



"Light of God" by James Fissel

Please join in reading and singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

The Advent Wreath— four candles (three blue, one rose) in a perfect circle of evergreen symbolizing the eternity of God — helps us to “keep our lamps trimmed and burning” as we anticipate the coming of Christ, symbolized by the large white candle in the center.

Advent Paraments for the pulpit, lectern, communion table, and the pastors' stoles were made by quilter and artist, Beth Taylor.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 140
Chorale – Chancel Choir

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

ADVENT BELL PEAL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE

When I look around, I see shadows of hunger. So many neighbors, nearby and around the world, will go to bed hungry tonight...

When I look around, I see shadows of injustice, the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer — and someone somewhere will fall asleep under a bridge tonight...

In the face of hunger, we light a candle of hope...

In the face of injustice, in the face of despair, we light a candle of hope...

May the light from this candle overwhelm the world.

May the light from this candle say to all that God's hope is coming, on earth as it already is in heaven.

Friends, be not afraid, God's hope is at hand!

* HYMN 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the ages, through the prophets and apostles you have challenged us to lay aside the works of destruction and prepare for your new creation. We confess that we continue to cling to our sinful ways – greed and lust, abuse and waste, envy and strife.

Forgive us, Holy One. By your Spirit, lead us to live in a way that shows your love and grace to those around us....

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE

PICARDY



Come, Lord Je-sus, soon in__ mer - cy, bring us to your sav - ing__ grace;



Light-en all the world a - round us with the rad-iance of your face.



Fill us with your love, re - new _____ us, here and when we leave this place.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

GLORY TO GOD

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 122

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Please join in singing Hymn 105 (stanza 5), People Look East, as the children come forward.

**Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 24:36-44

The grass withers, the flower fades;
The word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

RESPONDING and SEALING

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

In keeping with the reverence of worship, photos may not be taken during the service.

Cassie and Kevin Wieczerza present their daughter, Nora Jane Wieczszak, born May 3, 2022, for baptism.

This week's Growing in God's Love Bible story, *The Light of the World*, is found on page 332.

The musical transition following the first scripture reading invites all ages to be active participants while signaling to children an important moment in worship focused towards them.

Worship LAB is a place where children explore the flow of worship through multi-sensory experiences. Children age 5 through 5th grade are invited to join in Worship Lab each week. This week's LAB focuses on bread baking for Communion.

Ways to give:

Cash/Check

Place in the offering plate or in the mail

Text-to-Give

Text the amount you would like to give to 855-904-1523

Online

<https://bit.ly/FPCvanco>

Vanco Mobile App



SCAN ME

Please sign and pass the **Friendship Pad**. First-time-guests, we especially appreciate your contact information, legibly written, so we can give you a fuller welcome this week.

***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.

Thanksgiving over the Water and Baptism

Hymn 486

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

KINGDOM

1. Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap-tized with the Spir-it's_ sign, with this
 2. Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, love's cre-a-tion, loved in-deed! Fresh from

wa-ter God has sealed you un-to love and grace di-vine.
 God, re-fresh our spir-its; in-to joy and laugh-ter lead.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

Keep Your Lamps

Andre Thomas

Chancel Choir and John Dorsey, Djembe

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
 The time is drawing nigh.
 Children don't get weary 'till your work is done.

Christian journey soon be over,
 The time is drawing nigh.

*** Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

**All praise, eternal Christ, to thee,
 Whose advent sets thy people free;
 Once more upon thy people shine,
 and fill the world with love divine. Amen.**

*** Prayer of Dedication**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

SENDING

* **HYMN 97** *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night* ABERYSTWYTH
The left side of the center aisle will sing the stanzas beginning with Watchman. The right side of the center aisle will sing the stanzas beginning with Traveler.

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**
Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Trumpet Tune* Frederick Swann

Advent Paper-lace Banners were designed by liturgical artist Ellen Phillips and were cut by members of First Pres. Ellen says: "The designing of banners is more than an art commission; it is a spiritual discipline that begins with the scriptures. The scriptures for this first week are dark, even sorrowful.

Isaiah 64:5 wonders how we can even be saved...we have all become unclean...like filthy rags. Yet, there is still hope that the Messiah will come, and that the darkness will fade. My design for this banner is minimal and unclear. The only thing that can be identified are the rays of a slowly rising sun, a sure sign that the light will shine."

The chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Lewis and Maxine Profit and in loving memory of Jackie Voss by her husband Burt, and in honor of Burt's 95th birthday.

Music copyrights:

All music is reprinted under OneLicense.net A-720542 and under CCLI license #20971309. All rights reserved.

Cover art:

Light of God ©
2022 James Fissel |
Eyekons

Welcome

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive and diverse faith community, led by the Holy Spirit, who welcomes people of all ages and backgrounds to come together to explore, nurture, and deepen their faith.

FIRST-TIME VISITORS AND MEMBERS

Please use the Friendship Pad located in the pew to let us know you joined us in worship or use this QR code to sign our online Friendship Pad.

If you are a guest with us today, we encourage you to wear a rose window button that you can find just outside the Sanctuary in a basket. Wearing this button helps us know that you are new among us so that we can reach out to you with a fuller welcome.

Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the service in the Social Hall.



