

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Led by Christ, Together in Faith and Love, We Joyfully Think, Question, Grow & Serve!

1st Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025



*for those who wish to stand

Bold print indicates congregational participation

Today's Liturgy written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed/A Sanctified Art LLC/sanctifiedart.org

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor Phil Price

*please sign the act of friendship pad

BREATH PRAYER

Inhale: "The world feels dim."

Exhale: "But glory grows in the dark."

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: On Sundays and Mondays,

All: on good days and bad days,

One: early in the morning and very late at night,

All: here in this room, and out in the world, God, we long for you to break in.

One: Meet us in this space.

All: Surprise us with your presence.

One: Fill this room with your good news.

All: With hope, we sing, we worship, we pray. Amen!

CANDLE LIGHTING

The Ryan Payne Family

*OPENING HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

#82

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-present God, we long to feel you close. We long to feel your presence in our lives. We long for you to break through the chaos and suffering of this world. However, if we're honest, we rarely stand still long enough to feel you in our midst. Forgive our rushing and distractions. Forgive our wandering hearts, and center us in this space. Remind us that even in the time of Herod, even on the longest nights, you are always there.

TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: Family of faith, even when we doubt God's presence, even when we fail to notice God's fingerprints in this world, God is always moving closer to us. Hear and believe the good news this Advent season:

All: Nothing can keep God's love away. We are seen. We are forgiven. We are not alone. Amen.

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

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.***

WELCOME THE CHILDREN

Heidi Paquin

This, this is where children belong. Welcomed as part of the worshiping throng. Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Lamentations 3:55-57

Page 1010 OT

One: The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Celtic Advent Carol

Angerman

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:5-13

Page 77 NT

One: This is God's word to us.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

We Long for God to Break In

Phil Price

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All: We have seen the valley. We have seen a sky without stars. We have seen the longest night, and still we believe. We believe in a with-us God. We believe in the hope of tomorrow. We believe that good news is louder than fear. We believe this good news is for all people. So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us, we will hold onto that good news. We will reach for each other. We will look for God in our midst. We will sing songs of joy. We will proclaim: Unto us, love is born. We have seen the longest night, and we have seen unimaginable love. So still, we believe. Amen.

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

#523

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: With-us God, we live in a fearful world. If we're honest, we come to this Table today with the taste of fear on our tongues. ... Now with hope for a better tomorrow, we join our voices together to pray the prayer 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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Today's communion is served by intinction. After the choir is served, please come forward using the center aisle. Please take a piece of bread and then dip it into the cup and commune. Then, please return to your seat.

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

To give online, visit <https://www.fpcsalina.org/give>. To give over the phone, text FPCSalina and your dollar amount to 73256 or download our Realm Connect App.



CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Lo, How A Rose/The Rose

Johnson

*DOXOLOGY

#606

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.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

SENT OUT TO BEAR GOD'S WORD IN THE WORLD

*SENDING HYMN

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

#87

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS:

Communion Preparation & Server: *Marcia Anderson*

Worship Assistant: *Craig Renfro*

Hospitality Host: *Katy England*

Ushers: *The Payne Family*

Weekly Glance

SUNDAY, November 30: 11:00am – Decorate Sanctuary!

MONDAY, December 1: 9:30pm – Coffee & Card Making
3:30pm – Personnel Committee

TUESDAY, December 2: 5:15pm – Faith Formation Committee

WEDNESDAY, December 3: Salina Grace meal prep & serve
4:00pm – FBI

4:30pm – Worship Cmte

6:30pm – Choir Practice

THURSDAY, December 4: 7:00am – HeBrews

3:30pm – Building & Grounds Cmte

4:00pm – Finance Cmte

6:00pm – Ladies Gathering

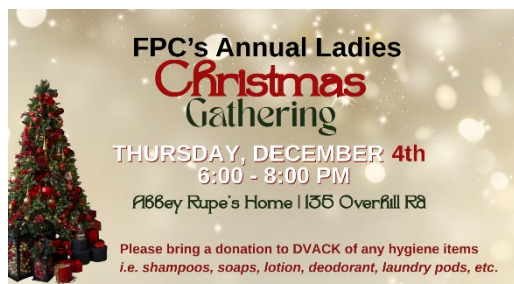
SUNDAY, December 7: 9:00am – Adult Class

10:00am – Worship, Choral Cantata

11:00am – Dedicate Renovated Parlor

11:15am – Adult Class

Looking Forward





The First Sunday of Advent | What do you fear?
IN THE TIME OF HEROD, WE LONG FOR GOD TO BREAK IN



Zechariah and the Angel

by Hannah Garrity

Inspired by Luke 1:5-13

32"x20" Paper lace & graphite drawing, backed with cyanotype print

Within the political landscape of Herod's time, hope was not on the horizon—that's the point. And Elizabeth had been barren for many years. This miracle visited her—in her body, in her womb—because it was so unexpected.

In this piece, I imagine the angel in a female form arriving close to Zechariah in the darkened Temple, surprising him by her presence. His reaction is a fearful one in this image. He leans away, squints his eyes, and covers his head. He protects himself from her, from her presence, from her power, from her words, from her gaze. He hides. The incense swirls around them. In contrast to his fear, her message is one of hope: long-yearned-for-joy and family security. Here the angel's message is represented by the doves and the stars. Her message flows into his space with the same power that invoked his fear. I imagine Zechariah lets his guard down then, and listens to her in shock. I imagine he takes in her words, lets his arm down, meets her gaze, and holds onto joy, despite his ongoing apprehension.

