



First Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 1st, 2024

First Sunday of Advent



Lisle

When You Pass through the Waters by Lisle Gwynn Garrity

4602 Cary Street Road
Richmond, VA 23226
fprichmond.org | (804) 358-2383

Order of Worship

Prelude

Organ Chorale: "Savior of the Nations, Come," BWV 659
Bruce Stevens, organ

J. S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Amy Starr Redwine

Introit Hymn 92 (v. 1)

“While We Are Waiting, Come”

WAITING (Cason)

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Alex and Cate Jobe

One: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again? Where do we start?

Let us begin with the good news! Let us begin by trusting that we are a blessing, loved by a gracious God.

All: Let us begin with music and singing! Let us begin with warmth and welcome.

Let us begin with hope.

Yes, let us begin with hope.

Today we light the candle of hope to shine a light in a worn and weary world.

May this be our foundation. May this be our fresh start. May this be our new beginning.

May hope flow forth from here. Amen!

*Hymn 102

“Savior of the Nations, Come” NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Josh Andrzejewski

In the beginning, God, your first words to creation were words of love. You looked at the earth and said, “It is good.” At every turn, you have reminded us that we are a blessing, made in your image, held in your love. Forgive us for forgetting this truth. Forgive us for failing to see the belovedness of our neighbors - and ourselves. O Lord, we believe; help our unbelief.

*Passing the Peace

Time for Young Disciples

*Children ages 3 years through 5th grade are invited to Children's Chapel.
They will return to the sanctuary for the Lord's Supper.*

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Amy Starr Redwine

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

OT pp. 631-632

Luke 1:26-38

NT p. 53

Sermon

“Begin with a Blessing”

Organ Meditation

Gabriel's Message: The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

arr. by Robert Lau

***Please rise in body or in spirit.**

*Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Derek Starr Redwine

We believe in a blessing God who calls us Beloved. We believe that this blessing showed up in the life of Mary, and was also bestowed upon the hemorrhaging woman, the poor in spirit, the children, the crowds, the Jews, the Gentiles, the faithful and the doubting. So in faith, we trust that God's blessing, like ripples on the water, forever reaches toward us. And with wild hope, we believe that because of this blessing, we are saturated with God's love. We are more than enough. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Call to Offering

*Doxology (Prayer of Thanksgiving)

VENI EMMANUEL

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above ye heavenly host;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Josh Andrzejewski

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Derek Starr Redwine

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

[...] With joy and hope, we weave our voices together to pray the words your son taught us to pray, saying...

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, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Receiving Communion by Intinction

Music During Communion

Here, O Our Lord
Jason N. Brown, tenor

Warren Swenson

Prayer after Communion

Rev. Amy Starr Redwine

*Hymn 377

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

HOUSTON

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Organ Chorale: "Savior of the Nations, Come" BWV 661

J.S. Bach

Curious about the bulletin image cover? Scan the QR code to read a statement from the artist.



FPSeasons are here! Pick up a copy in the commons as you leave worship today. Inside you'll find information about Advent and J-Term.

Silent Night
A Community Service for Grieving Parents
"We are not alone in our heartache and grief when a child dies."
December 3
7PM | Sanctuary
First Presbyterian Church
Richmond
A service for grieving parents to remember children (of any age) who have died. We will light candles, offer prayers, hear music, and shine light into the darkness of our grief.

A FELLOWSHIP AT FIRST EVENT
An FPC Christmas
Sponsored by Presbyterian Women in collaboration with FPC's Music and Arts Ministry
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
10:30AM - WORSHIP
11:30AM - MEAL
Enjoy a special worship service full of Christmas music. Followed by a Christmas meal in the Fellowship Hall with your FPC community. Registration is requested. Free will offering for the meal.
fprichmond.org/fa1stdec

This week's usher team includes: Pratt Cook, Jon Morris, Elizabeth Saunders, Pete Winters

If interested in serving as an usher, contact Ken Horton (kmmfour@aol.com)

Elders at the doors: Eone Beck, Jim Purser, Vicki Warren

The flowers in the Sanctuary and the Memorial Corridor were arranged by Julie Langan.

Please keep in your prayers those with special concerns:

- Angela Annas (*Christina Luxon's mother*), recovering from hip replacement surgery
- Julia Bonham (*Sheila Smith's mother*), health concerns
- Ashtyn Bratt, recovering from broken ankle
- Jim Dunn, health concerns
- Vernon Glenn, health concerns
- Ken Horton, medical issues
- Pat Lintner (*Christa Santos' father*), health concerns
- John Miller, in treatment for brain cancer
- Barbara Mitchell (*Judy Noble's mother*), in hospice care
- Jane Neer, health concerns
- Byrd Newton (*Emily Laux's father*), health concerns
- Sue Parrish (*Kathy Nelson's mother*), health concerns
- Betty Proffitt (*Jenny Morris' mother*), health concerns
- Sandra Putbrese (*Cortland Putbrese's mother*), health concerns
- Yvonne Robertson (*Michelle Call's mother*), health concerns
- Sharon Spencer, health concerns
- Percy Wootton, health concerns

Those Grieving:

- Family and friends of Jane Beaver who died on November 22.

We pray for members and family serving in the military:

Tripp Bowles, Jenny Sigel Burkett, Joshua Garber, Zach Kirk, Mason Louthan, Nathan Thomas Meade, Peyton Spivey, Pierce Tarry, and Will Watkins.

How can we pray for you?

You can submit concerns and celebrations at fprichmond.org/prayer or let one of our pastors know.

Visit fprichmond.org/give or scan the QR code to make your 2025 pledge. Thank you for all the ways you give.