ONLINE
FRIENDSHIP PAD

WORSHIP LEADERS

Lighting the Advent Candle

Callie, Jesse, Hadley, Harper Feyen

Welcome

Hannah Lundberg

Liturgists

Megan Berry

Melissa Anne Rogers

Lector

Taoqu Chen

Children's Message

David Prentice-Hyers

Preacher

David Prentice-Hyers

Conductor

Dave VanderMeer

Organist

David Hufford

Chancel Choir

Greeter

Nancy Tena

Ushers

Dick Carlisle (captain)

Keith Bilby

Sheila Bilby

Jim Cameron

Carol Carter

Spaulding Clark

Joe Schmidt

Connie Swindle

Marty Swindle

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to Worship LAB — a multi-sensory worship experience just for them. (Check the order of worship for dismissal instructions.) Childcare is available for ages 5 and younger on the First Level. Children are always welcome to stay with their families during worship. We encourage you to pick up a worship activity bag, try sitting near the front, and sing along with the music.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer is a time to speak with God and share gratitude and concerns. The prayer ministry meets in Hillemonds Chapel after the 9:30 service each Sunday. Elders, Deacons, and Stephen Ministers are always there to assist those seeking prayer. Today's prayer partners are Gail Grady and Jeanette Kibler.

Today at First

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Childcare

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Level 1

Ages 5 and young

Children's Classes

11:15 a.m. | Levels 1 and 3

Youth Classes

11:00 a.m. | LL4, LL1 (Lower Level)

ADULTS

First Friends

11:00 a.m. | Lewis Room (Level 2)

"A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus: A Middle Eastern Understanding." Kenneth E. Bailey. Video and discussion.

Exploring the Faith

11:00 a.m. | Curtis Room (Level 2)

The Season of Advent with Callie Feyen

UKirk@UMich College Ministry

12:00 p.m. | Off site

We meet for lunch and conversation after worship. For location, contact Hannah Lundberg, hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org

T2A2 Young Adult Group

7:00 p.m. | Off site

Bible study on the Gospel of Luke

Announcements

ADULTS

Help Presbyterian Women "Stroll" on December 11— The ever popular All-Church Strolling Reception will take place at 5:00 p.m. following the Glorious Sounds of Christmas concert on Sunday, December 11. Presbyterian Women will be present in the Social Hall providing sweet nibbles, a creche display, and more. Volunteers are needed to help with set up, staffing the event and tear down. Lending a hand is just as much fun as attending the event! Sign up by contacting Linda Atkins at atkins.linda@att.net.

Members of the DIAA (Diversity, Inclusion, Accessibility, and Accountability) group are beginning to work toward understanding and acknowledging the role of Native American communities in the history of the church and the land we occupy. If you would like to be part of a small group studying and crafting a way forward, contact Hannah Lundberg, hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org.

CHILDREN

Nativity Service Sign Up—The Nativity Service is a favorite holiday tradition at First Presbyterian. This service will take place on Sunday, December 18, at 11:15 a.m. and is wonderful for all ages to enjoy as the mystery of the story comes to life. We would love to have your children serve as leaders in this special Advent service. There are speaking and non-speaking parts for ages three through 5th grade. A Parent Meeting will be held Sunday, December 4, at 11:00 a.m. in the Family Lounge. To view the rehearsal schedule and to register your child, please visit: <https://bit.ly/FPCPageant>

MISSION

November Food Collection — Each month we collect food donations and special financial contributions to support a local hunger ministry partner. This month our partners are Community Action Network (C.A.N.) and Washtenaw Community College's Emergency Food Bank. Non-perishable food may be placed in the baskets provided in the Welcome Center on Sundays, Mondays–Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon. Financial gifts may be made by check or online. Donations will be coordinated and delivered by our Campus Ministry.

Family to Family and Fostering Futures —The holiday season can be a challenging time for families and individuals in need. You can join First Pres in making God's love visible by helping local children and families during the Christmas season. This year, First Pres will provide gifts to 40 to 50 families referred by the Washtenaw County Department of Health and Human Services through Family to Family Christmas and 40 children through local non-profit Fostering Futures. To learn how you can help, visit firstpresbyterian.org.

Rotating Shelter at First Pres January 2 - 16, 2023—For two weeks, our church will become the overnight home for up to 20 men who have housing challenges. Volunteer opportunities are available to host, donate food or clothing, and drive men to breakfast. Sign up now to volunteer: bit.ly/FPC_RotatingShelter. Questions: Contact Jim Peggs (734-646-9412) or Marcey Terrien (480-833-7019)

ADVENT


Advent - Epiphany Devotional — The 2022 Advent through Epiphany Devotional *Hope is Born* follows our Advent lectionary text and is written by members of the congregation. Each devotion includes a photo meditation on signs of hope. The devotional is available by email only. If you received the Advent devotional last year, you will automatically receive this year's devotional. If you would like to be included on the mailing list, please email mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org or update your email preferences at firstpresbyterian.org/signups-forms


Poinsettias for Christmas. If you wish to donate a poinsettia to beautify our December 18 and December 24 worship services, the cost is \$15. You can donate in memory or honor of a loved one. Poinsettias will be delivered to those in need by our Deacons following those services. Thank you for your donation! Sign up either online at bit.ly/FPCPoinsettia or in the Welcome Center. The deadline for purchasing one is Sunday, December 11.



Scan with your phone
to visit our website

First Presbyterian Church

1432 Washtenaw Avenue 
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

734 · 662 · 4466 

info@firstpresbyterian.org 

firstpresbyterian.org 

Follow us   