



First
Sunday
of Advent

November 30, 2025
10:30 A.M.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Fantasy on *Veni Emmanuel*

K. Leighton

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.

Hear God's promise of hope from Isaiah 2:1-5 (O.T. p. 631)

Let us pray:

Faithful God, out of war's chaos, you bring the order of peace. Renew us in hope,
that we may work toward Christ's advent of peace among all nations.

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

*SUNG RESPONSE (HYMN 137)

He Came Down

HE CAME DOWN

***He came down that we may have hope,
He came down that we may have hope,
He came down that we may have hope,
Hallelujah forevermore.***

Come, let us walk in the Hope of the Lord!

*HYMN 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

This is the time for us to wake from sleep; salvation is near to us. Let us then lay
aside the tatters of sin, and put on the armor of righteousness, asking our Savior for
forgiveness.

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

O God, we are steeped in a world of violence. War is one of the first things we learn, and we let it work its way into our lives. Your promises of peace sound like impossible dreams, and we become accustomed to cruelty. Forgive us. Wrest our weapons from our hands and show us how beautiful life can be when you forge them into instruments of peace.

A brief silence is kept for personal prayer.

PRAYER RESPONSE (HYMN 90)

Wait for the Lord

WAIT FOR THE LORD

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beloved, know this: the God of Presence, the God of Transformation, the God of Peace, hears our prayers and gives us power to love.

Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 583)

Glory to God

GLORIA

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (HYMN 93)

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Diane Bowers

May God be with you in worship here.

May God be with you in worship there.

Children may depart the sanctuary for Kids' Kirk. They will return before communion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Doug Black

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.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

ISAIAH 2:1-5 (O.T. p. 631)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Matthew 24:36-44 (N.T.p. 27)

The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

Rev. Sammie Smith

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 97

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

ABERYSTWYTH

*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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

All things in heaven and earth belong to God, who is coming in glory to reveal a new creation. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

M. Albrecht

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem. They shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls and plenteousness be in thy palaces.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem. They shall prosper that love thee.

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

SEALING THE WORD WITH THE SACRAMENT

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:

Sung by all: (Hymn 552)

**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 prayer continues.

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

All who seek God are invited to the table, regardless of church affiliation or any other condition or identity. Ushers will guide you forward to partake by taking a piece of bread and dipping it in the cup. Servers will come to those who prefer to remain in their seats.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice, righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation. Strengthen us with this heavenly food as we seek to serve your holy realm. Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE CREATED ORDER

*HYMN 377

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Veni, Emmanuel

Gerhard Krapf

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Sammie Smith*

Liturgist: *Stephanie Dube*

Communion Servers: *Creda Heffelfinger & Mary Lou Taylor*

Kids' Kirk: *Marna Loucks*

You are invited to make a gift to support our church's ministry of sharing God's love:

- As the offering plate is passed
- By scanning the QR code to the right
 - *Please note that a 2.9% fee + \$0.50 is taken from your donation
- Online at fpcobky.com/give
 - *Please note that a 2.9% fee + \$0.30 is taken from your donation
- Or by contacting the church office to set up automatic withdrawal



The Life of the Church

Today we welcome to the pulpit, Rev. Sammie Smith. Sammie has served as a hospital chaplain in Evansville since graduating from Vanderbilt Divinity School in 2020. Originally from Indianapolis, she went to Indiana State University and served as a Young Adult Volunteer before going to seminary. She and her wife, Hazel, recently bought a house in Evansville and are expecting their first child in January.

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

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

Year-To-Date (thru Oct.)

Income: \$ 557,705.36

Expense: \$ 558,439.80

Balance:(-\$ 734.44)

Month To Date (Nov.)

Income: \$ 47,551.55

Expense: \$ 22,382.96

Balance: \$ 25,168.59

Week of November 23

Income: \$ 2,741.00

Expense: \$ 10,403.65

Balance: (- \$ 7,662.65)

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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