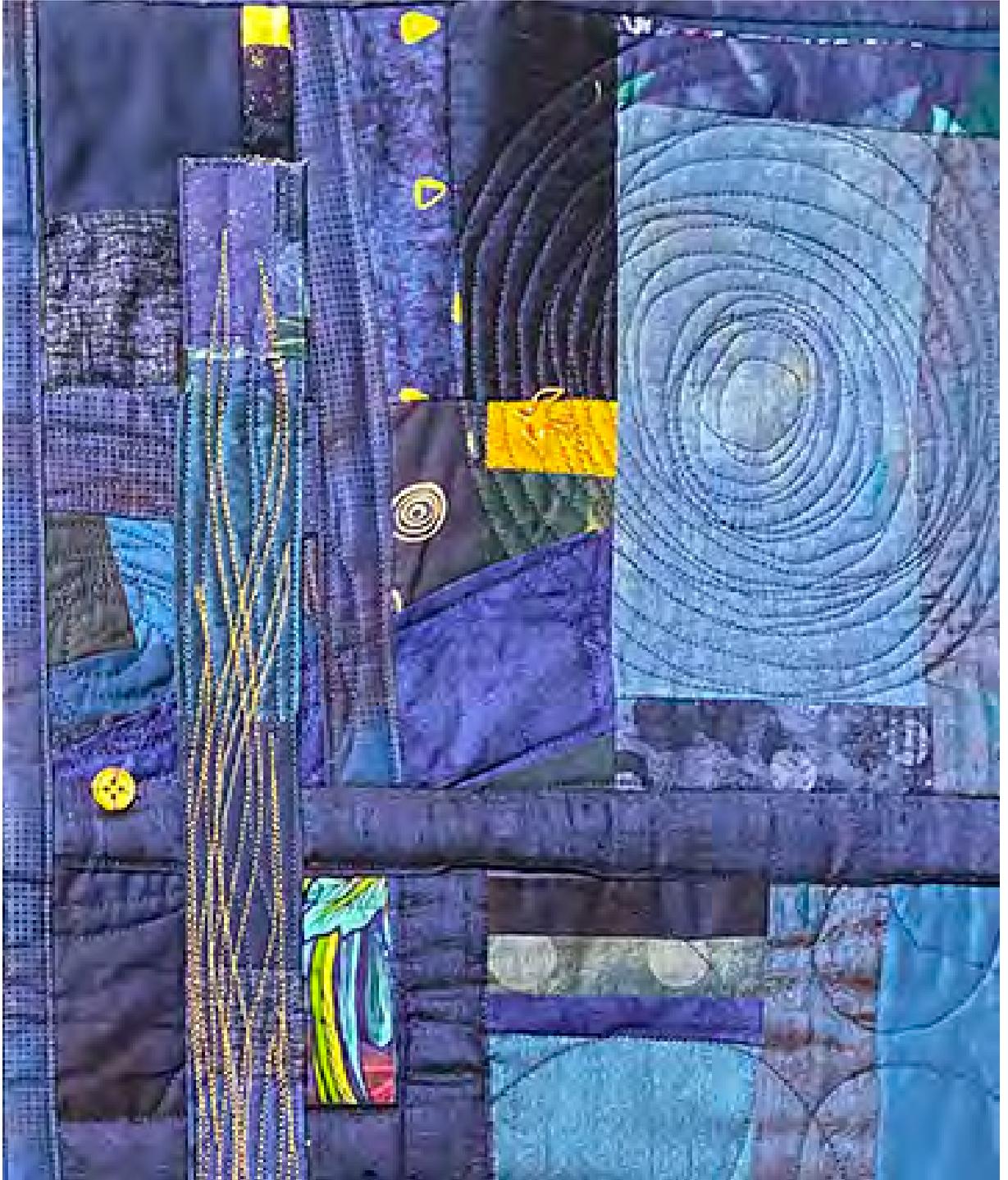


# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2019 • 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. •



*(A)wake* by Beth Taylor



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

**Making God's Love Visible**

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

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

**Hearing-assistance devices** and large-print bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers.

**(A)wake is our theme for Advent 2019.** Those letters, in that provocative arrangement, speak to us as both verb and adverb: they point toward a state of being that is alert, mindful, open—while also naming something that happens, sometimes to us and sometimes because of us. Advent is about both being and doing. May it be a season of wakefulness and awakening to what God is up to in these deep times as we help each other to keep hope alive.

