



Scientists & Technicians Window, Washington National Cathedral

FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



The First Sunday  
of Advent  
Sunday, November 28, 2021  
10:30 A.M.

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

---

## THE GATHERING

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

INTROIT            *"Comfort Ye" and "Every Valley Shall Be Exalted" from Messiah*            G.F. Handel  
Dakota DeGraw, tenor

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Brailsford Family

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

**In Christ there is life and light for all people.**

*Jn. 1*

Now lift up your heads and rejoice:

*Lk. 21*

your redeemer is drawing near.

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth!**

*Lk. 2*

### OPENING PRAYER

Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations. Renew us in hope, that we may be awake and alert as we watch for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our judge and Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

\*HYMN 93

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

TRURO

### TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

May God be with you in worship here.

**May God be with you in worship there.**

*Children may depart the sanctuary with their teacher for Worship & Wonder. They will return to the sanctuary before communion.*

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

*Matt. 3:2-3*

A voice is crying in the wilderness: Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Coming Christ, you may not find us as you hoped. We've looked away from signs we do not wish to see. We've stopped listening to distress we do not wish to hear. We are numb to inconvenient truths. Keep us alert, O God, to the needs of our neighbors. Revive our hearts laden with compassion fatigue. Sharpen our minds clouded by worries. Sober our lives addicted to privilege. Show us the signs of your coming, that we may stand before you, the Son of Man, in whose name we pray.**

*Silence is kept for personal confession.*

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Isa. 40:4-5*

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

\*SUNG RESPONSE (88)

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lowly exile here until the son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who ordered all things mightily:  
to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 33:14-16      The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSE

*“Thus Saith the Lord” from Messiah*  
Will Jones, Baritone

G.F. Handel

### READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Luke 21:25-35      The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

### SERMON

“Apocalypse Now?”

Rev. Matt Curry

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Declaration of Faith, 10.2*

**In Christ God gave us a glimpse of the new creation he has already begun and will surely finish. We do not know when the final day will come. In our time we see only broken and scattered signs that the renewal of all things is under way. We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering in the world, the church, or our own lives. But we see Jesus as Lord. As he stands at the center of our history, we are confident he will stand at its end. He will judge all people and nations. Evil will be condemned and rooted out of God's good creation. There will be no more tears or pain. All things will be made new.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Christmas Baskets

Diane Bowers

## THE EUCHARIST

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING “*And The Glory of the Lord*” from *Messiah* G.F. Handel

\*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.*

### INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

#### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.*

*Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest!*

#### 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.**

#### BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Gracious and abundant God, even as we wait for the fulfillment of your creation, you meet us in Christ at this table, in this meal. We thank you for feeding us with the bread of life and quenching our thirst with the cup of salvation. Now send us out into the world by the power of your Holy Spirit to share your life and salvation with all whom we meet. Amen.**

**THE SENDING**

\*HYMN 82

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

---

*\*Rise in body or spirit*

**LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY**

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Harley Bravo*

Communion Servers: *Marilyn Van Winkle & Jerry Nail*

# The Life of the Church

**Daily Devotions for Advent 2021**, a booklet filled with inspiring daily meditations for each day of the season, is available for pickup today. Compiled by the First Presbyterian Church community, the booklet contains a reflection for each day of Advent, along with an idea for *living Advent*, and a closing prayer.

**The SEEK Museum** (Struggles for Emancipation and Equality in Kentucky) in Russellville is the destination of a racial justice pilgrimage we will take on Saturday, Dec. 4. Depart FPC with us at 8:30am or travel on your own and meet us in Russellville at 10am. After a guided museum tour, we will share lunch together and reflect on our experience before traveling back to Owensboro. The cost is \$13 which includes lunch. Contact Jeff Moles to sign up.

**The Advent Workshop** will be held Sunday, December 5 from 5-7pm in Fellowship Hall. Following soup and sandwiches, there will be a variety of activities for all ages to help us observe the Advent season.

**A Mission Project** at the Advent Workshop will be packing treat boxes that will be distributed with our Christmas Baskets this year. We need donations of candy and snack foods. There is a display near the Clinton Place door with more information.

**The Christmas pageant** will be Sunday, Dec. 19, during worship. Here is the rehearsal schedule:

- Sunday, December 5 - 9:30-10:15am in Fellowship Hall
- Saturday, December 11 - 9:30-10:30am in the Sanctuary
- Sunday, December 12 - 9:30-10:15am in Fellowship Hall
- Saturday, December 18 - 10:30am-12:00pm in the Sanctuary



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.



1328 Griffith Avenue  
Owensboro, Kentucky  
270.684.1467  
fpcobky.com

Rev. Matt Curry, Pastor  
Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission  
Dennis Jewett, Director of Music  
Patrick Ritsch, Organist  
Stephanie Dube, Director of Youth Ministries & Weekday School  
Sasha O'Bryan, Office Manager & Pastoral Assistant  
Staci Estes Horn, Financial Secretary  
Dylan Schroader, Custodian  
Kate Bowley, Nursery Care Provider