

The Third Sunday in Advent



# First Presbyterian Church Arlington

1200 South Collins St.  
Arlington, TX 76010

The people gather for the Worship of God  
**Sunday, December 14, 2025**

Preaching: Rev. Chris Campbell  
Lay Leader: Ron MacLeod  
Organist: Shina Heo

## Mission Statement:

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

## About our service

Please silence all phones and devices.

Please fill out the Friendship Pad in your row.

Words in **bold** are spoken by the congregation.

§ Invites all to stand in body or spirit

Our communion grape juice is alcohol-free. Communion is open to all.

FPCA follows the liturgical calendar. Currently we are in the season of Advent. We use purple paraments as a symbol of penitence and royalty.

If you are a guest today, please stop by the narthex for information and a warm FPCA welcome!

## Gathering

Prelude                      Awake, Calls the Voice to Us                      Johann Sebastian Bach

The Light of Christ

Prayer for Preparation

*Merciful God, you come into our midst longing for communion with us, becoming one of us. Break our resistance to life with you, show us the path toward just relations, and bring us into your unimaginable peace; in Jesus' name. Amen.*

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Rev. Chris Campbell

Lighting the Advent Candles

Mary Dodds and Sam Richardson

We light the candle of Joy 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 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

§ Prayer of Confession

**God of majesty and glory, we are thirsty for your grace.**

**You made a way for us in the wilderness, and still, in our foolishness, we go astray.**

**We hide our eyes from your presence.**

**We do not listen to your word.**

**We are lifeless when we ought to dance and speechless when we ought to sing.**

**Forgive us, O Lord. Speak peace to our fearful hearts, strengthen our weak hands,**

**and make firm our feeble knees**

**as we seek to follow in your holy way. 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.**

## Sacrament of Baptism

### § 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.**

## Proclaiming

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:46–55

New Testament page 57

Children's Time

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

Anthem

African Noel

Andre Thomas

*Sing Noel! Sing we all Noel.  
O come, ye people, gather here to hear the news of good cheer.  
The King of Kings, the Lamb of God is born today in Bethlehem.*

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:6–7

Old Testament page 638

Sermon

Proclamation: Unto Us A Child is Born

Rev. Campbell

## Responding

§ Hymn 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

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.**

Offering our Tithes, Gifts, and Lives

Offertory

Songs of Praise

African Praise Choir

Jesus came down down that we might have life, peace, love ,joy.  
Hallelujah in an abundance!  
Up on the mountain top, down in the valley below,  
Go and spread the love of Jesus . Go and spread it everywhere.  
We are walking in the light of God.

§ Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!**

## Sending

§ Hymn 88

O Come, O Come Emmanuel  
Stanzas 1–4

VENI EMMANUEL

§ Charge and Benediction

Rev. Campbell

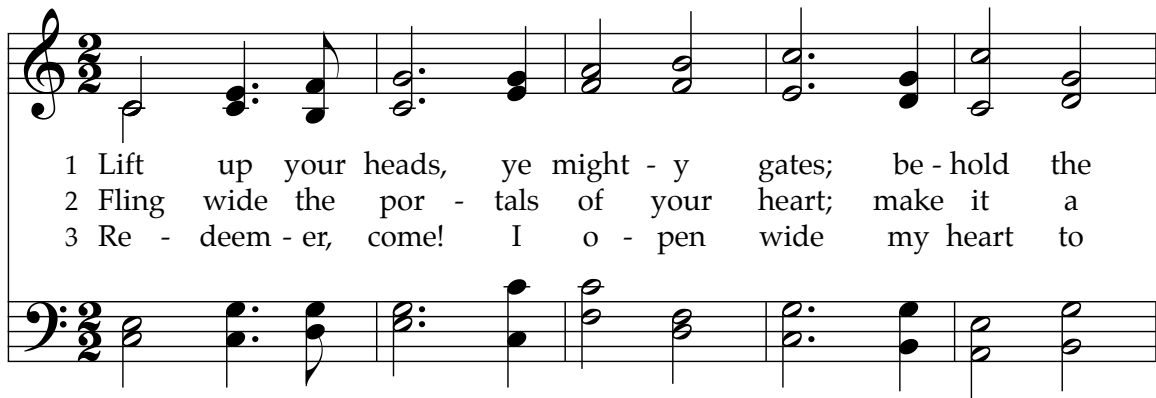
Postlude

Savior of the Nations, Come

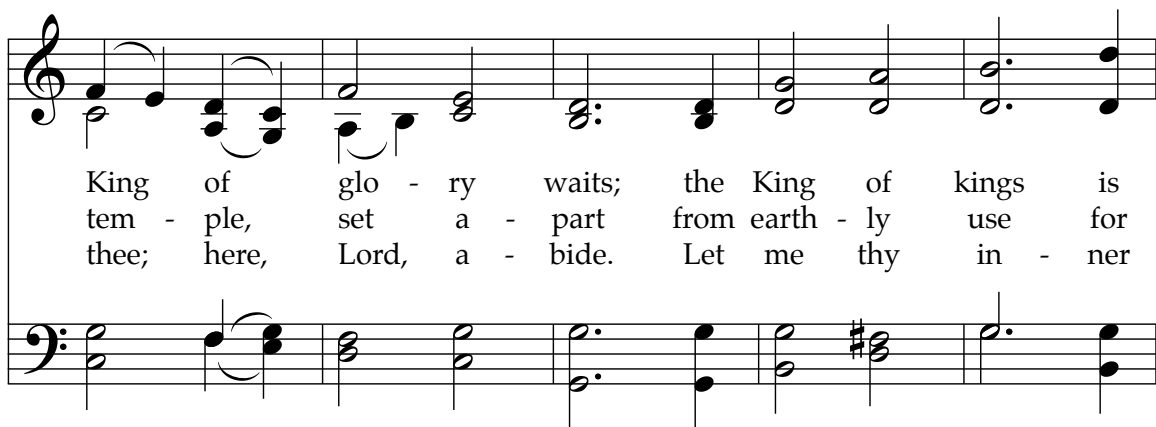
Johann Sebastian Bach



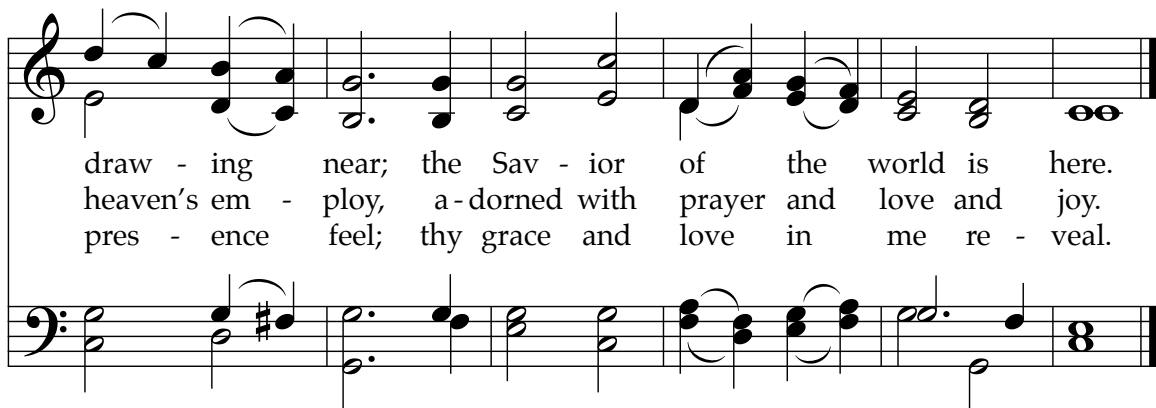
# Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93



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

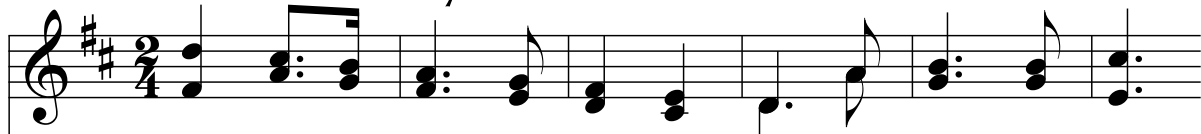


King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is  
tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner



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.

## Joy to the World



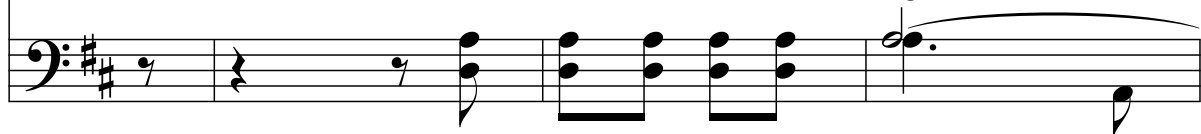
1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -



her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness



and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 and heaven and na - ture sing,



and



sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.



heaven and na - ture sing,

# 88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge  
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

5 O come, thou Key of David, come,  
 and open wide our heavenly home;  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 and close the path to misery.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
 our spirits by thine advent here;  
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
 all peoples in one heart and mind;  
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

## This week:

### Sunday, Dec. 14

- Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. in classrooms
- Worship Service - 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

### Tuesday, Dec. 16

- Senior Flexibility Class - 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday Morning Bible Study - 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
- HOPE tutoring - 6:30 p.m. in room 218
- Texas Boys Choir Christmas Concert - 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

### Wednesday, Dec. 17

- Men's Bible Study - 8 a.m. in room 204
- Quilting - 10:30 a.m. in room 204
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m.
- CWF Meeting - 7 p.m. online

### Thursday, Dec. 18

- Senior Flexibility Class - 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
- Session Meeting - 7 p.m. in the Parlor

## Coming up:

### Wednesday, Dec. 24

- Quilting - 10:30 a.m. in room 204
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

### Thursday, Dec. 25

- Church offices closed

### Thursday, Jan. 1

- Church offices closed

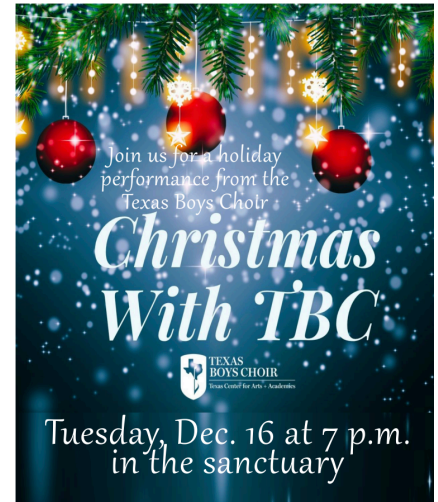
### Thursday, Jan. 8

- Team Meeting - 7 p.m.