**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 and Stoles** were commissioned and made by quilter and artist, Beth Taylor of Durham, NC, for the pulpit, lectern, communion table, and stoles for our pastors.

## GATHERING

**OPENING VOLUNTARY** *Partita on “Genevan 42”* Georg Böhm  
*As the voluntary begins, let the time and the music help to center you for worship.*

**LIFE IN THE CHURCH** Andrew Frazier (9:30)  
Rev. McGowan (11:00)

**FAITH IN ACTION** Story Slam and Strolling Reception  
Marti Wendler (9:30)  
Peggy Hodgson (11:00)

**HANDBELL INTROIT** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
Sanctus Ringers arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE**  
The McInchak Family (9:30)  
The Schneidewind Family (11:00)

Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.

A voice cries out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord.”

Every valley shall be exalted,

And every mountain and hill made low;

the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

One: As we light our second Advent candle,

**All: We pray for the holy peace of God.**

One: Come now, O Child of Mary.

**All: Come now, O Prince of Peace.**

\* **HYMN 87** *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* GENEVAN 42

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy One,**

**Christ is coming, your kingdom is drawing near.**

**We cannot remain unchanged.**

**As we prepare the way for the Prince of Peace,**

**help us abandon wayward wanderings**

**and return to faithful paths.**

**We have neglected to plead the case of the poor,**

**and ignored the needs of the vulnerable.**

**We have denied our part in systems that demean and**

**oppress other people,**

**and turned a blind eye to injustice.**

**Forgive us.**

**Renew our minds and transform our hearts,**

**that our lives might bear the fruit of**

**compassion and justice.**

**Baptize us with your Spirit,**

**and claim us again for your holy work,**

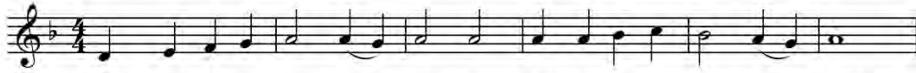
**until you come again in glory...**

## SILENT CONFESSION

### KYRIE

PICARDY

Text: Kim Long



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.

### \* 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

*Please sing twice:*

**Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,  
and all people will see the salvation of our God.**

*This is Hymn 95, Prepare the Way of the Lord (PREPARE THE WAY).*

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

John Whittier-Ferguson (9:30)

Keith Molin (11:00)

### OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 11:1–10

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

### A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES (9:30)

*Children through grade five are invited forward.*

### NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 3:1–12

*Every Valley from Messiah*

G. F. Handel

David Magumba, Tenor

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

### SERMON

*Not The Way It's S'posed to Be*

Rev. Sanderford

## RESPONDING

### ANTHEM

*Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

arr. Joel Navarro

Chancel Choir and Timothy Michling, oboe

*See text at Hymn 103, Come Now, O Prince of Peace (ososo).*

### Advent Paper-lace

**Banners** were designed by liturgical artist Ellen Phillips and were cut by members of First Pres. Ms. Phillips says: "The designing of banners is more than an art commission, it is a spiritual discipline that begins with the scriptures. The scriptures this Sunday describe *The Peaceable Kingdom*, a topic that has inspired artists for centuries. I came across an Amish painting that I found delightful, with the gentle lion embracing the happy little lamb and the cow peering over the lion's shoulder. 'They shall neither harm nor destroy on all God's holy mountain.'"

## OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Rogers (9:30)

Rev. Ruhf (11:00)

**During the offering, take a minute to sign the friendship pads found in each pew.** If you are visiting with us, please leave your contact information so that we can reach out to you! Newcomers and regulars alike can see who is sitting around them and greet each other by name. By signing in, you help us build stronger community connections at First Presbyterian.

