

Fort Worth Presbyterian Church



December 8, 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 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

Israel's sin (the context of Malachi) is a total indifference toward the will of the Lord, rising out of their loss of intimate fellowship with God in the covenant bond.

Elizabeth Achtemeir

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 8, 2024 —
Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome & Announcements

Prepare our Hearts for Worship

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

The Gospel Greeting

Rev. Brandon Eggar

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the LORD!

People: For He is the Maker of Heaven and earth.

† The Call to Worship

Pastor: Our souls magnify the Lord!

People: And our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

Pastor: The Mighty One has done great things for us!

People: His name is Holy and He is worthy to be praised!

Pastor: Come then, and let us praise His name; for He is our Maker and Redeemer. It is He who has shown us mercy and grace.

† Hymn of Praise

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 every 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.

Come 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.

St. 1,4, Charles Wesley, 1744, St. 2-3 Mark E. Hunt, 1978, Text of stanzas 2 & 3 ©
 1978, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

† Invocation

† Doxology

O COME O COME EMMANUEL

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.

Confession of Sin

Pastor: Let us now confess our sins together:

All: Almighty God, we have sinned against You and we have offended You. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins, we also confess You to be a merciful God and a loving and favorable Father to all who turn to You. And so, we humbly ask You, for the sake of Christ, to forgive our offenses. By Your Spirit, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our lives, but also the words of our mouths, and even the smallest thoughts of our minds, may be guarded and governed by You. Amen.

Silent Confession

Song of Confession

COME OH REDEEMER COME

1. Fa - ther en-throned on high. Ho - ly ho - ly,
2. Lord, save us from the dark Of our striv-ing,
3. Look now u - pon our need Lord be with us,

1.
An - cient e - ter - nal light Hear our prayers
Faith-less and troubl-ed heart Weighed down
Heal us and make us free From our sin

2.3.
Come, Oh Re-deem-er, come Grant us mercy.—

Come, Oh Re-deem-er come Grant us peace.

CCLI Song # 2069663 | Fernando Ortega | © 1996 Metro One

† Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law by becoming a curse for us – for as it is written, “Cursed be everyone who is hanged on a tree.”

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

† 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 Renewal

IT WAS FINISHED UPON THAT CROSS

How I love the voice of Jesus
On the Cross of Calvary
He declares His work is finished
He has spoken this hope to me
Though the sun had ceased its shining
Though the war appeared as lost
Christ had triumphed over evil
It was finished upon that Cross

Now the curse it has been broken
Jesus paid the price for me
Full the pardon He has offered
Great the welcome that I receive
Boldly I approach my Father
Clothed in Jesus' righteousness
There is no more guilt to carry
It was finished upon that Cross

Death was once my great opponent
Fear once had a hold on me
But the Son who died to save us
Rose that we would be free indeed

Death was once my great opponent
Fear once had a hold on me
But the Son who died to save us
Rose that we would be free indeed
Yes He rose that we would be free indeed

Free from ev'ry plan of darkness
Free to live and free to love
Death is dead and Christ is risen
It was finished upon that Cross

Onward to eternal glory
To my Saviour and my God
I rejoice in Jesus' victory
It was finished upon that Cross
It was finished upon that Cross
It was finished upon that Cross

CCLI Song # 7171907

Jonny Robinson | Nigel Hendroff | Rich Thompson

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COMMITTING TO GOD'S KINGDOM

Lighting of the Advent Wreath -

The Bethlehem Candle

Psalm 85

Luke 3:1-6

Addisyn Eggar and Katie Peterson

Reader: We light the second candle of Advent to remind us that the Lord Jesus, who is the light of the world, was born in David's city of Bethlehem, born like him to be a King, the King who reigns over all.

All: Thanks be to God!

Kingdom Moment

Randy Shannon & David Welch

Prayer of Intercession

David Welch

(followed by a time of silent prayer)

Common Prayer

Elder: Let us now join our voices praying:

All: Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of Your Holy word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. 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

Malachi 2:17-3:6

¹⁷ You have wearied the Lord with your words. But you say, “How have we wearied him?” By saying, “Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and he delights in them.” Or by asking, “Where is the God of justice?”

