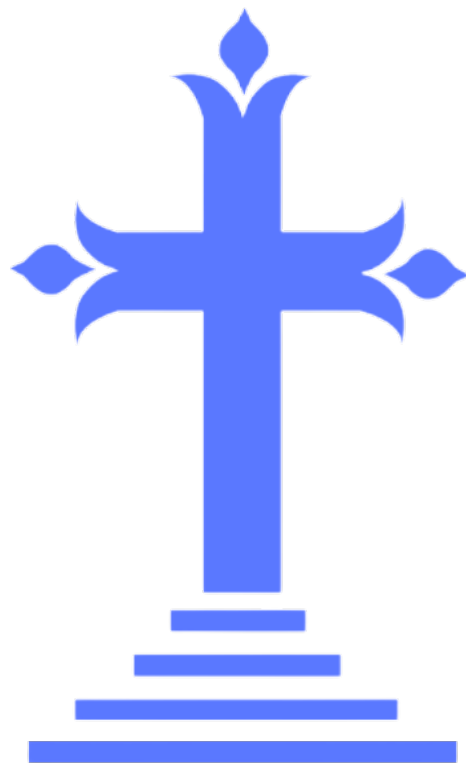


# Fort Worth Presbyterian Church



December 24, 2023

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers a welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*



*To learn more about us, use this QR code*



*If you are visiting, please register here.*

*The front of the bulletin and the color of the minister's stole is currently blue as this is the time in the Christian Year known as Advent. Blue represents the sky before dawn, signaling the time in which we live "between" - between the first and second coming of Christ, the Light of the world.*

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For our sake, He allowed himself to become created, so that He Who gives us our created being might also give us our Well-being; the well-being of His forgiveness, His life, His reconciliation, and His eternal peace and joy that far outweighs our present and often painful circumstances

*Gregory the Theologian*

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*Please turn off or silence all communication devices.*

*For Free Wi-Fi, go to Settings on your device and select network 'FWPCA'*

*Courtesy walker and wheelchair are available at the main entrance.*

*Hearing Assistive Devices (FM Receivers) are at the back sound booth.*

*† Congregation standing*

# Order of the Worship of God

— December 24, 2023 —  
*Christmas Eve*

Welcome

Prepare our Hearts for Worship

## ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

The Gospel Greeting

*Rev. Brandon Eggar*

Pastor: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen!**

† The Call to Worship

Pastor: Oh, sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him!

**People: The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations! All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God!**

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing His

*From Psalm 98*

## † Hymn of Praise

### 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.

## † Invocation

Pastor: Let us now pray together:

**All:** O God, You make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of Your only Son, Jesus Christ: Grant that we who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes again; He who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## † Doxology

*O COME O COME EMMANUEL*

Praise God from whom all ble - ssings  
flow, praise Him all crea-tures here be -  
low. Praise Him a-bove ye heav'n - ly host. Praise  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.  
A - men.

## Confession of Sin

Pastor: Let us now confess our sins together:

**All: Father, Your Son was born of a woman that He might be born in our hearts through His Spirit. Forgive us for not being the Christ-bearers You've called us to be. We have dishonored Christ to live for ourselves. Renew us this day in the joy we have in Your Incarnate Son. Amen.**

## Silent Confession

† Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoptions as sons.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

*Galatians 4:5*

† The Greeting of Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

*At this time, please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.*

## † Song of Celebration

### IN CHRIST ALONE

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My comforter, my All in All,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save;  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied –  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine –  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

CCLI Song # 3350395

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

© 2001 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMGPublishing)



# COMMITTING TO GOD'S KINGDOM

Lighting of the Advent

*The Angel's Candle*

*Psalm 24*

*Tom and Donna Peterson*

**Reader:** We light the fourth candle of Advent, the Angels' Candle, to remind us that hosts of Heaven proclaimed Jesus' arrival that has brought peace on earth.

**All:** **Thanks be to God!**

Prayer of Intercession

*Scott Zink*

*(followed by a time of silent prayer)*

Common Prayer

**Elder:** Let us now join our voices together praying:

**All:** Joy has come to the world through the gift of Your Son. May our lives reflect that we have been born anew in Him to Your glory and the good of others. In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

Morning Offering & KIWI Release

*QR Code for online giving*



Adult Choir

*Sussex Carol*

# LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

## The Reading of the Word

*Psalm 85:8-13*

[8] Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,  
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;  
but let them not turn back to folly.

[9] Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

[10] Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

[11] Faithfulness springs up from the ground,  
and righteousness looks down from the sky.

[12] Yes, the Lord will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.

[13] Righteousness will go before him

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

# The Sermon

*Pastor Brandon*

HIS SALVATION IS NEAR

*(Adapted from Augustine)*

# FEASTING AT GOD'S TABLE

## The Celebration of Communion

### The Great Thanksgiving

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 singing:



Marty Haugen (1984) ©1984 GIA Publications, Inc.