**Offertory**      *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*      arr. Michael Mazzatenta  
Sanctus Ringers

\* **Doxology**      VENI EMMANUEL

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

\* **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 105**      *People, Look East*      BESANÇON

\* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Before the Marvel of This Night*

MARVEL

Be-fore the mar-vel of this night, a - dor - ing fold your wings and bow;  
then tear the sky a - part with light and with your news the world en - dow,  
Pro-claim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sor-row cease: sing  
peace: sing peace: sing gift of peace: \_\_\_\_\_ sing peace; sing gift of peace!

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\* **CLOSING VOLUNTARY**      *Prepare the Way, O Zion*      Paul Manz

This work is based on Hymn 106 in *Glory to God*.

## WELCOME TO ALL!

Please know that all, including visitors and newcomers, are invited to share in the life of the church. A full description of church events is online at [www.firstpresbyterian.org](http://www.firstpresbyterian.org). **If you have questions, please visit the Welcome Center, just outside the Social Hall.** Greeting you there are Lorna Prescott and Barbara Mueller.

**Musical leadership** (9:30/11:00) includes David Magumba, tenor; Timothy Michling, oboe; Chancel Choir; and Sanctus Ringers. **Acolytes** include Andrew and Leo McInchak.

**Chancel flowers** are given in loving memory of Lewis and Maxine Profit by Kirk Profit; in loving memory of Richard and Dorothy Platte by the family of Richard (Jr) and Leslie Platte; and in loving memory of Hubert and Almira White by their daughter Jean White.

**A pink rosebud** celebrates the birth of Esmé Jeanette Jennings, born October 19, 2019, daughter of Christina and Ryan Jennings. Great-grandmother is Pat Gilbreath.

**The Church Office** is staffed by Robin Agnew. **Greeters** are Nancy Petrock (9:30) and Pat Gilbreath (11:00).

**Sound system volunteers** are Rol Kibler (9:30) and Barry Leonard (11:00). **Ushers** are Bill Austin (head) and Nancy Fox (8:00); Bill Austin (head), Ken Westfall (captain), Olivier and Nicole Jolliet, Dean Gilchrist, Florian Trouvain, Joe Schmidt, Holly Majorprice, Clem Gill, Ron David, and Lynn Milroy (9:30); and Bill Austin (head), Jeannette Middleton and Jim Douglass (co-captains), and Gregg, Vincent, and Stacey Pakela (11:00). **The prayer team** is available for those desiring prayer in Hillemonds Chapel after the 9:30 and 11:00 services.

**Prayer team volunteers** are Jeanette Kibler and Virginia Rezmierski (9:30) and Michele Derr and Meg Brown (11:00). Following the 8:00 service a minister is available for prayer at the Communion Table. "The place for prayer is everywhere." –John Blanchard

## TODAY'S EVENTS

**Worship** is at 8:00 in Monteith Hall, and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. **Radio Worship is broadcast at 11:00 a.m.** on WAAM (1600 AM) and on the web ([www.waamradio.com](http://www.waamradio.com)).

**Join us for Coffee Hour** in the Social Hall immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. **Cookie bakers** are Betty Anderson, Marge Higley, Cathy McKenny, and Linda Lampman. Child-friendly, peanut-free purchased snacks are available for children.

**Save the Earth! Save your \$\$! Pick up FREE Christmas cards at the Care Card table during Coffee Hour.** Many First Pres people have donated greeting cards to be provided by First Pres volunteers to guests at the Delonis Homeless Shelter on Wednesday nights. Due to your generosity we have an oversupply of cards. Cards are now available for your use.

### Adult Education Opportunities:

9:30 a.m. **The Bible @ 9:30** meets in the French Room.

**First Friends** meets in Monteith Hall to discuss *Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor.

11:00 a.m. **Exploring the Faith** meets in Monteith Hall for a special presentation in the "Real Poverty Solutions" series. Today's presenter is Ellen Schulmeister, Executive Director of Alpha House.

### Children's Ministry Opportunities:

9:30 a.m. **Sunday School classes** for crib through fifth graders

10:30 a.m. **Children's Choir**

11:00 a.m. **Childcare** available for crib through Kindergarten

**Children ages 3 and up are invited to be part of the Nativity Worship Service on Christmas Eve** at 3:00 p.m. There is a parent information meeting at 11:00 a.m., in the Lewis Room.