³ “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵ “Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

⁶ “For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ADVENT REFINING

The Context of Malachi

The Coming of the Lord Promised

The Coming of the Lord Fulfilled

The Coming of the Lord Lived Out

Discussion Questions:

1. In what ways do you respond when you feel as if the Lord has disappointed you? How could this passage be a help to you during those times?
2. How is it possible for God's consuming fire to be a cleansing flame?
3. In light of the cross, what's the answer to this question: Where is the God of justice?
4. Spend time pondering how you can apply this passage during the season of Advent.

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 AM NOT MY OWN



1. The One Who made the heav - ens made my heart and soul;
2. My bod - y is a tem - ple of the Liv - ing God.
3. And if He has re-deemed me, I am not my own.
4. I am not my own and now my heart is free.



be - fore I drew a breath, I was loved and known.
 I'll wor-ship in this house that His blood has bought.
 The mea-sure of my worth is His love a - lone.
 Oh Mak - er, come and make what You will of me.



I am His cre - a - tion, the Mak-er's mas - ter-piece,
 As I bear His im - age, oh may I not pro-fane
 He de-claims my stand-ing, and He de-claims my state.
 There is noth-ing bro - ken that You can - not re - pair,



and all that He de-signs will be done in me.
 the ho - li - ness I hold in this earth - ly
 So, I will know my - self by the name he
 so Lord, I leave my life in Your lov - ing



frame.
 gave. I be - long to the Lord, oh I am not my own.
 care.



I be - long to the Lord; I am not my own. I will hon - or Him,



for this I know, I be-long to the Lord; I am not my own.

CCLI Song # 7214851 | Ben Shive | Bryan Fowler | Skye Peterson | Tom Anderson
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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Let us pray:

**All: Our Father, we thank You for feeding us at Your Son's Table.
As we leave this gathering, may it continue to strengthen our
trust in You in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

GOING OUT WITH GOD'S BLESSING

† Song of Sending

PSALM 150 (PRAISE THE LORD)

You made the starry hosts
You traced the mountain peaks
You paint the evening skies with wonders
The earth it is Your throne
From desert to the sea
All nature testifies Your splendor

Chorus

*Praise the Lord
Praise the Lord
Sing His greatness
All creation
Praise the Lord
Raise your voice
You heights and all you depths
From furthest east to west
Let everything that has breath
Praise the Lord*

You reached into the dust
In love Your Spirit breathed
You formed us in Your very likeness
To know Your wondrous works
To tell Your mighty deeds
To join the everlasting chorus (*Chorus*)

Let symphonies resound
Let drums and choirs ring out
All heaven hear the sound of worship
Let every nation bring
Its honors to the King
A roar of harmonies eternal

*Praise the Lord
Praise the Lord
Sing His greatness
All creation
Praise the Lord
Raise your voice
You heights and all you depths
From furthest east to west
You distant burning stars
All creatures near and far
From sky to sea to shore
Sing out forevermore
Let everything that has breath
Praise the Lord*

Matt Boswell, Matt Papa | CCLI Song #7161130
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Enemies Publishing; Messenger Hymns

† 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

Chris Jordan – December 8

Randy Shannon – December 15

Daniel Sneed – December 22

Save the Date

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

Sun, Dec 22 – No Christian Formation classes at 9 am

Tues, Dec 24, 5 pm – Christmas Eve Service

Sun, Dec 29 – No Christian Formation classes at 9 am

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: 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. See Rich Saadeh or Susan Richardson today!

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 today. Please make checks payable to FWPC and list Geneva Fund on the memo line or give online at continuetogive.com/RBI.

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 or give online at continuetogive.com/FWPben.

New Covenant Child: Congratulations to Cole and Anna Buck on the birth of their son William Woodford Buck on November 22. Praise be to God for this good and perfect gift!




Lessons & Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 6:00PM

**Nursery provided for infant-4 years.
Christmas Cookie fellowship follows.**



 Fort Worth Presbyterian Church
6251 Oakmont Trail
fortworthpca.org



**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.

SESSION (ELDERS)

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

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