibility Class	9:30 am
Tuesday Morning Bible Study	10:30 am
HOPE Tutoring	6:30 pm

Wednesday 12/4

Men's Bible Study	8:00 am
Quilting	10:30 am
Ring of Praise Handbells	6:00 pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
CWF Bible Study	7:00 pm

Thursday 12/5

Friday 12/6

Senior Flexibility Class	9:30 am
Kids Night Out	6:00 pm

Saturday 12/7

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns:

Addie Rodriguez, Ann Scarr, Jennifer Meyer, Charles Arnold, Jo Ann Nichols, Bob Hanson and his family, Mia Navarro and her family, Billie Jo Campbell, Carol Browning, Bettye Burdett, Cyprain Engwenyi, Betty Farrell, Ken Floyd, Bobbie Fowler, Ivone Franzolin, Mary Lou Garrison, Joe and Lila Glenn, Pat May and her son Tim Karnes, Graciela Lopez Montero, Mathias Mbeng Ndip, Charlie Nieman, Tina Paulk, Jim and Sheri Quick, Aileigh Rodriguez, Eleanor Schernbeck, Tonya Scrabeck, Lorna Snyder, David Spencer, Larry Spencer, Susie Thurston, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Patrick Welborne, Sherry and Shelby Wolfe, Danny Womble

Prayers for family in the armed forces:

Colin A. Peden, Christopher Young, Wolfgang Van Wie

Prayers for our home-bound members:

Madge Casselman, Lucy Cleaver, Betty Snowden, Dee Uhri, Richard Whitenight

Prayers for those who do not know Christ

If you have any congregational care needs, contact Parish Associate, Jim Shroyer at 682-445-0155 or jim@firstprestexas.org

Staff Directory

Chris Campbell	Lead Pastor	chris@firstprestexas.org
Russell Farnell	Minister of Music	russell@firstprestexas.org
Jim Shroyer	Parish Associate	jim@firstprestexas.org
Reggie Manuel	Facilities Manager	reggie@firstprestexas.org
Shina Heo	Organist	shina@firstprestexas.org
Adrian Rodriguez	Director of Youth Ministry	adrian@firstprestexas.org
Kyle Terwilliger	Director of Children's Ministry	kyle@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
Jane Leathem	Finance Assistant	jane@firstprestexas.org