### Youth Ministry Opportunities:

9:15 a.m. **Munch & Mingle** in the Lower Level hallway

9:30 a.m. **Sunday School**

10:40 a.m. **High School Taizé Pilgrimage Informational meeting** in the Youth Room

6:00 p.m. All Youth are encouraged to attend the **Story Slam and Strolling Reception.**

**Welcome College Students!** Our Campus Ministry, UKirk@UMich, welcomes you to College Lunch on Sundays following the 11:00 a.m. service, coffee breaks during the week, and other fellowship opportunities. Follow us on Instagram @UKirkUMich for future events and past photos. Contact our Campus Pastor, Rev. Evans McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information.

**Don't miss the StorySlam and Strolling Reception** this evening from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Enjoy stories of the season and the singing of Christmas carols in this special holiday presentation. The StorySlam will be followed by a reception held throughout the building. Listen to special musical performances and enjoy therapy dogs, nibbles, and other festivities.

**T2A2—Twenties and Thirties of Ann Arbor**—invites the participation of all young adults looking to build community. **Small Group** meets tonight, at 7:00 p.m., to discuss Psalm 122. Bring your questions and insights, wherever you are on your faith journey. Contact Rev. Ruhf, Haley Brown (habrown989@gmail.com), or Chris Wahl (cgwahl@umich.edu), for more information about this and other T2A2 opportunities.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Mature Ministries Lunch & Learn** is this Thursday, December 12, at noon, in the Social Hall. Contact Rev. Rogers for more information and to sign up.

**Mature Singles** meet this Friday, December 13, at 5:30 p.m., at Metzger's German Restaurant, 305 N. Zeeb Road. All are welcome.

**Volunteer for the Pancake Supper** serving 100+ College Students this Wednesday, December 11, from 10:00 p.m. to Midnight. We need volunteers the week before to post signage, and the day of the event to setup, cook, and cleanup. Sign up online or contact Rev. McGowan to volunteer.

**Help First Pres give shelter** January 6–19 for up to 25 men sent here by the Shelter Association. Volunteers are needed as evening hosts (7:00–10:00 p.m.), overnight hosts (7:00 p.m.–8:00 a.m., including awake shifts between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.), and weekend morning drivers (7:00 a.m.). Sign-up boards are in the Social Hall and near the Church Office. You may also sign up online. Questions? Contact Jeannette Middleton (msjett@aol.com), John Yodhes (677-4036), or Rev. Rogers.

**Coat and other winter clothing donations** are being collected today through January 19 for distribution during the Rotating Shelter weeks. Baskets for donations are located in the Welcome Center and outside the Church Office.

**The Milestone Ministry class for fourth and fifth graders, "Amazing Stuff: God's Gift for Growing Up,"** will meet on January 12 and 19 and February 2, 9, 16, and 23 at 11:00 a.m. Please note there is no class during the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 26. We have a magnificent team of teachers comprised of nurses and doctors who are members of First Pres. The corresponding class for parents whose children are enrolled in "Amazing Stuff" will meet at the same time in a different room. Contact Beca Torres-Davenport to register or for additional information.

**All 6<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited to a winter retreat at SpringHill Camp in Evart, Michigan, the weekend of February 21–23.** Cost is \$150 for the whole weekend. Scholarships and family rates for two or more students are available. If you're an adult, we would love to have you volunteer and join us as a leader. Register online or by contacting Rev. Mares by December 22.

**High School Summer Taizé Pilgrimage!** Every summer, young people from all over the world travel to the Taizé community in France to live with the brothers for a week, worshipping with them, doing workshops together, all while they and we seek to live a modest mission: to pronounce peace and reconciliation to the church and the world. All High School students, aged 15 and up, are invited to join us June 20–June 29. Cost for the trip is \$1,500. Scholarships are available and several fundraising opportunities are forthcoming. **An informational meeting is today, December 8 at 10:40 a.m. in the Youth Room.** Register online or by contacting Rev. Mares. There is a firm deadline of December 22 and a non-refundable deposit of \$150 to reserve your spot.

