

Fort Worth Presbyterian Church



December 1, 2024

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.

About FWPC



Visitor Registration



The front of the bulletin and the color of the minister's stole are currently green as this is the time in the Christian Year known as ordinary time or the Sundays after Pentecost. Green represents life and growth in Christ.

Of all the seasons of the church year, Advent closely mirrors the daily lives of Christians and of the church, asks the most important ethical questions, presents the most accurate picture of the human condition, and above all, orients us to the future of the God who will come again.

Fleming Rutledge

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 1, 2024 —
First Sunday of Advent

Welcome & Announcements

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: For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

People: Be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy and her people to be a gladness.

Pastor: I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.

From Isaiah 65:17-19

† Hymn of Praise

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:

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

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe. *[Refrain]*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *[Refrain]*

O come, thou Dayspring from on high,
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight. *[Refrain]*

O come, thou Key of David, come
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. *[Refrain]*

† Invocation

† Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings 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, a - - - men, a -
- - - men.

Music by Jacob Tilton

Confession of Sin

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You call us to repent of our sins. Soften our proud and stubborn hearts.

All: Lord, have mercy!

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You have accomplished the forgiveness of sins. Teach us to forgive as we have been forgiven.

All: Christ, have mercy!

Pastor: Holy Spirit, You search our hearts and show us truth. Direct us in the way of righteousness.

All: Lord, have mercy

† Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: We ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is well-pleased.**

Titus 3:3-5

† The Greeting of Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: **And also with you!**

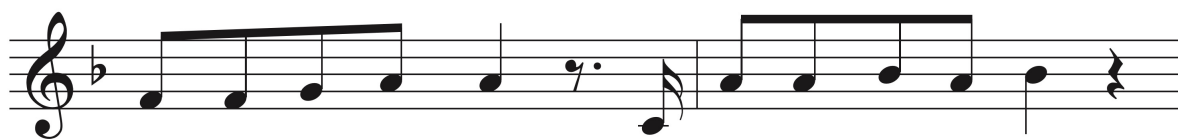
At this time, please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.



1. Keep me safe, O God, for in You I hide.
2. I will not bow down to o - ther gods un-true.



You a - lone are good, the Lord and none be - sides.
Sor - row will in - crease in wor - ship not for you.



Lis - ten to the saints, in their song re - joice.
My heart is made glad, my bo - dy rests se - cure.



With the ho - ly ones, I have found my voice. You have
You have con- quered death, Mes - si - ah, my Sav - ior.



made known to me the path of life. You have



filled up my soul with all that is right and



this is all my joy.



The Lord is my in - her - i - tance. The Lord

Brian Moss (2014)

COMMITTING TO GOD'S KINGDOM

Lighting of the Advent Wreath -

The Prophecy Candle
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19,
Mark 13:24-37
The Hammons Family

Reader: We light the first candle of Advent to remind us that the prophets foretold that our God would bring peace and salvation to a people in trouble. May our God give us peace as we wait for the Day when He will make all things new.

Prayer of Intercession

Scott Hames

(followed by a time of silent prayer)

Common Prayer

Elder: Let us now join our voices praying:

All: Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in this time when our Lord Jesus came to visit us in great humility; that in the Day, when He shall come again in His glorious majesty to judge both the living and dead, we may rise to life immortal with Him. Amen.

Morning Offering & KIWI Release

*Children Pre-K through 2nd grade can now be dismissed for KIWI
(Kids In Worship Instruction).*

Teachers will meet the children in the foyer to take them to class.

*After the sermon, their teachers will return them to worship where they may come directly to
you, or you may meet them at the back of the auditorium.*



QR Code for online giving

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

The Reading of the Word

Jeremiah 33:1-18

The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah a second time, while he was still shut up in the court of the guard: 2 “Thus says the Lord who made the earth, the Lord who formed it to establish it—the Lord is his name: 3 Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. 4 For thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the houses of this city and the houses of the kings of Judah that were torn down to make a defense against the siege mounds and against the sword: 5 They are coming in to fight against the Chaldeans and to fill them with the dead bodies of men whom I shall strike down in my anger and my wrath, for I have hidden my face from this city because of all their evil. 6 Behold, I will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them and reveal to them abundance of prosperity and security. 7 I will restore the fortunes of Judah and the fortunes of Israel, and rebuild them as they were at first. 8 I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me. 9 And this city shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and a glory before all the nations of the earth who shall hear of all the good that I do for them. They shall fear and tremble because of all the good and all the prosperity I provide for it.