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 the Faith:

**People: Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again. Hallelujah!**

Pastor: And now our Holy Master, that with boldness and without condemnation, we dare to call upon You, the Heavenly God, as our Father, and say:

**All: Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Yours is the Kingdom and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen.**

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!

*(Clear cups are wine and purple cups are grape juice,  
Gluten/Dairy free wafers are individually wrapped)*

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.”

## 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 4:1-6*
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. Contact Rebecca York at [rebecca@fortworthpca.org](mailto:rebecca@fortworthpca.org).

*"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.

# Communion Song

## FROM THE SQUALOR OF A BORROWED STABLE



1.From the squa - lor of a bor - rowed sta - ble,  
2.King of heav - en now the Friend of sin - ners,  
3.Through the kis - ses of a friend's be - tray - al  
4.Now He's stand - ing in the place of hon - our,



By the Spi - rit and a vir - gin's faith;  
Hum - ble ser - vant in the Fa - ther's hands,  
He was lift - ed on a cru - el cross;  
Crowned with glo - ry on the high - est throne,



To the an - guish and the shame of scan - dal  
Filled with po - wer and the Ho - ly Spi - rit,  
He was pun - ished for a world's trans - gress - ions,  
In - ter - ced - ing for His own be - lov - ed



Came the Sav - iour of the hu - man  
Filled with mer - cy for the bro - ken  
He was suf - fer - ing to save the  
Till His Fa - ther calls to bring them



race! But the skies were filled with the  
man. Yes, He walked my road and He  
lost. He \_\_\_\_\_ fights for breath, He \_\_\_\_\_  
home! Then the skies will part as the





praise of heav'n, Shep - herds lis - ten as the  
felt my pain, Joys and sor - rows that I  
fights for me, Loos - ing sin - ners from the  
trum - pet sounds Hope of hea - ven or the



an - gels tell Of the gift of God come—  
know so well; Yet his right - eous steps give me  
claims of hell; And— with a shout our—  
fear of hell; But the bride will run to her



down to man At the dawn - ing of Im -  
hope a - gain I will fol - low my Im -  
souls are free Death de - feat - ed by Im -  
Lov - er's arms, Giv - ing glo - ry to Im -



man-u - el.  
man-u - el!  
man-u - el!  
man-u - el!

## Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray:

**All:** Incarnate Lord, thank You for the meal of which we have partaken. May it increase our hope in the Day to come when we will fully feast in Your Presence in world made right and new. Amen..

# GOING OUT WITH GOD'S BLESSING

† Song of Sending

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

*Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!*

While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. [*Refrain*]

The shepherds feared and trembled  
when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth. [*Refrain*]

Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. [*Refrain*]

African-American spiritual  
Verses by John W. Work, Jr.

## † The Sending

Pastor: As we now go into the world:

**All: May we praise our Immanuel.**

Pastor: When we struggle, fear, or fail:

**All: May we cast upon the cross of our Immanuel.**

Pastor: When we encounter our neighbors:

**All: May we honor our Immanuel with our lips and lives.**

## † The Blessing

Pastor: May the Word who became flesh bless You with His eternal and embodied truth and from His fullness may you receive grace upon grace.

**All: Amen!**

Pastor: Go forth in the peace of our God.

## Deacon of the Day

Pete Cansick– December 24

Andy Warren – December 31

Herb Haertner –January 7

## Save the Date

Sun, Dec 10 – Young Professionals Lunch at Kincaid's

Sun, Jan 7, 11:30 – Saltillo Mexico Mission Trip (July, 20-27 2024)

Info Meeting

Sat, Jan 13, 8:30 – Men's Breakfast

Sun, Jan 14 – Officer Installation

Tues, Jan 16 – Men's Book Study returns

Wed, Jan 17 – Women's Bible Study returns

Sun, Jan 21 – Prayer Albums presented

Wed, Jan 24 – Super Wednesdays begin

Fri-Sat, Jan 26-27 – FWPC 101 New Members Class

Sun, Feb 18 – Annual Silent Auction and Variety Show

## Information & Events

**Visitors:** Pick up visitor information at the visitor kiosk in the Fellowship Hall immediately following morning worship.

**Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve:** Our Lord's Day service on both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve will begin at 10:00 a.m. There will not be Christian Formation Classes on these Sundays. These holiday services will be one hour, and Pre-K to 2nd Grade will stay in worship for its entirety (no KIWI classes). Evening worship at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve will include communion and a candlelight service.

**Christian Formation Classes** will return on Sunday, January 7, at 9:00 a.m. A new adult class will be offered in the Lecture Hall based on Paul Tripp's book *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands*, helping us discover where change is needed in our own lives and how we can lovingly speak truth into the lives of others.

Exploring the Gospels with Bob Schwartzbeck will meet at 9 a.m. in Room 201 starting Sunday, January 7.