In this image, I placed my paper lace over a cyanotype print, which is created using photosensitive paper, objects, and sunlight. The cyanotype didn't work the first time; I had to paint the light-sensitive solution again and then expose the print for longer in brighter daylight. I really needed plexiglass to hold my branches and leaves tightly to the paper, but I didn't have it. Nonetheless, the final print reflected the flow of energy in this text.

The movement in the cyanotype is horizontal—perfect for the lateral conversation between the angel and Zechariah. Pine needles created shapes that appear to reiterate the angel's words as they are leaving her mouth toward Zechariah's ear. These words, this unexpected and miraculous hope, are the focal point in the text and the art. In the cyanotype, there are deep blues with silhouettes of leaves and stems, but nothing so powerful as these words, these pine needles creating a high-contrast focal point. God is breaking in. —HANNAH GARRITY



The First Sunday of Advent | What do you fear?
IN THE TIME OF HEROD, WE LONG FOR GOD TO BREAK IN



Depths

by Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell

Inspired by Lamentations 3:55-57

16"x20" Acrylic, oil pastel, metal leaf on canvas

I am reminded of my love-hate relationship with theme park rides as soon as the ride quiets into a slow, steady climb—creeping toward an edge that seems to vanish. It's at this point that full panic sets in and it hits me: a drop is coming.

It's not the speed or height of roller coasters that scares me. It's the weight—being pulled down by something far heavier than myself, strapped to metal with gravity

dragging me into the depths while my stomach scrambles to catch up, my heart left behind in midair.

Many of us, like the writer of Lamentations, know this kind of free fall—in our personal lives, in our ministries, and in a political climate that seems to collapse our sense of security into a bottomless pit. Yet, when the fall ends, when the deepest depths have been reached, who hears us when we call? As we echo prayers from the depths of each of our lives, we can rest in the assurance that we are heard by a God who meets us at rock bottom. —CARMELLE BEAUGELIN CALDWELL

Poinsettias & *WREATHS*

The Board of Deacons invites you to share in providing **poinsettias** as Christmas gifts to nursing home and home bound members of the church. *Cost is \$16 per plant.*

Poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary during Advent and Christmas Eve. You may pick up your plant(s) for your own use following the Christmas Eve service if you designate on the form below that you wish to do so.

Each year, we decorate the exterior of our church with **wreaths** and want to offer you the opportunity to be a donor, to honor or memorialize someone.

Cost is \$40 per wreath.

Please complete the form below and return with your payment to the church office no later than **Monday, Dec. 1st**.

I Would Like To Purchase # _____ of Poinsettia(s). \$16 ea

I Want To ☐ Donate Plant(s) **Or** ☐ Pick Up Plant(s)

I Would Like To Purchase # _____ of Wreath(s) to donate. \$40 ea

Printed Name of Donor(s): _____

GIVEN IN **MEMORY** OF: **OR** GIVEN IN **HONOR** OF:



For Your Information:

- FPC's Nursery, located on the second floor, is available for any child under the age of 6. We also have a playground in the parlor – a space for parents and younger children to be close to the sanctuary during worship.
- **Worship bags** for children of all ages are located in the lobby. When you are finished with the bag, please put it in the basket so that it can be replenished and straightened.
- Extra hymnals, including large print, and Bibles are available in the back of the sanctuary.
- The sanctuary is equipped with a Hearing Loop. Please switch your hearing aid to t-coil to use. *Please see your audiologist to activate your t-coil if you haven't done so yet.* Headsets are also available. **Please sit in center section of Sanctuary.**



Faith Formation Programs:

- **FBI-In-Training** is our Faith Formation program for children age 2 through Pre-K.
- **FBI** (Faithful Bible Investigators) is our Faith Formation program for children in grades K-5.
 - FBI & FBI-In-Training meet every Wednesday during the school year at 3:45 pm.
- **God Squad** is our 6th-8th grade Youth Bible Study that meets every other Wednesday during the school year from 6:30-7:45 pm in the Youth Room or a restaurant.
- **HeBrews** is our 9th-12th grade Youth Bible Study that meets every Thursday during the school year at 7:00 am at Mokas on Crawford. The name is derived from *Hebrews 10:25*.

CHURCH STAFF

Ministers: *Every Member of Congregation*
Pastor/ Head of Staff: *Rev. Phil Price*
Administrative Coordinator: *Nicole Olson*
Bookkeeper: *Kathleen Pierson*
Building & Grounds Coordinator: *Steve Fowler*
Week Day Custodian: *Dennis Augustine*
Sunday Custodian: *Regina Miller*

Children's Ministry Director: *Heidi Paquin*
CE Assistant: *Meghan Hessman*
Nursery Caregivers: *Kirsten Lilak & Haley Lindenmuth*
Youth Volunteer Leaders: *Makenzi & Trey Cullins*,
Music Director: *Dr. Richard Koshgarian*
Musician: *Parker Freeland*
Worship A/V Tech: *Jesse Smith*

Notice of Filming: Worship services are filmed and recorded to be included on our Church website, Facebook, YouTube, etc. While most footage will feature worship leaders, video of the congregation may also appear. Children during children's sermons may be seen. If you have concerns, please contact the church office.

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