



Fort Worth  
Presbyterian  
Church

*Welcome to our visitors. We are glad you are here to worship with us today. Visitor forms are on the inside back page of the bulletin. Please complete, tear off and place in the offering plate, so that we may contact you. Also, use this form for prayer requests or for any activity signups.*

*The Lord's Supper will be served today.*

*Should you have any questions regarding the Lord's Supper, please see "Understanding Communion" in the bulletin.*

*May God's blessings in Christ be with you.*

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The authentically *hopeful* Christmas spirit has not looked away from the darkness, but straight into it. The true and victorious Christmas spirit does not look away from death, but directly at it. Otherwise, the message is cheap and false. Instead of pointing to someone else's sin, we confess our own: "In our sins we have been a long time." Advent begins in the dark.

- Fleming Rutledge

To be a Christian is to live between these two advents, to be thankful for the salvation brought by the first Advent and to be soberly penitent in light of Christ's inevitable return in judgment.

The believer therefore lives poised on a cusp, with Before and After falling off on either side of the moment. We have no power to alter or delay the moment's arrival; it comes to us as decision because we must respond in some way to it.

- Alan Jacobs

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# Worship

—December 6, 2020—

*Second Sunday of Advent*

## Preparation for Worship

### The Greeting

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### † The Call to Worship

*God calls His people to worship*

-BASED ON ISAIAH 11

We come to worship the coming King.  
The One who was and is and is to come!

**Robed in justice, carrying equity in his heart,  
righteousness is a belt around his waist,  
faithfulness in the clasps of his sandals.**

We look forward to the Reign of the coming King!  
The wolves will walk with the lambs; the leopards skip with  
the kids; and the calves will be friends with the lion cubs.

**Peace will come through the root of Jesse,  
and we will abide with the King!**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee,  
Dayspring from on high, appear;  
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse,  
of thy birth we long to hear!  
O'er the hills the angels singing  
news, glad tidings of a birth:  
"Go to him, your praises bringing;  
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness,  
he whose glories knew no end;  
by his life he brings us gladness,  
our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number,  
born within a cattle stall;  
this the everlasting wonder,  
Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver,  
Born a child, and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Words by Charles Wesley and Mark E. Hunt

## † Invocation and 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 the evil one. For thine is the kingdom, the power and  
the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## † Doxology

*We respond in praise*  
**MESSENGER**

Praise and glory to the Father,  
Praise and glory to the Son,  
Praise and glory to the Spirit,  
Ever three and ever one.

## Advent Reading

*Romans 5:8; 8:37-39*

# Welcome

## Confession of Sin

*We turn from our sin*

**Lord, we have not always kept watch for you.  
We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns.  
We have not waited to find your will for us.  
We have not noticed the needs of the people around us.  
We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us.  
Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness.  
Help us to wait to know your will.  
Help us to look out for the needs of others.  
Help us to work and watch for your coming. Amen.**

## Silent Confession

## Assurance of Forgiveness

*The promise of good news*

GALATIANS 4:4-6

When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts crying, “Abba! Father!”

## † Hymn of Response

*We wait on the Lord*

### Come Light Our Hearts

For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait.  
For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait.  
Truly our hope is in you, truly our hope is in you.

O Lord of life, our only hope,  
your radiance shines on all who look  
to you in the dark,  
Emmanuel come, come light our hearts.

For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait.  
For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait.  
Truly our hope is in you, truly our hope is in you.

O joy above all other loves, in you we find more than enough,  
We come as we are, O heal and restore, come light our hearts.  
(repeat)

For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait.  
For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait.  
Truly our hope is in you, truly our hope is in you.

Words and music by Sandra McCracken

## Pastoral Prayer

*John Weiser, Ruling Elder (8:30)*  
*Jacob Tilton, Ruling Elder (10:30)*

# The Reading of the Word

Isaiah 11:1-9

[1] There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. [2] And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. [3] And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, [4] but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. [5] Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

[6] The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. [7] The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. [8] The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. [9] They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. (ESV)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**



## THE RULE OF MESSIAH-KING

John N. Oswalt *Isaiah* on the structure of 11:1-9:

“The movement is from qualifications, to performance, to results.”

