



# Second Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 6, 2020

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

**Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 659  
(Come, Savior of the Nations)**

J. S. Bach

## Welcome and Announcements

### Hymn: Prepare the Way

Bereden Vag For Herran

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.  
O blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Christ brings God's rule, O Zion; He comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.  
O blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.  
And tiding of salvation proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.  
O blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

## Prayer of the Day and the Lord's Prayer

### Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

*Glo- - ria in excelsis Deo; Glo- - ria in excelsis De-o.*

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### Prayer for Illumination

**Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 40:1-11

**New Testament Lesson:** 2 Peter 3:8-15a

### "Reaching with Comfort"

Peter Thompson

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### Hymn: Comfort, Comfort You My People

Psalm 42

Comfort, comfort you my people, tell of peace, thus says our God;  
comfort those who sit in darkness bowed beneath oppression's load.

Speak you to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;  
tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.

For the herald's voice is calling in the desert far and near,  
bidding us to make repentance since the kingdom now is here.  
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;  
let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.

Make you straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;  
let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

## Prayers of the People

### Call to Offering

### Offertory Anthem

#### Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

Traditional/Hayes

*Thomas Cass, Soloist*

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming As men of old have sung  
It came a flow'ret bright Amid the cold of winter  
When half spent was the night Isaiah 'twas foretold it  
The rose I have in mind With Mary we behold it  
The Virgin Mother kind To show God's love aright  
She bore to men a Saviour When half spent was the night  
O flow'are, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air  
Dispel in glorious splendour The darkness ev'ry where  
True man yet very God From sin and death now save us  
And share our ev'ry load*

### Prayer of Dedication

#### WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE

### Hymn: God Be with You Till We Meet Again

God Be with You

God be with you till we meet again, By His counsels guide, uphold you,  
With His sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

### Benediction

### Postlude

#### Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying

R. A. Hobby

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#### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Session has called a **Congregational Meeting** for **Today, December 6 at 9:30 A.M.** following Outdoor Worship for two purposes. The first purpose is to recommend that the congregation concur with Rev. Chad McCain's intent to dissolve his call as Associate Pastor for Service and Outreach at First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg effective November 30, 2020 with gratitude to God for his ministry among us and praying that God be at work to fully restore his health and well-being. The second purpose is to nominate and elect Dan Grabeel, Jackie Hill, Rick Milam, Stannard Preston, Ken Slusher, Dickie Stowers, Bob Thomas, and Michael Trexler to serve First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg as Ruling Elders in the Class of 2023.

**THAT'S AWESOME!!! Worship Live on [www.fpclly.org](http://www.fpclly.org).** Our new Live Video Streaming equipment has been installed for the Sanctuary and we are excited to welcome you to worship through this new outreach tool. Instead of tuning in and waiting for the right moment to connect on Facebook, you can now go to the home page of our website, [www.fpclly.org](http://www.fpclly.org), and access the "Worship Now" video link from there. It will lead you to a live streaming broadcast of worship through youtube.com. The video will remain available on the website for viewing or reviewing at an alternative time and be posted to Facebook.

**Offices and Facility:** The church offices are open M-F from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **by appointment and reservation only.** Please call the church office to schedule. Self-screening, temperature checks, face masks, and hand washing are required for entry for everyone.

**Advent and Christmas at FPCLY:** Join us each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. for outdoor worship or 10:30 a.m. Live on WLNI and [www.fpclly.org](http://www.fpclly.org). A special broadcast of a Service of Lessons and Carols will be on Sunday, December 20 led by members of our Chancel Choir and other musicians. We will be hosting Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Worship on Thursday, December 24 at both 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. on the front

lawn. Bring a blanket and join us in singing carols, breaking bread, sharing the cup, and sharing the light of Christ. Wish to stay in your car? No problem. Come to the parking lot and tune to 92.7 FM and you can hear everything from the warmth and comfort of your car.

**Reopening update from Session:** Your FPCLY Staff and Session continues to review the possibility of reopening the sanctuary for worship on Sunday mornings as well as the rest of the facilities without appointment or reservation throughout the week. As of Tuesday, November 17, the FPCLY Staff and Session acknowledges that nothing new has developed with the status of the virus to cause us to change our current protocols. We will continue to put safety first and stay the course as we have been following. The Staff and Session still feel strongly that to reopen the sanctuary at the level desired for effective worship, there needs to be better control of the virus with a stop of rapid spreading and much lower risk of transmission throughout Virginia for at least a two week period, an effective vaccine administered and distributed, or more effective ways to implement reopening within direct compliance of CDC guidelines. We are committed to continuing to review and assess progress of the pandemic and will be flexible to the possibility of opening as soon as possible.

**Pastoral Care and Prayers:** If you have an emergency and need to talk with Peter, please call him directly. Members Helping Members are also available by phone.

**Pastor on Call:**

Peter Thompson (336) 269-7270

**Members Helping Members for December (phone only):**

Elinor Ann Clark (434) 386-3889 and Gail Kowalski (434) 384-6058

**“Rooted and Reaching” Capital Project Campaign-** Rooted in a rich history and rooted in our devotion to God, we are reaching for the future and all God offers us and all we might offer others. God is doing great things in the life and ministries of First Presbyterian Church and 2020 is going to be a pivotal year in the history of the church. With opportunities to increase our benevolence support and efforts, improve ministry support, replace the steeple, renovate the organ, repair a variety of other facility needs, and enhance endowment sustainability, we pray you will be praying for First Presbyterian and how you can participate in this campaign initiative. If you have any questions, please contact Kathryn Pumphrey ([Kathryn.pumphrey@gmail.com](mailto:Kathryn.pumphrey@gmail.com)) or Bobby O’Brian ([redimixer@lrmcc.com](mailto:redimixer@lrmcc.com)).

**“Rooted and Reaching” Campaign Status: We have now raised over \$2.4 Million in pledges to date.**

Thank you to the over 140 of you who have already pledged. We very much appreciate your participation and leadership at FPCLY in this way. If you have not yet pledged, **WE STILL WELCOME YOUR PARTICIPATION!** Our goal is to contact each family of First Presbyterian Church in the next few weeks, so when you are contacted by a fellow member to schedule a personal visit regarding the “Rooted and Reaching” Capital Projects Campaign, we would be honored if you said “Yes” to the visit. If you would like to schedule your visit with a volunteer visitor sooner rather than later, email Kathryn Pumphrey at [Kathryn.pumphrey@gmail.com](mailto:Kathryn.pumphrey@gmail.com) or call the church office at 434.384.6231 to schedule.

**Annual Stewardship Campaign Status:** We have now received over 140 pledges totaling over \$514,000 for our 2021 Operating Budget. This is approximately 1/3 the total number of pledges and 2/5 the \$ needed to effectively do all God is calling us to do. Thank you to all who have turned in their pledge and we look forward to continuing our coming together in this way. Since packets and pledge cards are accompanied by a visit concurrent with the Capital Projects Campaign, the process is taking a little longer to complete this year. If you have not yet been visited or called, please remain patient. We want to include everyone as best we can. If you would like to initiate a date and time for a visit, we invite you to call the church office at 434-384-6231) or email at [office@fpcly.org](mailto:office@fpcly.org).