

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2018

**Those who are able, please stand.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude **Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 599** J. S. Bach
(Come, Savior of the Nations)

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Advent Wreath Isaiah 11:1-10
Irina Bridges, Noël Thomas, Jenny Osinga

***Hymn #2: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus** Hyfrydol

***Prayer of Adoration and the Lord's Prayer** Hymnal, p. 16

Call to Confession Prayer of Confession

O God, you give us your good news and call us into a new covenant relationship with you. Help us to prepare the way of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let the valleys be lifted up! Draw us away from degrading thoughts and actions and lift from us depressions and worry. Let the mountains be leveled off! End our pride and take away our arrogance: save us from false hope and unwarranted presumption. Let the crooked be made straight! Forgive our sin and pardon our wrongdoing; defeat evil and overcome the power of death. Let the rough be made smooth! Help us grow in understanding and give us wisdom to discern that which is good and true. Let all people see the salvation of our God. Redeem your world, and make all things new, and bring us into your holy and perfect presence, now and for all eternity. Save us and sanctify us, O God. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: People of God: Jesus Christ, our Lord,
 whose coming we announce in this season, is our righteousness.
All: **In Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we are made right with God.**
 Thanks be to God!

***Gloria** *Gloria in excelsis Deo.* Hymn #23

***Affirmation of Faith** Our Song of Hope

We sing to our Lord a new song; we sing in our world a sure hope: God loves this world, God called it into being, God renews it through Jesus Christ, God governs it by the Spirit. God is the world's true hope. We are a people of hope waiting for the return of our Lord. God has come to us through the ancient people of Israel, as the true Son of God, Jesus of Nazareth, as the Holy Spirit at work in our world. Our only hope is Jesus Christ. In the age to come with Christ's return, we look forward to a holy age of righteousness, justice, peace, joy, and love. Come, Lord Jesus: We are open to your Spirit. We await your full presence. We find rest in you alone. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Moment Kathleen Lifsey

Following the Children's Moment, children ages 4 and 5 are invited to participate in Worship Workshop in Room 1 on the ground floor next to the toddler playground. Children in 1st and 2nd grades are invited to participate in Gateways to Worship in Room 101 on the main level between the Library and Chapel. All children 3 and under are welcome in the Nursery. Please see green pew card for more information.

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 (pew Bible OT, p. 533)
New Testament Lesson: Romans 15:4-13 (pew Bible NT, p. 163)

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

"The Present of Presence Continued" Peter Thompson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn #9: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** Veni Emmanuel

Prayers of the People

Call to Offering
Offertory Anthem **Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People** P. Bunjes

*Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.*

*Hark, the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
bidding all men to repentance, since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him*

***Doxology** Hymn #592

*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.*

*Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S SERVICE

***Hymn #379: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less** Solid Rock

***Benediction and Sharing the Love, Joy, and Peace of Christ**

Postlude **Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers** P. Manz

Worship Leader: Erik Koroneos

Advent means coming. It is a season in which we are invited to wait in preparation for the greatest present we could ever receive, Emmanuel, God with us. God's presence in Christ is the greatest present we could ever be presented, and God promises to continue to provide for all those who faithfully prepare and promote the light and love of Christ in their heart and in the world.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday, December 8

- 9:00 a.m. Coffee Café (Officers' Room)
- 10:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 5:00 p.m. Walk with God (Rear Parking Lot)
- 5:00 p.m. KidMin (Room 126)
- 6:00 p.m. HS Youth Christmas Party (off-campus)

Monday, December 9

- 9:30 a.m. Marys and Marthas (off-site)
- 10:00 a.m. PW Horizon Circle (Officers' Room)
- 10:00 a.m. PW Book Circle (Library)
- 11:00 a.m. PW General Meeting and Program (Chapel & Officers' Room)
- 4:30 p.m. Care & Nurture Committee (Officers' Room)
- 7:00 p.m. Scouts BSA Troop 7 (Scout Room, for boys 11-18)
- 7:00 p.m. Men's Community Bible Study (Martin-Gifford Room)

Tuesday, December 10

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting (Officers' Room)
- 4:30 p.m. Finance Committee (Officers' Room)
- 5:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee (Library)
- 5:30 p.m. Spiritual Growth Committee (Martin-Gifford Room)
- 7:00 p.m. Scouts BSA Troop 49 (Room 126, for girls 11-18)
- 7:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 7 (Scout Room, boys and girls K-5th grade)

Wednesday, December 11

- 12:00 p.m. Open Chapel
- 12:30 p.m. Al-Anon (Martin-Gifford Room)

Thursday, December 12

- 7:00 a.m. Colin Caldwell Men's Bible Study (Martin-Gifford Room)
- 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (Bride's Room)
- 10:30 a.m. Westminster Canterbury Devotional (WC Chapel)
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Bell Ringers (Bell Room)
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir (Choir Room)

Pastors on Call: Peter Thompson (336) 269-7270 and Chad McCain (617) 304-9802

Members Helping Members for December: Elinor Ann Clark (434) 386-3889 and Gail Kowalski (434) 384-6058

PW General Meeting/Brunch: General Meeting and Program, Dec. 9 at 11:00 a.m., with guest speaker Rev. Chad McCain discussing Christmas Traditions. This meeting will also include the installation of officers. Our program will be followed by a luncheon provided by the Horizon Circle in the Officers' Room. This event is open to all women of First Presbyterian Church.

“Mary, Do You Know?” December 15 @ 10:30 a.m. (*Christmas Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall)

A combined Lessons and Carols and Children's Christmas Service, this worship will invite us to revisit the preparation and prophecy of Advent. Special music will be provided by the Chancel Choir, KidMin Youngins and Oldies, and a unique rendition of “Mary, Did You Know?” All undesignated offerings received will serve to support the Vespers Fund, which supports special music opportunities at FPCLY.

Christmas Eve Services at 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.: At 5 p.m. we will celebrate the birth of our Savior with a family-friendly candlelight and communion service with carols. At 11 p.m. we will have a more traditional worship with candlelight and communion.

“Do it Well. Make it Fun.” Get Your Ticket Today! On Wednesday, January 8, 2020, Wednesday Night Fellowship will host humorist, author, and motivational speaker Ron Culberson. His message is timely, engaging, life charging, and relevant to YOU. Tickets are available in the Church Office Mon.-Fri. for \$30 (w/ Dinner) and \$20 (Program only).

What do you think? The Session is currently discerning the responsibility of FPC to serve as a public voting site. There are both pros and cons to consider. Your feedback is welcome on the forms available in the hallway off the Foyer.

Strong bodies needed: Churches for Urban Ministries' fruit will arrive on Tuesday, December 10 at 7 a.m. at Chestnut Hill United Methodist Church, 4660 Fort Avenue. If you are able to help unload fruit between 7 – 10 a.m., please contact Sandra Wilson (434) 384-3963. If you ordered fruit, Sandra will call you when it is available for pick-up or delivery.

*****View the church calendar on www.fpcl.org, the hallway bulletin boards, and sign-up table just off the Foyer for further information on all activities.*****