

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

December 4, 2022 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

You are invited to stand if able

Items in **bold** are congregational response

Personal Prayer of Preparation:

Eternal God, who was, and is, and is to come. we offer our praise as we come before You in prayer and worship, seeking to discern Your call in our lives, seeking only to speak if we must, seeking to listen for Your voice. Draw near to us, that we might draw near to You, and help us to listen for that still small voice. Help us to offer our whole life to You, that we may serve You as You call us to. In Jesus name we pray, Amen

– ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME –

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

JOYS AND SORROWS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Sharon Zunic

PRELUDE AND PRAYER OF PREPARATION

ADVENT MEDITATION—Hope for God’s Peace

Leader: In this season of Advent, we pray for God's peace.

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

Leader: We witness the hostility between nations and neighbors.

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

Leader: We see a world full of fractured relationships and unforgiving hearts.

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

Leader: We seek relief from our own inner turmoil and restlessness.

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

CANDLE LIGHTING

This morning we light two candles, the candle of hope and the candle of peace. The candle of peace reminds us that Christ came into our world to restore peace, and that only through trust in God's word and his promises can we find our own inner peace. We remember that Christ is the Prince of Peace who taught us that through simple acts of love and forgiveness peace is spread throughout the world.

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 continue our Advent journey, we thank you for sending the Prince of Peace into a world filled with unrest and strife. We ask that you quiet our restless hearts and instill in each of us the calm assurance that tells us you are in control, so we need not worry. Give us the tools we need to serve as you would have us serve, and make us willing instruments of your peace. Amen.

HYMN:

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

Blue 8

CALL TO CONFESSION (From Hebrews 4:14-16)

In Matthew 3:2, John the Baptist cries, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." Let us confess our sins this Advent to prepare for the coming of Christ.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, we have gathered in this Advent time to reflect on Your purposes, to prepare ourselves for Your coming, and to give You praise. We confess our sins, what we have done wrong, what we have failed to do right. We live in a world full of wickedness and injustice, led by sinful men and women who need Your mercy, as we do. We have hurt others and been hurt by them. Forgive us and lead us in better ways, we pray. We ask this in the name of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, the one whose coming we await. Amen

*SILENT CONFESSION

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

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

People: **Thanks be to God, our Redeemer!**

***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

Savior God, guide us by your Word and Spirit that we might hear your truth, heed your call, and be prepared to celebrate Christ's birth this Christmas. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 11:1-10 Liturgist

NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 15:4-13 Pastor

SPECIAL MUSIC "He's Everything to Me" Bobbi Jo Huebner

SERMON: "Where Peace Abides" Pastor

HYMN: "Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace" Blue 374

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.

INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP

As we join our voices in prayer and praise, so, too, we bring together the symbols of our life investment: money we have earned, the hours we have before us, the abilities that are ours alone. Let us give of ourselves with joy.

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: May the God of Advent give you hope.

People: May God grant you peace.

Leader: Let us lift our hearts to God who offers righteousness to all.

People: We open our hearts to the One who loves all creation.

Leader: Children of God, rejoice in the One who calls us to live in harmony with everyone.

People: Amen and Amen! We give our thanks to God!

God over all . . . together with one voice, we glorify you, saying:
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.
Hosanna in the highest!

In your holiness, . . . we can share hope and peace.

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.

As we inch closer to Bethlehem, as we wait for the kingdom to draw near, we
sing of that mystery of faith:

Jesus died to bless those who seek him;
Jesus was raised by the Spirit of Resurrection;
Jesus will come, bringing justice and salvation.

Hear the words of . . . drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Every time we eat this bread, every time we drink this cup,
we proclaim the death of the Lord, until he comes.
Until He comes.

Now in these days, . . . Holy in One. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Giving and Budget Update

	November (1/12th of budget)
Budget Amounts	\$ 12,713.58
Giving as of 11/21/22	\$ 4,923.00
Investment Income	
Manse Rental	\$ 950.00
Fundraisers income	\$ 2,092.50
Month/Year to Date	\$ 7,965.50
	-\$4,748.08

Condolences for Marlene Amoroso may be sent to:

Bob & Lisa Aten
62 Fordham Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15229

Those Serving Among Us Today

Liturgist today is Bobbi Jo Huebner.

Greeter today was Maxine Brownlee.

Advent Wreath will be Patty Gillon and Jessica Phillabaum.

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Dec. 11- Tommy Rodriguez Dec. 12- Melissa Zeli Dec. 13- Janice Jupin	Dec. 16- Dennis Lynn Dec. 18- Zack Brewer Anne McCorkle Eric Zunic
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THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN:

TODAY: Worship at 10 am; Communion; Coffee Hour

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 10 am; Congregational Meeting after worship

(NOTE: Bible Study will reconvene in January)

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah.35:1-10 and

Ps. 146:5-10 or

Luke 1:46b-55;

James 5:7-10; Matt.11:2-11



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.

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 **tomorrow, Monday, December 5th**. If you have any questions, please contact Natalie Brewer.

COMMUNION OFFERING: Today's communion offering will go to the Domestic Violence Services for Washington and Fayette County. They provide a broad range of services to victims of domestic violence across three counties. Services include 24-hour hotline, medical and legal advocacy, emergency shelter, counseling, and support.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: There will be a Congregational meeting next Sunday, December 11th right after worship to elect officers and present the budget. Please plan to attend.

WEST NEWTON COMMUNITY SINGERS: Will present their annual Christmas concert "Joyous Christmas" on Friday, December 9th at 7:30 pm at the West Newton United Presbyterian Church 3rd & Main Streets. Advance tickets are \$7 and \$8 at the door. Students are \$5. Tickets can be purchased from any member or at Maria's alteration and Gary's Chuck wagon. For more information you may call 724-872-6093.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA: Will be performed at the First Christian Church, 61 Walnut Ridge Rd. Charleroi, PA 15022 on Sunday, December 11th at 3 pm. There will be a Tasting Party in the church's fellowship hall after the show. For any questions, please call 724-489-9014.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING: Each year, PCUSA churches receive a special offering at Christmas—the Christmas Joy Offering. This Offering addresses the support needed by some of our leaders, including supporting leadership development for marginalized communities and providing support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need. In our congregation the Christmas Joy Offering is traditionally received on Christmas Eve. For more information, see Sharon Zunic or Pastor Mary Kay.

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 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 Crownover †
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 † Stephen Minetta † 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 † Clare Sartori † Sandy Seeley †
Alina Shaw † Linda Shuler † Chris Sicora † Toi Smith †
Walter Smith † Gianna Smoyer † Loretta Sterner † Laura Stopka †
Patty Strychalski † 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