

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

1st Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 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: "God was born."
Exhale: "I can rest in the beauty."*

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In worship, we hear God's story and we ask,

All: "What did God do long ago?"

One: In worship, we hear God's story, so we ask,

All: "What is God doing, here and now?"

One: In worship, we hear God's story, then we ask,

All: "What can I do to respond to it all?"

One: Listen, God is speaking.

All: Listen, God is speaking.

One: Let us worship our moving, inspiring, with-us God.

*OPENING HYMN

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

#136

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Emmanuel, God with us, scripture tells us that you were a refugee, but we love to forget that information. We love to forget every act of gun violence. We love to forget how many people go hungry, or how many students do not have access to good education. We love to forget the injustices in our world that feel too big for us to face. But you are a God who refuses to forget. So today we pray: make it impossible for us to overlook the stories of those in need. Make it impossible for us to sweep injustice under the rug. Open our eyes along with our hearts, so that the anger we feel around injustice might fuel a fire for action. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Church family, even when we fail to do justice, even when we fail to love kindness, even when we allow fear to override action, freezing us in place, God still loves us. So, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

All: On our best days and on our worst days, we belong to God. We are invited into community. We are held in God's grace. We are forgiven. And we are sent to serve.

One: Thanks be to God for a love like that.

All: Amen.

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

#136 v. 1

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born! While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

WELCOME THE CHILDREN

Pastor Phil

***This, this is where children belong. Welcomed as part of the worshipping 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

Isaiah 63:7-9

Page 914 OT

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:1-23

Page 6 NT

One: This is God's word to us.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The World as It Stands

Phil Price

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

#132

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

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

*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

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#119

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS:

Worship Assistant: *Cyndy Knutson*

Hospitality Host: *Ann Payne*

Weekly Glance

SUNDAY, December 28: 10:00am – Worship, Chapel

WEDNESDAY, December 31: Salina Grace meal prep & serve

THURSDAY, January 1: Happy New Year! FPC Closed

SUNDAY, January 4: 9:00 – Adult Class on Magi

10:00am – Worship, Chapel

11:15am – Adult Class on Magi

Looking Forward



January 12 Speaker
Kelly Mobray
Director of Adult Education
Salina Adult Education Center



First Sunday after Christmas | What do you fear?
LET FEAR FUEL A FIRE FOR JUSTICE



Stay With Me

by T. Denise Anderson

Inspired by Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

18"x24" Acrylic on canvas board

I used to think my mother was cheap. When we'd go on road trips, she'd spend the night before preparing food for the trip. I thought it was because she didn't want to spend money on fast food. She didn't. But her reasons had nothing to do with a drive-thru.

My mother was a Black child in the U.S. in the 1950s and 60s. When they went on road trips, they had to leave in the dead of night with everything they'd need for the trip. For Black folks, there was no casual stopping along the way. If you stopped at the "wrong" place, you might not make it home. Her elders taught her what they had to learn themselves, often the hard way. My mom grew up in the Steel Belt, but the family had moved there after leaving the Jim Crow South during the Great Migration for greener (and ostensibly safer) pastures. Her preparations were

vestiges of a circumspect upbringing designed to keep her safe.

I was well into adulthood when I realized my family had been refugees in their own country.

The story of the Holy Family's flight to Egypt takes new significance as I consider not only the experiences of dear ones around the world, but also my own ancestors. My piece focuses on a parent's desperate grip of their child's hand as they escape a despot's fiery wrath, possibly in the dead of night. The colors subtly recall the Pan-African, Palestinian, and Sudanese flags. I remember those left behind, and the lower part of the composition depicts the anguish of mothers whose children were not spared. Rachel still weeps (Matthew 2:18).

Our fears aren't unfounded. Salvation may have arrived, but the world still isn't safe. How will we remember Rachel's children as we resist and rebuild? **-REV. T. DENISE ANDERSON**



First Sunday After Christmas | What do you fear?
LET FEAR FUEL A FIRE FOR JUSTICE

Until We Reach the Sun

Buffaloes are the only animals that run into a storm.
They can smell the snow coming. They can feel the temperature change—
deep in their bones. So they gather together, a pack on the plains.
And with their large lumbering bodies, they run.
They run through snow and ice, wind and rain. They do not stop
until they reach the sun.

When you are afraid, because this world is cruel and harsh,
or because humans are deported and shot without reason,
or because we cannot remember how to talk to each other civilly,
I will be your pack. I will stay by your side. I will run with you
until we reach the sun.





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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