## Community:

### Join TBC for an evening of Christmas music

Get ready to jingle all the way with the Texas Boys Choir this Christmas season Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. as they spread holiday joy. TBC's most beloved annual tradition returns bigger than ever. Tickets are available at [artsacademics.org](http://artsacademics.org).



### Dove and Mitten Trees are up!

The Dove and Mitten Trees will be up in the Narthex and Cross Hall. Each dove has a name and address of one of our homebound members. Please bring 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. Stop by and make someone's Christmas happy and warm.



### Congregational Meeting today

After worship today we will hold a short congregational meeting to discuss the election of officers and the 2026 Terms of Call.

Get  connected:



First Presbyterian  
Church Arlington



First Presbyterian  
Church Arlington



@fpcatx



[firstprestexas.org](http://firstprestexas.org)

# Prayer Ministry:

Send prayer requests to [prayer@firstprestexas.org](mailto:prayer@firstprestexas.org)

## Prayers for those with health and other concerns:

Audrey Paska, Charles Arnold, Carol Browning, Judy Crowell, Cyprain Engwenyi, Betty Farrell, Ken Floyd, Bobbie Fowler, Ivone Franzolin, Jay and Susan Graham, Nancy Guerry, Elaine Keefer, Bob and Beverly Koch, Lisa Landolt, Margaret Landolt, Shawn LeBlanc, Pat May and her son Tim Karnes, Richard Price, Judy Reck, Debbie Richardson, Lisa Scrobeck, Tonya Scrobeck, David Spencer, Drew Stephenson, Susie Thurston, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Patrick Welborne, Sherry and Shelby Wolfe, Danny Womble

## Prayers for family in the armed forces:

Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Wolfgang Van Wie, Christopher Young

## Prayers for our home-bound members:

Bettye Burdett, Madge Casselman, Judy Crowell, Margaret Fite, Bobbie Fowler, Lila Glenn, Jay and Susan Graham, Teresa Hanson, Ann Scarr, Becky Speck, Leonard and Mary Jane Tibbetts, Dee Uhri, Biddie Walker

## Pray 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](mailto:jim@firstprestexas.org).

## Annual Reports Due Jan. 1

It's that most wonderful time of year when our teams and groups submit their reports for the year. Team leaders and staff are asked to please send your reports to [info@firstprestexas.org](mailto:info@firstprestexas.org). Thank you!

## Mark your holiday calendars

### Texas Boys Choir

**Christmas Concert** - Join us Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

- Dec. 24 at 7:30 p.m. - Celebrate Christ's light coming into the world with worship, reflection, and community.



## Give a Gift of Hope

FPCA will again be offering Gifts of Hope, an alternative gift market, with an opportunity to honor friends and family through donations to a wide range of outreach organizations. Cards are provided to share with honored recipients. Gifts of Hope will be available for purchase before and after worship the first three Sundays in December as well as online through the website. For more information, contact Bob Dawson at 214.415.5396.



## Staff directory:

Chris Campbell

Lead Pastor

Russell Farnell

Minister of Music/Facilities Admin

Jim Shroyer

Parish Associate

Stephanie Arredondo

Interim Director of Youth Ministry

Kyle Terwilliger

Director of Children's Ministry

Shina Heo

Organist

Cheryl Harris

Music Ministry Associate

Tricia Regalado

Director of Communications

Jeanne Chin

Finance Manager

Jane Leathem

Finance Assistant

Bob Watkins

Prayer Ministry

Diane Chin

Night Monitor

Reggie Manuel

Custodian

[chris@firstprestexas.org](mailto:chris@firstprestexas.org)

[russell@firstprestexas.org](mailto:russell@firstprestexas.org)

[jim@firstprestexas.org](mailto:jim@firstprestexas.org)

[youth@firstprestexas.org](mailto:youth@firstprestexas.org)

[kyle@firstprestexas.org](mailto:kyle@firstprestexas.org)

[shina@firstprestexas.org](mailto:shina@firstprestexas.org)

[cheryl@firstprestexas.org](mailto:cheryl@firstprestexas.org)

[tricia@firstprestexas.org](mailto:tricia@firstprestexas.org)

[jeanne@firstprestexas.org](mailto:jeanne@firstprestexas.org)

[jane@firstprestexas.org](mailto:jane@firstprestexas.org)

[bob@firstprestexas.org](mailto:bob@firstprestexas.org)

[diane@firstprestexas.org](mailto:diane@firstprestexas.org)

[reggie@firstprestexas.org](mailto:reggie@firstprestexas.org)