**Advent is here!** Mark your calendars and join us for these and numerous other opportunities:

**The Ann Arbor Women's Chamber Chorus Concert** is this Friday, December 13, at 7:30 p.m., here in our Sanctuary. Our own Sanctus Ringers will be a part of this concert. All are welcome!

**Family to Family Christmas is underway.** Sign up at Coffee Hour to "adopt" a local family in need. Questions? Contact Julie Morrison (jdornmorrison@gmail.com; 668-0420).

**Are you receiving our Advent Email Devotionals?** If not, please sign up on our website.

**Donate a poinsettia** to beautify our worship next Sunday, December 15, in honor or memory of a loved one. **Poinsettias are \$18 and can be ordered until noon tomorrow, Monday, December 9.** After worship, Deacons will deliver poinsettias to those in our congregation who are in life-care residences, grieving, recovering, or dealing with special circumstances.

**There are two opportunities to Make God's Love Visible at Peace Neighborhood Center through their Holiday Toy Drive.** Contact Rev. Johnson for more information or to volunteer.

December 1–15: Donate new toys, children's coats, hats and mittens! Collection boxes are located throughout the church.

December 20–23: Volunteer! Youth (with parents) and adults are needed for 2-hour blocks. Duties will include helping families shop and sorting and stocking toy donations.

**Glacier Hills Advent Service** is Monday, December 16, 10:30 a.m., at Glacier Hills.

**The Longest Night Service** is Wednesday, December 18, 7:00 p.m., in Monteith Hall.

**Caroling fun, hot cocoa, and fellowship are yours if you join us on Saturday, December 21, 10:00 a.m. to noon, at Glacier Hills Senior Living Community.** For more information contact Beca Torres-Davenport.

**The Christmas Joy Offering** that we will receive on Sunday, December 22, reflects that God is with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us—retired, present and future—who have pointed us to God. 50% of your gifts to Christmas Joy assist current and retired church workers and their families who are in financial need and 50% of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges.

**Worship with us on Christmas Eve at one or more of these services:**

**Christmas Eve Nativity Worship Service**

Tuesday, December 24, 3:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary

**Christmas Eve Services of Lessons and Carols**

Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 and 7:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service**

Tuesday, December 24, 11:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary

**Peace Neighborhood Center is the recipient of this year's Christmas Eve Nativity Service offering.** Children, friends, and members are invited to bring a gift of new hats and gloves as their offering. During the 3:00 p.m. worship service the body of Christ will be invited to bring their humble gifts to the manger.

**The Christmas Eve Offering will support two living communities for special needs adults: Intentional Communities of Washtenaw and His Eye Is on the Sparrow.**

First Pres is blessed to have six young adults with special needs who have grown up in our church and are active members of our "Promises" group. Many of them either live in one of these two communities or are supported by them in other ways.

**Childcare on Christmas Eve during the 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. services is available by reservation only.** Please contact Beca Torres-Davenport, to make a reservation. **Are you available to help with Christmas Eve childcare?** If you can offer this wonderful gift to our families with young children, please contact Beca Torres-Davenport.

## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF**

Robin Agnew, Administrative Assistant

Liz Call-Boyce, Finance Assistant

Andrew Frazier, Resident Minister

Lisa Haddrill, Technology Coordinator

Dr. Paul Haebig, Interim Organist

Almer Harris, Maintenance Specialist

Reverend Khayla Johnson, Resident Minister

Mary Jones, Publications Coordinator

Cindy King, Administrative Assistant

Reverend Evans McGowan, Campus Ministries Coordinator

Reverend Mark Mares, Minister of Youth & Families

Kellie McInchak, Children's Choir Director

Anna Miller, Finance Manager

Merry Muilenberg, Welcome Center Volunteer Coordinator

Adrian Prundeanu, Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson, Office Manager

Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor

Reverend Amy Ruhf, Resident Minister

Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor

Reverend Dr. Richard Spalding, Interim Pastor

Sandy Talbott, Wellness Coordinator & Parish Nurse

Beca Torres-Davenport, Coordinator of Children's Education & Family Ministry

David VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts



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