

First Presbyterian Church



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We live and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, service, and witness. As a Christ-centered church empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek God's plan for each of us and all of us. We welcome everyone to journey with us as we strive to grow in love, faith, trust, and discipleship.

(Adopted October 10, 1998; revised February 2, 2013)

First Presbyterian Church

November 27, 2022 – 1st Sunday of Advent

You are invited to stand if able

Items in **bold** are congregational response

Personal Prayer of Preparation:

As we gather on this first Sunday of Advent, Lord, we come with thoughts and worries, with needs and cares, with problems and with joys. Enable us to lay them down before you, Lord, so that, during this time of prayer and worship, we might be strengthened, moved, and restored, to your glory, Amen.

– ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME –

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

JOYS AND SORROWS

PRELUDE AND PRAYER OF PREPARATION

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Sharon Zunic

ADVENT MEDITATION—HOPE FOR GOD'S PRESENCE

Leader: In this season of Advent, we long for God's presence.

People: Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

Leader: In this season of Advent, we search for God's truth.

People: Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

Leader: In this season of Advent, we seek God's guidance.

People: Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

Leader: In this season of Advent, we remember God's promise.

People: Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

CANDLE LIGHTING

This morning we light the first candle, the candle of hope. This candle reminds us that God's promises give us reason to be filled with hope—hope for unity in a world of division, hope for healing in a world of pain, and hope for peace in a world filled with anger and strife. We remember that Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and end this gloom of night. Bring
 hope to the world, bring peace to the earth, and fill us with love's pure light.

Love's Pure Light (Congregational Response) "Gesu Bambino" - Music: Pietro Yon - Words and arrangement Joel Raney

OPENING PRAYER:

Liturgist

Gracious God, as we begin our Advent journey, we thank you for the gift of your Son and for sending hope into a world filled with dread. Help us remember that we are your people, and because of your promises we have every reason to be hopeful. Take away our doubt and fear, and remind us that Christ is our light, and the true source of hope. Amen.

HYMN:

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Blue 1

CALL TO CONFESSION

We may not know the time, but our every moment is held in God's hands. We may not do and say what we should or could, but God offers us words of forgiveness. Join me as we pray together, saying,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of amazing surprises, we rush headlong into this season of delight, but we often find stress. Help us remember that you should be our foundation. Help us stress how we order our lives, turning from ways that block your love and healing power. In the days to come, may we discover the grace which has always been ours and share it with others. May we taste the sweet goodness of your love, and feed those around us. May we be filled with the hope of your calling and expect you to come in those we least expect, in places that surprise us, in moments we overlook, just as you did in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***KYRIE:** *Lord have mercy upon us;
Christ have mercy upon us;
Lord have mercy upon us*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Reach out and touch the kingdom, for it is right next to you.

Breathe in and feel the Spirit of hope. Trust and believe this good news: God is nearer than you might ever imagine.

People: Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Alleluia, Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI:**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

***SHARING THE PEACE:** (Social Distancing)

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us show one another a sign of God's peace.

– PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD –

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Led by Liturgist

Speak to us, Lord. Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing. Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 122

Led by Liturgist

Leader: I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

People: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Leader: Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together. To it the tribes go up, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

**People: For there the thrones for judgment were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.**

Leader: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.

**People: Peace be within your walls and
security within your towers."**

Leader: For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say,
"Peace be within you."

**People For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek your good.**

NEW TESTAMENT:	Romans 13:11-14	Liturgist
SPECIAL MUSIC:	"Have You Any Room for Jesus?"	Pastor
GOSPEL:	Matthew 24:36-44	Pastor
SERMON:	"Ready?"	Pastor
HYMN:	"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	Blue 9

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Led by Liturgist

**Day by day, Dear Lord, of Thee three things we pray:
to see Thee more clearly, love Thee more dearly,
follow Thee more nearly, day by day.**

INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP

Liturgist

If Advent is to be about more than going through the motions, then we must get ready for Christ's coming. What can signal our readiness for the coming of Christ into this place?—only a total commitment of our lives and our resources to bringing hope to the world. The benefits of our financial gifts to the ministry of this church travel widely, but nowhere is the impact greater than in our own hearts. I invite you to use this time of offering as an opportunity to get ready for Christ's arrival.

The offering plates are located at the front of the Chancel, or you can drop your offerings and tithes in the mail slot of the Parish House door. Thank you for your support of the mission of First Presbyterian Church.

OFFERTORY:

Joe Balogh

*** DOXOLOGY:**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God, above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Led by Liturgist

Thank you, God, for the wake-up call, reminding us to be ready. Thank you for not giving up on your vision of hope. Thank you for the opportunity to gather each week in your house, that we might encourage one another to stay on your path. And thank you for the opportunity to give these gifts for your ministry, that together we might help the world be ready to receive the Child of Hope. in whose name we pray. Amen.

HYMN:

“Here in This Place (Gather Us In)”

Insert

BENEDICTION

Pastor

Leader: Let us live honorably as in the day,
always ready for Christ's return.

**People: We celebrate Christ's first coming and seek to
prepare for when Christ comes again.**

Leader: Hold on to the one hope of your calling—one Lord,
one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all.

**People: Having set our hope on Christ, we go forth
to live for the praise of His glory.**

Response

"Amen, Amen"
(from "See the Little Baby")

– GO OUT TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD –

**Liturgy from Ministry Matters (Townley), Lectionary Liturgies (Shuman),
and "Love's Pure Light" advent ceremony.**

Music on screen and streaming covered under
CCLI licenses 20664520 and 20664537
CVLI license 50439969

Those Serving Among Us Today

Liturgist today is Nancy Komlos.