10 “Thus says the Lord: In this place of which you say, ‘It is a waste without man or beast,’ in the cities of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are desolate, without man or inhabitant or beast, there shall be heard again¹¹ the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voices of those who sing, as they bring thank offerings to the house of the Lord:

“Give thanks to the Lord of hosts, for the Lord is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!’ For I will restore the fortunes of the land as at first, says the Lord.

12 “Thus says the Lord of hosts: In this place that is waste, without man or beast, and in all of its cities, there shall again be habitations of shepherds resting their flocks. 13 In the cities of the hill country, in the cities of the Shephelah, and in the cities of the Negeb, in the land of Benjamin, the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, flocks shall again pass under the hands of the one who counts them, says the Lord.

14 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 15 In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 16 In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

17 “For thus says the Lord: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, 18 and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in my presence to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings, and to make sacrifices forever.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ADVENT RESTORATION

Advent Promise Given

Advent Promise Fulfilled

Advent Promise Applied

Discussion Questions:

1. If Advent is the season of last things, what should be your focus over the next four weeks and how might you go about this?
2. According to this passage, what is God's Advent promise to us?
3. How has Jesus fulfilled this Advent Promise? List some ways this should encourage you?

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of pow - er, God of might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.____
____ Ho - san - na in the high - est,____
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.____
____ Ho - san - na in the high - est,____
____ ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

The Confession

Pastor: Christ our Passover has been 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.

*"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

I WILL WAIT FOR YOU (PSALM 130)

Out of the depths I cry to You
In darkest places I will call
Incline Your ear to me anew
And hear my cry for mercy Lord

Were You to count my sinful ways
How could I come before Your throne
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze
I stand redeemed by grace alone

Chorus 1

*I will wait for You I will wait for You
On Your word I will rely
I will wait for You surely wait for You
Till my soul is satisfied*

So put Your hope in God alone
Take courage in His power to save
Completely and forever won
By Christ emerging from the grave (*Chorus 1*)

His steadfast love has made a way
And God Himself has paid the price
That all who trust in Him today
Find healing in His sacrifice

Chorus 2

*I will wait for You I will wait for You
Through the storm and through the night
I will wait for You surely wait for You
For Your love is my delight*

Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matthew Merker,
Stuart Townend | CCLI Song #7118914

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Music; Matthew Merker Music; Townend Songs

COME TO THE FEAST

Go to the highways and hedges
Go to the farthest of fields
Go and compel the sick and the well
For our Father's house will be filled

Go to the streets of the city
Bring in the crippled and blind
All who would taste this banquet of grace
Must come and waste to more time

Come to the feast, Come to the table
The great and the least, the rich and the poor
Come to the feast, Come to the table
Come and hunger no more

In the robe of the lamb you'll be covered
Dressed in his pure righteousness
For all of your guilt, his blood was spilt
So come by your Father be blessed

Come to the feast, Come to the table
The great and the least, the rich and the poor
Come to the feast, Come to the table
Come and hunger no more

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JESUS I AM RESTING RESTING

Jesus I am resting resting
In the joy of what Thou art
I am finding out the greatness
Of Thy loving heart
Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee
And Thy beauty fills my soul
For by Thy transforming power
Thou hast made me whole

Chorus

*Jesus I am resting resting
In the joy of what Thou art
I am finding out the greatness
Of Thy loving heart*

Oh how great Thy loving kindness
Vaster broader than the sea
Oh how marvelous Thy goodness
Lavished all on me
Yes I rest in Thee Beloved
Know what wealth of grace is Thine
Know Thy certainty of promise
And have made it mine

Simply trusting Thee Lord Jesus
I behold Thee as Thou art
And Thy love so pure so changeless
Satisfies my heart
Satisfies its deepest longings
Meets supplies its ev'ry need
Compasseth me 'round with blessings
Thine is love indeed

Ever lift Thy face upon me
As I work and wait for Thee
Resting 'neath Thy smile Lord Jesus
Earth's dark shadows flee
Brightness of my Father's glory
Sunshine of my Father's face
Keep me ever trusting resting
Fill me with Thy grace

David Hampton, Jean Sophia Pigott
CCLI Song #2697066 | © 1998 New Spring

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Let us pray:

All: Heavenly Father, we thank You for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of Your Son and our Savior Jesus Christ and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of His Body and heirs of His Kingdom. Amen.

GOING OUT WITH GOD'S BLESSING

† Song of Sending

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED



Hail to ____ the Lord's a-noint-ed, great Da - vid's great-er Son!



