

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



NOVEMBER 27, 2022
THE SEASON OF ADVENT

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
November 27, 2022, 10:30 a.m.
First Sunday of Advent

Prelude: E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

-Paul O. Manz, 1954

Welcome and Announcements

***Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: **And also with you!**

Call to Worship

One: I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
All: **Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
that we may learn God's ways and walk in God's paths.**
One: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.
All: **Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

God of Glory,
we know that you are coming at an unexpected hour.
Come to us now, in spirit and truth.
Take us up into your presence,
and make us ready for your reign of peace;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath -

The Candle of Expectation, Hope, and Prophecy

The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

Isaiah 2:4

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Chris & Dawn Neel

***Opening Hymn:** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

No. 9

***Invitation to Confession**

You know what time it is:
Now is the time to wake from sleep.
Salvation is near!
Let us confess our sin.

***Prayer of Confession** (*responsively*)

**God of night and day,
there is no shadow that can conceal our sin from you
and no secret that you will not bring to light.
Merciful God, forgive us our many sins,
renew us in love,
and teach us to live in a way
that brings honor and glory to your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***Kyrie Eleison**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

***Assurance of Pardon**

In our baptism
we were bathed in light
and clothed with grace.
Therefore, let us put on the Lord Jesus Christ!
Believe in God, Friends!
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***Gloria Patri** (*unison*)

**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, amen.**

Prayer for Illumination

O God of our people
and Lord of every nation,
let your Word ring out from the mountains
and your Spirit shine forth in the earth,
so that all may hear your teaching
and all may do your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 122

P. 571-572 in the Old Testament

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”
Our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem—built as a city
that is bound firmly together.
To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

For there the thrones for judgment were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
“May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers.”
For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, “Peace be within you.”
For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek your good.

Anthem: Like A Child

-Daniel Charles Damon, 1993

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 24:36-44

P. 27-27 in the New Testament

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

Sermon: Living Between the Times

Rev. Jim DeMent

Matthew 24:42: “Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming”.

Silence and stillness

***Congregational Hymn:** “Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

No. 15

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Hark, What A Sound

-*Alfred Scott-Gatty, 1902*

***Doxology** (*unison*)

***Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

We give you thanks and praise, O God,
that you have built us up in faith
and bound us together in love.
By your grace, may all that we do
show the glory of your name
and serve the good of your people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*)

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 at 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.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn:** “Savior of the Nations, Come”

No 14

***Charge**

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response** (*unison*)

-*Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880/William G Tomer, 1880*

God be with you until we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you;
God be with you 'till we meet again

'Till we meet, 'till we meet
'Till we meet at Jesus' feet;
'Till we meet, till we meet
God be with you 'till we meet again.

Postlude: Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

-*Joseph Parry, 1841-1903*

We have reproduced below the lyrics of the hymns selected for this morning's worship service. All the hymns below are either in the public domain or have been reproduced under license from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990) or from Christian Copywrite Licensing International (*ccli.com*). If you are worshiping with us from home, we encourage you to sing along. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1

Verse 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

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.

Refrain.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel!

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers,
And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing,
And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising
And soon He will draw nigh;
Up, watch with expectation,
At midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning,
Replenish them with oil;
Look now for your salvation,
The end of sin and toil.
The marriage feast is waiting,
The gates wide open stand;
Arise, O heirs of glory,
The Bridegroom is at hand.

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, Thou son so longed for,
Above this shadowed sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted,
We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption,
And ever be with Thee!

Savior of the Nations, Come

Savior of the nations, come,
 Virgin's Son, make here Your home.
 Marvel now, O heaven and earth,
 That the Lord chose such a birth.

You, the chosen Holy One,
 Have o'er sin the victory won.
 Bound-less shall Your kingdom be;
 When shall we its glories see?

From the God-head forth You came,
 And return unto the same,
 Captive leading death and hell.
 High the song of triumph swell!

Brightly does Your manger shine,
 Glorious is its light divine.
 Let not sin o'er cloud this light;
 Ever be our faith thus bright.



Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Gloria Aouelle	Bette Austin	Kay Edwards	Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)
Kathleen McCameron	Linda Patterson	Maria Pezeski (Mother of Leila Galvan)	Mikey Ruddock
Carol Wisdom (Daughter of Lea Lenz)			

**For caregiving concerns—please contact:
 Lynn McAuley (979.248.6238); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)**

FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

Wednesday, November 30

10:00 AM Bible Study with Jim Stokes

Thursday, December 1

11:30 AM Presbyterian Women Christmas Luncheon

Sunday, December 4

9:30 AM "Reflections on the Season of Advent"

Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class

10:30 AM Worship Service

Lord's Supper

FPC Victoria Servant Leadership

Session Members

Jim DeMent, Moderator
 Francis Byrne, Mission & Outreach
 John Horadam, Buildings & Grounds
 Lynn McAuley, Asst. Clerk, Caregiving & Fellowship
 Dawn Neel, Finance, Assistant Treasurer, Worship
 Patrick Patterson, Buildings and Grounds
 Becky Richter, Christian Education, Personnel
 Suzanne Salinas, Mission & Outreach, Worship
 Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship
 Bonnie Wilkinson, Clerk of Session, Personnel

Other

Lynn McAuley, Presbyterian Women
 Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School
 Jim Stokes, Treasurer
 Henry Hauschild, Historian

Pastor's Notes

The Bible is full of prophecies about the "end times." Just consider this sampling: "... they will look to the earth, but will see only distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish; and they will be thrust into thick darkness" (Isa 8:22); "Wail, for the day of the LORD is near; it will come like destruction from the Almighty! (Isa 4:6); "When I blot you out, I will cover the heavens, and make their stars dark; I will cover the sun with a cloud, and the moon shall not give its light. All the shining lights of the heavens I will darken above you, and put darkness on your land, says the LORD GOD" (Ezek 32:7-8).

As Christians, we do not dread that heaven and earth will pass away, but we are reminded by Jesus to be vigilant for that day for "[we] do not know on what day [our] Lord is coming" (Matt 24:42). Meanwhile, while we wait, we are confident that the Word of the Lord will never pass away (Luke 21:33). When the kingdom of God is drawing near, we rejoice in Christ's promise that our redemption will be close at hand.

Clergy, Music, and Administration

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor
 Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster
 Erica Colding, Office Administrator

Office Hours

Monday — Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
 361.575.2441
 info@fpcofvictoria.org