

First Presbyterian Church

Organized May 25, 1822

*With Christ as our Savior and Guide,
We seek to know God's love and share it
With each other, our community, and the world.
We invite you to join us in this journey
of discipleship!*

*Rev. Dr. Gregory L. Glover, Pastor
Twenty Sixth Sunday After Pentecost
November 29, 2020*

** For those who are attending in-person worship, the congregation is invited to hum the tune and to meditate on the text of the hymns and other service music. Some pieces will be played as hymns and some will be more improvisatory. We encourage participation at the level of your comfort. It is important that our voices remain at low volume to lessen the risk during the pandemic, so there are no vocalists during the in-person service. If you are participating at home, you are encouraged to sing the words aloud on all hymns and during the other service music.*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE "Advent' from 'Six Chorales for Organ'"
by Frederic Goossen

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES
In person – Charlie & Mary Jo Patterson
Video Service – Wesley, Nora, & Sara Little

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE AND GREETING

The LORD be with you.
And also with you.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens are being torn open!
The mountains quake at God's presence.
The face of God is soon to shine among us.
Even the stars cannot hold God's glory!

*HYMN #83 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Restore us, O God of hosts.

Let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Save us, O Lord, from traps of our own creating:
from fear that blocks the way of love, from worry that
blocks the way of joy, from isolation that blocks the way of
relationship, from structural injustices that keep the world
bound.

Forgive us, O God of hosts, until the stars fall from heaven
and we live as people transformed.

Now hear our silent, personal prayers of confession.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI, Hymn #581

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:5-25

SPECIAL MUSIC "Gesu Bambin
Composed by Pietro Yon & performed by Charles Anderson
(Vocal performance is located on online)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (Video Service Only)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:57-66
RESPONSE

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON "The Cousins"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #96 "On Jordan's Stormy Bank the Baptist's Cry"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.19

**Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith
and obedience were the response of the perfect child of
God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the**

**beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new
humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and
called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of
the world.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY "Greensleeves"
by Richard Purvis

THE DOXOLOGY, Hymn #606

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #93 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE "Whence Comes This Rush of Wings?"
by Louis-Claude Daquin

WORSHIP NOTES

Craig Schryver is today's in-person liturgist. **Jill Ayers** is today's video service liturgist. **Maggie Glenn** is leading today's Video Children's Moment. **Hannah Cruse** is Director of Music and Accompanist. **David Goldblatt** is today's accompanist for in-person worship. **Charles Anderson** is today's Vocalist. **Curtis Compton & Morgan Adames** are today's Audio-Visual Specialists.

***Please stand if you are able.**

Please remember to follow the instructions below for your safety and the safety of others.

- Wear a mask at all times (not like dining out where you remove your mask at your seat). Face shields are not a substitute for a mask.*
- Maintain social distance at all times (this includes entering, sitting in, and exiting the sanctuary).*
- Responsive reading and humming are great. Please no shouting.*

*** Please remain seated during the postlude as ushers dismiss the congregation by row from the rear of the sanctuary. Please do not loiter in the vestibule or on the church lawn, so that all may exit in a timely manner without congregating.*

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, November 29

10am Morning Worship

4:30pm NO Youth Meeting tonight (see note below)

Monday, November 30

12pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, December 1

5pm Yoga

7pm Men's Fellowship (Zoom meeting/see announcement)

7pm 'The Simple Faith' Book Study/Ann Waddle

Wednesday, December 2

10am Bible Study with Pastor (see announcement)

6pm Children's Time with Dianne (see announcement)

Thursday, December 3

8:30am Yoga at the AOC

Youth Meetings will be suspended for the remainder of November. *Check the newsletter this week for fun activities in the works for December!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

- In-person in Fellowship Hall (please notify Pastor Greg directly if you plan to attend in person this Wednesday)

- By computer, tablet, or smart

phone, <https://zoom.us/j/231246359?pwd=eXNiWEtBNElYmt5aVJub2RmUzVvQT09>

- By phone, 301-715-8592 or 253-215-8782

Check your newsletter for the Meeting ID & Password

Children's Time with Dianne Every Wednesday

Grades K-2 from 6:00-6:30pm

Grades 3-5 from 6:30-7:00pm

PARENTS, to join that Zoom meeting, go to

<https://zoom.us/j/94754857815?pwd=Q0JEcmZ0Qy8vM3VUMXh0Z1BSUGlmQT09>

Check your newsletter for the Meeting ID & Password

Men's Online Fellowship Tuesday, December 1 @ 7pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96061426912?pwd=a05WZHdjM0EwMW5BVHBRU1aWU4xZz09>

Check you newsletter, e-mail, or contact Pastor Greg (glovergl@gmail.com) for the Meeting ID & Password.



Out of great concern for the safety and wellness of our church and community, the decision has been made to **postpone SpiritFest until next year**. The church will have the remainder of this year and next to make plans for SpiritFest 2021.

Christmas Joy Offering Sunday, December 6 Morning Worship

Spread Christmas joy this year by participating in the annual Christmas Joy Offering. This special offering will be taken during the morning worship service today, or you can donate through PayPal, Tithely, or mail in your donation to the church office. Thanks for your generosity!



Memorial Poinsettias

Names of those in memoriam or in honor of along with donors will be listed in the **December 13 & 20** bulletin. All you do is donate to the FPC Memorial Fund and let the church know your loved one's name by clicking on the link in the newsletter or by telephoning or emailing the church office. The deadline is **December 9**.

Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 13 beginning at 4pm

Join us this year for Lessons & Carols online. This event will be posted both on Facebook & YouTube and will be sure to boost your holiday spirit!



SAVE THE DATE!

Children's Christmas Pageant will be **December 20**. Online Service Only.

Christmas Carol Sing A Long Beginning December 21

This year First Presbyterian will be hosting a virtual Christmas Sing-A-Long for everyone to enjoy. December 21 – Christmas Day you can join the Sing-A-Long via Facebook and YouTube. Join us online for family Christmas caroling!

Christmas Eve Service

December 24 beginning @ 4pm

This special service will be online via Facebook and YouTube. Join in with your family to hear great music and to enjoy Worship together during this Christmas Season. You can view the service anytime after 4pm on Christmas Eve.



NEEDED! CHRISTMAS POSTCARDS.

We are looking for family photos to be used in our online Christmas Eve Service. Send your favorite family photo to Dianne York @ dyorkfpc@gmail.com and she will create a postcard from your family to your church family.

SPECIAL THANKS!

We ran out of Angels! But we can still use donations! The Salvation Army has "Forgotten Angels" who were late signing up for gifts or had an emergency situation that left them without gifts. Any new toys or clothes are welcome for the Forgotten Angels. Also, parents like to wrap the gifts and need gift wrap, tape, and ribbons. Finally, gift cards are also welcome, as parents like to be able to pick out something for their children that is from them. Donations can also be made by check or online Please note "Angel Tree" as the memo. Thanks to all the Angels at FPC for helping make Christmas joyful for our neighbors. **Don't forget the drop-off deadline is December 6.**

Christmas Food Baskets

We need 10 volunteers for packing boxes on Friday, December 18 at 2pm and for volunteers to deliver food the afternoon of Saturday, December 19 from 1-3:30pm. Please contact Ann Waddle for more information at waddleiread@gmail.com.