

Fort Worth Presbyterian Church Welcome to our visitors on Facebook Live. We're glad you've joined us to worship today. Please CLICK HERE to complete a visitor form, submit a prayer request or praise or to signup for any activity.

May God's blessings in Christ be with you.

While there are many kinds of prayer, Christian prayer is all about Jesus. It is Christ-centric. Jesus not only brings believers through the veil dividing them from God, He removes the barrier altogether. Through Christ every Christian takes residence in the very throne room of God, with Jesus providing everything we need to ensure our constant communion with God.

John Smed

† Congregation standing

Worship —December 26, 2021 —

Prepare Our Hearts for Worship

The Greeting

Elder: Christ the King is born! **People:** Let us glorify him!

†The Call to Worship God calls His people to worship

Elder: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and

of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

Elder: Blessed is the name of the LORD, from this time forth and

forevermore!

People: From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the

LORD is to be praised!

Elder: The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory is above

the heavens! But remember he also dwells with the lowly and contrite of heart, for our God has come near, for Christ

has been born.

People: Praise Jesus our King, our Emmanuel, God with us!

Elder: He is your life; therefore, come and praise him.

Adapted from Psalm 113

† Hymn of Praise

We praise our glorious King

ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with man is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light:

Come and worship, come and worship,

worship Christ, the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star:

Come and worship, come and worship,

worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear, suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son; evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship,

worship Christ, the newborn King.

† Doxology

We respond in praise
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen

Welcome

Confession of Sin

We turn from our sin

Elder: Let us now confess our sins together:

All: Our God you have come near to us in Christ, born in a manager, executed on a cross, raised from the dead, ascended into Heaven, and giving your Spirit that Christ might be born in our hearts. By your grace, we are now your children, called to walk in the ways of Christ. Yet, we confess we often want you to be far from us. We want our own way rather than your way. We trust in ourselves rather than continually entrusting ourselves to you. Forgive us and renew us. By your Spirit, help us to see the beauty of Christ that we might love and long for him above all.

Silent Confession

Elder: I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who believes in me shall never die. – *John 11.25-26*

All: Christ our God has come near. Hallelujah! Our sins are forgiven!

† Hymn of Response

We rest in our Father's love

WHO IS THIS SO WEAK AND HELPLESS

Who is this so weak and helpless child of lowly Hebrew maid Rudely in a stable shelter coldly in a manger laid? 'Tis the Lord of all creation who this wondrous path has trod; He is he Lord from everlasting and to everlasting God.

Who is this, a Man of Sorrows, walking sadly life's hard way, Homeless weary, sighing weeping over sin and Satan's sway? 'Tis our God, our glorious Savior, who above the starry sky Is for us a place preparing, where no tear can dim the eye.

Who is this? Behold him shedding drops of blood upon the ground! Who is this, despised, rejected, mocked insulted, beaten, bound? 'Tis our God, who gifts and graces on his church is pouring down; Who shall smite in holy vengeance all his foes beneath his throne.

Who is this that hangs there dying while the rude world scoffs and scorns, Numbered with the malefactors, torn with nails, and crowned with thorns? 'Tis our God who lives forever 'mid the shining ones on high, In the glorious golden city, reigning everlastingly.

By William Walsham How

† Confession of Faith

We confess our faith together

Apostles' Creed

Elder: Christian, in whom do we believe?

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. *

The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Morning Offering

We offer our gifts

The Reading of the Word

Luke 1:26-38

Pew Bible – Page 855

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

^{*}While Jesus didn't literally descend to hell, he did endure the torment of hell on the cross and remained under the power of death until his resurrection.

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THE SURPRISING PLANS OF GOD

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1. God's Plans Are Firm

2. God's Plans Often Seem Impossible

3. GOD'S PLANS ARE KINGDOM CENTERED

Communion

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.

Pastor: It is good, right, and our delight that we should at

all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of Heaven we praise and magnify your glorious name evermore praising

you and declaring:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and

might. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the Highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

The Confession

Pastor: Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us!

People: Hallelujah!

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again. Hallelujah!

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

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with

thanksgiving. Let us now partake of the feast!

Holy Communion

Statements for Communion

"The body of Christ for you."

"The blood of Christ for you."

"You have new life in Christ."

"You have full forgiveness in Christ."

(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 Biblebelieving 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.

Closing Hymn

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all, and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall: with the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love; for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above, and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by, we shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high; when like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

The Sending The people of God are sent into the world

Pastor: My dear family, whom I love and long for, my joy

and crown, stand firm in the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

- Philippians 4:1

The Blessing

God blesses his people as they go

Pastor: Peace be to you, and love with faith, from God our

Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ our God is

born for our redemption!

All: We will glorify him! Amen and Amen!

