



Fourth
Sunday
of Advent

December 21, 2025
10:30 A.M.



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

GREETING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Watch and wait for Christ's coming!

**We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.**

We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace.

We light this candle in joy!

We light this candle with love.

Out of love for the people of God, the Lord speaks through the prophet Isaiah, as found in the seventh chapter, verses 10-14: (O.T. p. 636)

Let us pray:

God of hope, Prince of peace, Jubilee Judge, and Lord of love, your goodness is beyond our wildest imaginings. You give us more than we can think to ask, coming to us with impossible possibility in the union of flesh and spirit. Teach us to love this world and all people as you love us, in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.

SCENE 8: WISE ONES MEET THE BABY

TRIO

We Three Kings

SCENE 9: LET US RECEIVE HIM

*HYMN 134

Joy to the World
First & Second Verse

ANTIOCH

SCENE 10: GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY

*HYMN 110

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Adapted from the Confession of 1967)

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

For the church, the world, and all in need, let us pray to the Lord, saying:
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

(the prayers continue...)

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The Christmas Joy Offering

The mystery of the ages is now revealed. A ruler has come from Bethlehem, and he is the shepherd of peace, the one who restores our hope, the good news of a great joy, and the fullness of love. Let us come before God with our tithes and offerings.

OFFERING HYMN 112 *On Christmas Night All Christians Sing* SUSSEX CAROL

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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.**

THE SENDING

*HYMN 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

The Children and Youth of FPC

Liturgist: Diane Bowers

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Bob Kirtley & Grandchildren

Christmas Pageant Cast

Papa: Jeremy Brailsford

Kid 1: Grayson Heil

Kid 2: Olivia Higdon

Mary: Gia Hamilton

Joseph: Alex Bates

Caesar Augustus: Henry Baker

Inn Keeper: Claudia Johnson

Gabriel: Kirtley Bates

Prophets

Sylvie Johnson

Bella Bravo

Shepherds

Miles Heil

Eli Higdon

Lakin Leach

Jensen Fowler

Cole Haga

Angels

Marrett Baker

Cora Stewart

Caroline Baker

Wise Ones

Pat Corkran

Bryan Leazenby

Greg Jones

The Life of the Church

Year End Giving: The end of the year is quickly approaching. All 2025 donations need to be sent to the office no later than Sunday, January 4th.

If you are currently using **ACH (direct debit)** for your offering and would like to make any changes for 2026, please contact the office immediately to let us know what changes need to be made. The current setup for your ACH will continue in 2026 unless we hear from you.

The Church Office will be closed from Wednesday, December 24th until Monday, January 5th.

Annual Reports from each church committee are due to the church office no later than Thursday, January 8, 2025.

Printed copies of this week's **PresbyNotes** newsletter are available on the table in the hall.

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Financial Update Our ministry is funded by the giving of members and friends. Thank you for your generosity.

Year-To-Date (thru Nov.)	Month To Date (Dec.)	Week of Dec. 7	Week of Dec. 13
Income: \$ 611,164.40	Income: \$ 53,918.28	Income: \$ 51,170.28	Income: \$ 2,748.00
<u>Expense: \$ 585,093.81</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 22,775.00</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 15,618.66</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 7,157.00</u>
Balance: \$ 26,070.59	Balance: \$ 31,143.28	Balance: \$ 35,551.62	Balance: (-\$ 4,409.00)

Keep your pledge current and look for more good news here.



First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith called to proclaim the good news of the love of Jesus Christ for all people, and to join God in the building of a just, peaceful, and compassionate world.

FIRST
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CHURCH

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CHURCH STAFF

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