Hail in ____ the time ap-point-ed, His reign on earth be-gun!



His reign on earth be - gun!



1. He comes	to	break	_____	op - pres - sion,
2. He comes	with	com	-	fort speed - y
3. To give	them	songs	_____	for sigh - ing,
4. He shall	come	down	_____	like show - ers
5. The tide	of	time	_____	shall ne - ver



to	set	the	cap - tive	_____	free;
to	those	who	suf - fer	_____	wrong;
their	dark - ness	turn	to	_____	light,
up - on	the	fruit - ful	_____	_____	earth;
His	cov - e - nant	re -	_____	_____	move;



To	take	a - way	_____	trans - gres - sion	
to	help	the	poor	_____	and need - y,
Whose	souls,	con - demned	_____	_____	and dy - ing,
Love,	joy,	and	hope,	_____	like flow - ers,
His	name	shall	stand	_____	for - ev - er,



and	rule	in	eq - ui - ty.	(to chorus)
and	bid	the	weak	be strong. (to verse 3)
were	pre - cious	in	His	sight. (to chorus)
spring	in	His	path	to birth. (to verse 5)
His	name	to	us	is Love. (to chorus)

CCLI Song # 7013163 James Montgomery | Sandra McCracken © Words: Public Domain Music: 2012, 2015
Integrity Worship Music (Admin. by Integrity Music) Paper News Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music)

† The Sending

Pastor: As we now go into the world:

All: May we be on the lookout for the return of Christ.

Pastor: When we are downcast:

All: May we remember that we are God's children in Christ.

Pastor: As we encounter neighbors and co-workers:

All: May we pursue peace because we belong to the God of peace.

† The Blessing

Pastor: And now may the God of peace, who, through the blood of the eternal covenant, brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, and work in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ.

People: To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen!

Deacon of the Day

Andy Warren – November 24

Pete Cansick – December 1

Herb Haertner – December 8

Save the Date

Sun, Dec 1 – No Christian Formation classes at 9 am

Sun, Dec 8 – Young Adults Lunch at Kincaid's

Sun, Dec 15, 6 pm – Lessons & Carols

Tues, Dec 24, 5 pm – Christmas Eve Service

Jan 10-11 – FWPC 101 for New Members

Information & Events

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

Prison Fellowship Angel Tree: Beginning December 8, select an angel from the tree in the Fellowship Hall to purchase a Christmas gift for a child on behalf of an incarcerated parent. Each angel includes a child's name, age, and suggested gift. Questions? See Rich Saadeh.

Geneva Relief Fund: Today, an increasing number of retired PCA pastors, pastors' widows, and ministry staff live near the poverty line. Our denomination launched the Geneva Relief Fund to support these servants by meeting their practical needs and reminding them they are not alone. A special offering will be taken on Sunday, December 8.

Benevolence Offering: A special offering for widows and families in need in our congregation will be taken Sunday, December 15. Please make checks payable to FWPC and list Benevolence Offering on the memo line.

Ladies Game Night is Monday, December 2. Join us for a night of fun in the Lecture Hall from 7:00-9:00 p.m. It's the annual holiday edition with a gift exchange game; bring a wrapped gift under \$15 to participate. Friends and snacks to share are welcome. Decaf coffee and water are provided. Ladies Game Night occurs monthly on the first Monday of the month (with exceptions made for holidays). Questions? Contact Alice Miller (817-721-3578) or Margaret Kunkel (214-802-5554).

Lessons and Carols: Volunteers are needed to bring Christmas cookies and to help with setup and cleanup for the reception following this special service on Sunday, December 15. If you are willing to serve our church family in this way, please Sign Up using the QR code or via the link at fortworthpca.org/advent.





YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday, December 6, 6-9 pm

THE DAVIS BARN
6796 SILVER SADDLE ROAD



GAP
**CHRISTMAS
PARTY**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 6:30-8:30 PM
THOM HOME



WOMEN'S
CHRISTMAS
Brunch
 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH
 FORT WORTH
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JOIN US AND BRING A FRIEND! TICKETS ARE \$12 AT
 FORTWORTHPCA.ORG, AND SUBJECT TO SPACE AVAILABILITY.




KIDS
 ADVENT
 PARTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
 11:30–1:00 P.M.

Pre-K to 4th Grade can stay after church for lunch, games, prizes,
 dessert, and hands-on experiments to ponder the beauty
 and glory of Jesus.

REGISTER



VOLUNTEER



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.

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

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