Announcements

Deacon of the Day

Daniel Sneed

Save the Date

• Jan 29 Super Saturday Winter Series begins

• Feb 6 Women's Luncheon

• July 9-16 Summer Mission Trip to Juarez

Information & Events

Offering: To make a contribution **CLICK HERE** or you may text to give to 817-934-6447.

<u>Sunday School Break:</u> There will be no Christian Education hour on December 26 and January 2. Adult, Youth, and Children's Sunday School will return January 9 at 9:00 a.m.

No KIWI: Kids in Worship Instruction will not take place December 26 and January 2. All kiddos are invited to participate in family worship those weeks. Nursery will be available for newborn to four years old.

There is no Zoom Prayer meeting this week

<u>Women's Bible Study</u>: Our study in the Gospel of Mark resumes on Wednesday, January 12, and we hope you will join us! Both the morning session (9:30-11:15 at FWPC) and the evening group (7:00-8:30 p.m. at Kim Watt's) are using a study guide published by Redeemer Presbyterian Church and Jesus the King by Tim Keller. For complete details and registration, visit fortworthpca.org/biblestudy. The first lecture of the year will be given by Pastor Brandon.



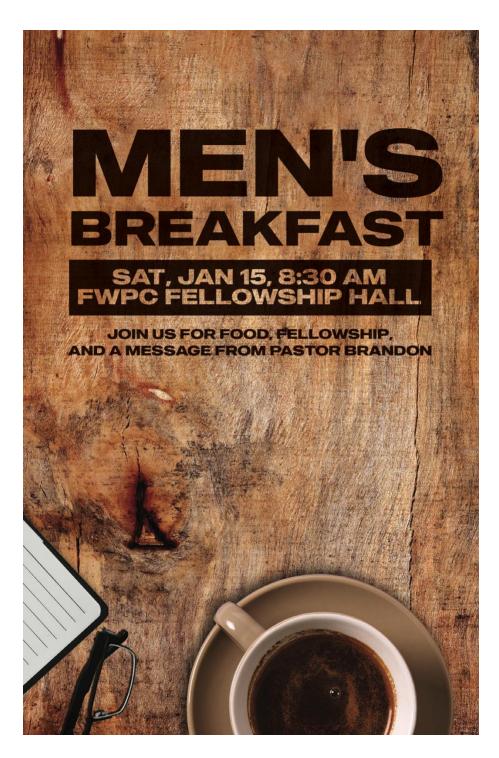
Wednesdays, 7:30 PM - High School Large Group returns January 5

Sundays, 9:00 AM - Sunday School returns January 9 High School - Room 203 on Romans Middle School - Room 204 on the Westminster Shorter Catechism

Sundays, 6:00 PM - returns January 9 High School Small Groups - Room 203 on "God Is" by Mark Jones Middle School Large Group - Room 204 on Judges

Details: fortworthpca.org/youth | Questions? thefort@fortworthpca.org | @ @thefort_fwpc







YOU ARE INVITED TO A TIME OF BREAKFAST, FELLOWSHIP, AND PRAYER IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.
EVEN IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND, PLEASE CONTRIBUTE A PRAYER OR SCRIPTURE TO EACH BABY'S
ALBUM. NOTE CARDS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL DURING JANUARY AND MAY BE
RETURNED TO THE BASKET OR BROUGHT TO THE EVENT.

BENJAMIN BRYAN FITZGERALD CAEDMON XANDER GRIMES PHILIP EUGENE HAMMONS CHARLES DANIEL JAMES ELAINE JUNE RYAN SAMUEL MARCUS SCHULTZ





Financial Report

Fiscal year June 2021-May 2022

June - November	This Year	Last Year
General Fund Giving YTD	576,855	598,472
General Fund Expenses YTD	587,251	642,956
How we're doing YTD	-10,396	-44,484

Our Fiscal Year began June 1. Through the first 6 months of our fiscal year, we spent \$10,396 more than our income. This is a \$34,088 improvement over last year. As of November 30, we have \$173,216 cash on hand after liabilities.

Part of your faithful giving supports Hannah Humphreys, an intern with Reformed University Fellowship at Belhaven University in Jackson, MS

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ If you would like to give online you can sign up for ACH/Credit/Debit giving from our home page 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 12/31/21 to be credited in 2021.

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

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
Brandon Eggar	615-605-5182	Scott Wade	368-6674
Steve Fults	773-8772	John Weiser	228-4193
Scott Hames	313-1869		

For Pastoral Care Appointment: 817-731-3300 Prayer Requests: prayer@fortworthpca.org

DEACONS

Pete Cansick	610-451-9965	David Steed	680-1398
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Randy Shannon	807-5660	Andy Warren	614-3243
Daniel Sneed	343-1589	David Welch	938-0833
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Monday-Friday | 8:00 AM-12:00 PM, 1:00-5:00 PM

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Use the QR code to the right as a paperless option to send prayer requests, signup for any activity or to register as a visitor