**Containers left in the kitchen:** There are a number of containers that were used for recent activities in the kitchen. If you left containers here, please pick them up from the kitchen today.

A stylized poster for Christmas Eve Worship. The background is a light blue sky with several orange, four-pointed starburst shapes and a large orange crescent moon. The text 'CHRISTMAS EVE' is in a dark teal, bold, sans-serif font, and 'WORSHIP' is in a larger, orange, bold, sans-serif font. Below the title, the time '5 PM' is displayed in white, bold, sans-serif font inside a dark teal rectangular box. At the bottom, there is a silhouette of a nativity scene with figures under a stable structure, set against a dark blue and orange gradient background. A small cross icon is visible in the bottom right corner.

# CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

5 PM

# Financial Report

Fiscal year June 2023-May 2024		
June – November	This Year	Last Year
General Fund Giving YTD	619,997	642,115
General Fund Expenses YTD	718,075	650,045
How we're doing YTD	-98,077	-7,930

Our Fiscal Year began June 1. Through the first two months of our fiscal year, we spent \$98,077 more than our income. This is \$90,147 increase over last year. As of November 30, we have \$162,561 cash on hand after liabilities.

Part of your faithful giving supports Bradford Green, TCU Campus Minister, with Reformed University Fellowship.

- ❖ NEW! Mobile Giving: Text the amount you want to give to 817-934-6447. The first time will take you through the setup. After that, 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](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.

## **IMPORTANT 2023 YEAR-END DEADLINES**

- ❖ Your check must be dated no later than December 31st.
- ❖ The envelope must be postmarked no later than December 31st.
- ❖ Online donations for 2023 will be accepted until midnight Central time on December 31st.

Mailing Address: Fort Worth Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 16307 Fort Worth, TX 76162

## Fort Worth Presbyterian Church

By God's grace and all for his glory, Fort Worth Presbyterian Church exists to gather for biblically saturated worship, grow together in the life of the gospel, and go out to bear witness to the reign of Christ in all things.

### SESSION (ELDERS)

Brandon Eggar 615-605-5182	David Welch 817-938-0833
Steve Fults 817-773-8772	Scott Zink 817-395-8376
Scott Hames 817-313-1869	Ben Dyess Elder Emeritus
Jack Norris 817-821-0918	John Weiser Elder Emeritus
Scott Wade 817-368-667	

**For Pastoral Care Appointment: 817-731-3300**

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

### DEACONS

Pete Cansick 610-451-9965	Daniel Sneed 817-343-1589
Herb Haertner 817-919-1045	Dowell Stackpole 817-223-1042
Chris Jordan 817-271-0150	David Steed on sabbatical
Don Judd 817-874-4205	Johnny Tassin 281-684-0053
Randy Shannon 817-807-5660	Andy Warren 817-614-3243

### SENIOR PASTOR

Brandon Eggar 817-731-3300 x0201  
[brandon@fortworthpca.org](mailto:brandon@fortworthpca.org)

### MUSIC MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Justin Pierce, DMA 817-731-3300 x0208  
[justin@fortworthpca.org](mailto:justin@fortworthpca.org)

### KIDS HOPE DIRECTOR

Jill Davis 817-896-7113  
[jill@fortworthpca.org](mailto:jill@fortworthpca.org)

### MEN'S MINISTRY

Chris Jordan 817-271-0150  
[cjordan@eavi.com](mailto:cjordan@eavi.com)

### COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Kelly Calvert 817-832-6258  
[communications@fortworthpca.org](mailto:communications@fortworthpca.org)

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Life Basiyaka 817-731-3300, x0201  
[life@fortworthpca.org](mailto:life@fortworthpca.org)

### DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Steve Fults 817-731-3300 x0202  
[steve@fortworthpca.org](mailto:steve@fortworthpca.org)

### WOMEN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Jill Davis 817-896-7113  
[jill@fortworthpca.org](mailto:jill@fortworthpca.org)

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Rebecca York 214-681-2496  
[rebecca@fortworthpca.org](mailto:rebecca@fortworthpca.org)

### NURSERY COORDINATOR

Necia Eggar 210-542-1772  
[nursery@fortworthpca.org](mailto:nursery@fortworthpca.org)

### YOUTH DIRECTOR

Travis Robnett 405-831-2831  
[travis@fortworthpca.org](mailto:travis@fortworthpca.org)

### YOUTH INTERN

Katie Peterson 972-978-5255  
[katiepeterson200@gmail.com](mailto:katiepeterson200@gmail.com)

## Fort Worth Presbyterian Church

6251 Oakmont Trail, Fort Worth TX 76132

817-731-3300 | [fwpca@fortworthpca.org](mailto:fwpca@fortworthpca.org)

Monday-Friday | 8:00 AM-12:00 PM, 1:00-5:00 PM

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

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