1. The Endowment for His Rule (11:2-3a)
2. The Integrity of His Rule (11:3b-5)
3. The Safety of His Rule (11:6-9)

## Communion

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

### The Encouragement

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## Words of Institution

### The Confession

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**People: Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

*(Clear cups are wine and purple cups are grape juice)*

## Understanding Holy Communion

“For Christ our passover has also been sacrificed for us, therefore, let us celebrate the feast.” 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Because we believe the Table belongs to the Lord, it is vital that you come this morning on His terms:

1. You must be in communion with Jesus Christ by faith and repentance, trusting Him alone for your salvation.  
– *1 Corinthians 11:27-29*
2. You must be in communion with your brothers and sisters in Christ. – *Matthew 5:23-24; Ephesians 4:11-12*
3. You must be in communion with the church (any Bible-believing church) as a baptized member in good standing.  
– *Matthew 18:15-18; Hebrews 13:17*
4. Because we seriously heed Scripture's admonition in 1 Corinthians 11:28-29, We invite children who are ready to make a public profession of saving faith to complete the Communicants Class materials available at the book table, arrange a meeting with the elders, and thus become regular “communicants” at the Lord’s Table.

*"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup."*

*– 1 Corinthians 11:28-29*

## Prayers for Those Not Communing

**For those searching for truth:** Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me the ability to follow you no matter what it might cost me. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

**For those who desire to profess faith in Christ:** Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead and are now representing me at the Father's right hand in heaven, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

**A prayer for those struggling against sin:** Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

**A prayer for covenant children who have not yet made a profession of faith:** Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow you as one of your disciples. Amen.

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our heav'nly Father, a blessed angel came;  
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:  
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "let nothing you affright;  
this day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,  
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's pow'r and might."

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,  
and left their flocks afeeding, in tempest, storm, and wind:  
and went to Bethlehem straightway, the Son of God to find.

English Carol, 18<sup>th</sup> century

The Sending

*The people of God are sent into the world*

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed,  
for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will  
help you, I will uphold you with my righteous  
right hand.

*Isaiah 41:10*

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## The Blessing

*God blesses his people as they go*

Therefore, the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

*Isaiah 30:18*

## Announcements

### Deacon of the Day

Pete Cansick

## Save the Date

December 13 Lessons & Carols 5p (*masks required*)  
& 6p (*once seated, masks are optional*)

December 24 Christmas Eve Services –4p (*masks required*)  
& 5:30p (*once seated, masks are optional*)

## Information & Events

**Offering:** Baskets are in the rear of the sanctuary to make a contribution, or giving online is available at [fortworthpca.org](http://fortworthpca.org), or you may text to give to 817-934-6447.

## Information & Events

**Sympathy for Miller Family:** Alice Miller's mother, Evelyn Metz, went to be with the Lord this past Thursday morning. Please be in prayer for the Miller family.

**Pick up your Family Advent Devotional TODAY** on the Fellowship Hall table with a devotion for each day of December leading up to Christmas. Look in the upcoming weeks for fun activities to do as a family that encourage us to enter into the joy of anticipating the birth of our Savior.

***Younger Kids*** - pickup your **Nativity Hide and Seek Game**

***Older Kids*** – pickup your **Nativity Scavenger Hunt / Escape Room** like activity.

**PCA Ministerial Relief Offering TODAY:** Please make checks payable to FWPC and *on the memo line please list Ministerial Relief Offering.* For online donations, go to <https://www.continuetogive.com/RBI>.

**Benevolence Offering** for widows & families in need in our congregation is being taken Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to FWPC and *on the memo line please list Benevolence Offering.*

**Find Refreshment in a Zoom Prayer meeting:** Monday@ 7:30am, Thursday@ Noon. Join the church for 30 minutes of prayer Monday or Thursday as we pray for issues facing our church and nation. The link was emailed this past Friday.

**Ladies Christmas Brunch** will not take place this year. We look forward to continuing this tradition next year!

**Lessons and Carols** - Join us on **December 13** for a simplified Lessons and Carols service. We will be joined by the Fort Worth Brass as we move through the story of redemption in scripture and song. 5:00 service is mask required and 6:30 service is mask optional once seated. There will be nursery available from infant to 4 year olds.