Greeter today was Rosemary Strenske.

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Nov. 29- Becky Moravec Matthew Bair	Dec. 2- Judy Latchem BJ Thomas
Nov. 30- J.T. Mateka	Dec. 3- Jacob Davis
Dec. 1- Maxine Brownlee David Neel	

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN:

TODAY: Worship at 10 am; 2 cents a meal; 1st Sunday in Advent

WEDNESDAY: Homeless Bag Project 9 am to 1 pm

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 10 am; Communion; Coffee Hour

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah.11:1-10 and

Ps. 72:1-7,18-19;

Romans 15:4-13;

Matt. 3:1-12

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your faithful support of the church and its ministries. The offering plates are located on the windowsills at the front.

HOAGIES: Emma Burkley is taking orders each month for fresh hoagies for the high school band. The order form is at the front of the church.

Session is looking for a new **VOLUNTEER FINANCIAL SECRETARY**. If you are interested, or to get more information, please contact the office.

ANGEL TREE: The Salvation Army asks that we do not wrap the gifts, just place your tag on your present upon returning it. The deadline to return your gifts is Monday, December 5th. If you have any questions, please contact Natalie Brewer.

MOVIES FOR BIBLE STUDY, Tuesday at 2 pm, will be **Jeremiah** starring Dr. McDreamy (Patrick Dempsey), a story about trusting God even when you don't understand. Everyone is welcome! Invite your friends to join us.



To make a onetime gift or to sign up for our online giving program, scan this QR code with your mobile device. All donations are processed through the Presbyterian Foundation and VANCO Giving Services and is secure and protected.

Giving and Budget Update

	November (1/12th of budget)
Budget Amounts	\$ 12,713.58
Giving as of 11/21/22	\$ 3,812.00
Investment Income	
Manse Rental	\$ 950.00
Fundraisers income	\$ 1,702.00
Month/Year to Date	\$ 6,464.00
	-\$6,249.58

Here in This Place

401

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

PRAYER LIST

Please remember the following people in your thoughts and prayers.

Please call the office with prayer needs, updates, and questions
or e-mail the church at office@fpresbv.org.

† John & Marlene Amoroso † Kaiden Bane † Brian Barkby †
Nuncio Battista † Bill Behrens † Joann Bellora † Mary Lou Berish †
Nadine Brewer † Garret Brigs † Frank Britton † Kathy Buckalew
† Angel Burnsworth † Joe Burnsworth † Colin † Sally Callaway †
Sally Campbell † Jim Caristo † Milana (Berish) Cerniga † Rev. Ian
Chikoti † Michael Colla † Lou Comadina † Glenn Crossover †
Marge Denitti † Dorothy Dodroskey † Dale Dominic † Carol Driver
† Sandy Elder † MaryAnn Falk † Norm Floyd † Howard Forsyth †
Ed Friedenberger † Wyatt Fitzgibbons † Patti Huyck † JoeyLynn
Johns † Diane Johnston † Zoey Johnson † Earlene Kalakewich †
Janet † June Kefover † Donna Kearns † Cameron Kennedy †
Robert Korff † Irene Leyda † Mike Lemley † J.T. Mateka † Taylor
McGee † Bruce Merritt † Dean Migliori † Bob Mohn † Mrs. Munsen
† Lynette Murray † Tim and Melissa Nagelreiter † Mary Caroline
Nicholas † Bob Palfrey † Dick Palfrey † June Palfrey † Nora
Pelezar † Darlene Perrotta † Helen Pulgina † Dennis Raymer †
Dorothy Rogers † Gordon Rutherford † Clare Sartori † Sandy
Seeley † Alina Shaw † Linda Shuler † Chris Sicora † Toi Smith †
Walter Smith † Gianna Smoyer † Loretta Sterner † Laura Stopka †
Patty Strychalski † Neville Vasko † Sandy Walters † Joseph
Waywood † Yauger Family † Kim Zunic †

**Pray for the safety and protection of First Responders (police, fire,
EMTS), Military Personnel, Medical Personnel, and those affected
by senseless violence and war.**

*(If you have a prayer concern or to update the list,
please call the office at 724-929-7616 or fill out a prayer card and place in the
offering plate)*



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

501 Fayette Avenue, Rostraver Twp., PA 15012

Church Offices: 511 Fayette Avenue

Office Hours: M - F: 9:00 to 1:00

Church Phone: 724- 929-7616

Fax and Fellowship Hall Phone: 724-929-0209

Pastor's Cell Phone: 724-243-2871

Web: www.fpresbv.org **e-mail:** office@fpresbv.org

Pastor:	Mary Kay Glunt	243-2871
Clerk of Session:	Sharon Zunic	929-4463
Church Secretary:	Natalie Brewer	929-7616
Organist:	Joe Balogh	
Chairman of Deacons:	Susan Aten	929-6406
Head Usher:	Bill Callaway	929-5176
Custodian:	Patty Gillon	929-7616
H. O. A:	Linda Aten	929-6406

ELDER S

Class of 2022

Natalie Brewer
Dee Hepple
Mike Moravec
Judy Latchem

Class of 2023

Sharon Zunic
Jane Bonari
Mary Beth Burkley

Class of 2024

BJ Thomas
Lori Lamberski
Carol Tragesser
David Burdis

DEACONS

Class of 2022

Susan Aten
Anne McCorkle
Kerry McCorkle
Barb Peters

Class of 2023

Marguerite Patterson
Dennis Peters
Patty Gillon
Eileen Kunca

Class of 2024

Jessica Phillabaum
Dave Neel