# *Lessons and Carols*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13**

5:00 (masks required) 6:30 (masks optional once seated)

Nursery Infant - 4 years



Fort Worth Presbyterian Church



The poster features a light blue background with several brown, four-pointed starburst shapes of varying sizes scattered across the upper half. A brown crescent moon is positioned to the left of the center. At the bottom, there is a silhouette of a nativity scene with a shepherd and Mary with the infant Jesus under a simple stable structure, set against a backdrop of rolling hills in shades of grey and brown.

# CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

**4 PM**

(MASK REQUIRED)

**5:30 PM**

(MASK OPTIONAL  
AFTER SEATED)



Fort Worth Presbyterian Church

# Financial Report

Fiscal year June 2020-May 2021

	<b><u>June-October</u></b>
General Fund Giving YTD	483,051
Other Income	1,263
General Fund Expenses YTD	535,886

Our Fiscal Year began June 1, 2020. Through the first four months of the new fiscal year we have a loss of -\$51,572 compared to last year's loss of -64,187. We have continued to use some of the Covid-19 Relief funds for needs with a balance remaining of \$30,349. As of October 31, we have \$144,118 cash on hand after liabilities. Thank you for your faithful giving in these difficult times.

Part of your faithful giving supports Keith Berger, Assistant National Coordinator for Reformed University Fellowship (RUF).

- ❖ **NEW!** Mobile Giving: Just Text the amount you want to give to **817-934-6447**. The first time will take you through the setup after that just text the amount you would like to give.  
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- ❖ If you would like to give online you can sign up for ACH/Credit/Debit giving from our home page [fortworthpca.org](http://fortworthpca.org)
- ❖ If you would like to contribute stocks or securities from a brokerage account you can contact Steve Fults 817-731-3300 and he can give you the instructions for these types of gifts.
- ❖ If you would like to include FWPC in your estate planning you can contact Steve Fults with any questions you may have.

*Contributions must be received or postmarked by  
12/31/20 to be credited in 2020.*

***Mailing address:  
FWPCA P.O. Box 16307  
Fort Worth, TX 76162***

*Please complete, tear off this page & place in the offering plate*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: *Mr./Mrs./Ms.*: \_\_\_\_\_

*first*

*last*

Spouse's Name: (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*street*

*apt. #*

*city*

*state*

*zip*

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Check all that apply:**

☐ *First time guest*

☐ *I have a mercy need*

☐ *Repeat guest*

☐ *I would like a visit from an elder*

☐ *Address change*

☐ *Email change*

☐ *Name Tag needed*

**Prayer requests/praises or activity signup:**

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*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer  
and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests  
be made known to God.  
Philippians 4:6*

**Fort Worth Presbyterian Church**  
**“Nurturing a joy for loving God and loving people**  
**by proclaiming, believing and living out the gospel of Jesus Christ”**

**SESSION (ELDERS)**

Ben Dyess	994-2699	Jack Norris	821-0918
Steve Fults	773-8772	Jacob Tilton	733-7399
Scott Hames	<i>ON SABBATICAL</i>	Scott Wade	<i>ON SABBATICAL</i>
Darwin Jordan	789-8008	John Weiser	228-4193
Ryan Moore	423-667-3044		

**DEACONS**

Pete Cansick	610-451-9965	David Steed	680-1398
Chris Jordan	271-0150	Johnny Tassin	281-684-0053
Randy Shannon	807-5660	Andy Warren	614-3243
Daniel Sneed	343-1589	David Welch	<i>ON SABBATICAL</i>
Dowell Stackpole	370-7431		

**WOMEN’S MINISTRY CO-CHAIR**

Jill Davis, 817-896-7113  
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**WOMEN’S MINISTRY CO-CHAIR**

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**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

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**Prayer /Notification of Requests:** [prayer@fortworthpca.org](mailto:prayer@fortworthpca.org)

To receive church event emails, sign up on our website’s homepage.

**OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY**

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

6251 Oakmont Trail, Fort Worth TX 76132 (physical address)

P.O. Box 16307, Fort Worth TX 76162 (mailing address)

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