



SECOND SUNDAY OF  
**ADVENT**

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY**



*The ♥ of Ashland*

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# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

10:50 a.m.

## ✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

**Welcome and Announcements**

*Rev. Bill Pollack*

**Advent Reading and Candle Lighting**

*Scott & Carol Sanderson*

**Prelude**

*Max Jackson*

*Come Now, Savior of the Nations*

(J S Bach)

**Call to Worship**

*Mitch Hall*

L: Sing praises to God on high, for glorious are God's works.

**P: Sing praises to the ends of the earth.**

L: Shout and sing for joy, O people of God,

**P: For great is the Holy One in our midst, blessed is the One who comes to dwell among us.**

† **Hymn of Advent**

#357

*The Days are Surely Coming*

The days are surely coming says God to all the earth.

When you will see My promise salvation come to birth.

My righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land.

And you will be delivered by My Almighty hand.

The days are surely coming says Christ the promised one.

When you will read my warning in moon and stars and sun.

Though earth and heaven tremble, stand up and do not fear.

For I am your Redeemer and I am drawing near.

The days are surely coming when we will know at last.

The fullness of God's presence, God's promise come to pass.

Then righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land.

And we will be delivered by God's Almighty hand.

**Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful Savior, Your incarnational life was the model of perfect joy and contentment because You perfectly trusted Your**

heavenly Father. We see the serenity, the peace and the graciousness that were hallmarks of Your life, and we know that they are good. In contrast, we know all too well the anxiety, fear, restlessness and competition that relentlessly drive us to worry, depression and exhaustion. This is not how You intended us to live, where Sabbath is seldom observed, silence is constantly drowned out, and rest for body and soul is disregarded, if not disdained. Forgive us, Lord. Forgive us, too, for believing that we can change by trying harder. Instead, transform us from the inside out. Grant us the renewal, restoration and rest that come from fully trusting You. Amen.

### † Assurance of Pardon

### † Response

#96 (2)

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

Then cleansed be every life from sin.  
Make straight the way for God within.  
And let us all our hearts prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.

✠ **WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD** ✠

### Children's Message

*Lisa Stevens*

### Anthem

*Chancel Choir*

*Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God*  
(Georg Frederich Handel; Arr. H.H. Hopson)

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, come.  
Thy truth unseal, thy love reveal.  
Lord, hear Thou in mercy our prayer to Thee.  
Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, come.  
Come in Thy might, send forth Thy light.  
Come, Jesus, O Holy Son of God.  
For Thee we long, hear Thou our prayer.  
To Thee be glory evermore.

### Prayer for Illumination

**The Old Testament Lesson**

Joel 1:13– 15 (NRSV)

13 Put on sackcloth, you priests, and mourn; wail, you who minister before the altar. Come, spend the night in sackcloth, you who minister before my God; for the grain offerings and drink offerings are withheld from the house of your God. 14 Declare a holy fast call a sacred assembly. Summon the elders and all who live in the land to the house of the Lord your God and cry out to the Lord. 15 Alas for that day! For the day of the Lord is near; it will come like destruction from the Almighty.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**Psalm 72:1 – 7**

(tune – Ellecombe)

*Rejoice, Rejoice, Come Sing with Me*

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, Your reign on earth begun!  
You come to break oppression, to set the captive free,  
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

You come with rescue speedy to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in Your sight.

You shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;  
love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in Your path to birth;  
Before You on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;  
and righteousness in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before You, and gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore You, Your praise all people sing.  
To You shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;  
Your kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.

**† The Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 25:31 – 46 (NRSV)

<sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. <sup>34</sup> “Then

the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' <sup>37</sup> "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?' <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?' <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' <sup>40</sup> "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' <sup>41</sup> "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' <sup>44</sup> "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' <sup>45</sup> "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' <sup>46</sup> "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

**Sermon**

*Pastor Bill*

***When the Light Comes – Fear or Faith***

**✠ We Respond to God's Word ✠**

**† Affirmation of Faith**

*Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit**

and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Pastoral Prayer

**Offering Acknowledgement**    *Special Offering – Backpack Ministry*

### Doxology

**All praise to You, eternal Son.  
Whose advent has our freedom won.  
Whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.**

### Prayer of Dedication

### Hymn of Communion

#500

*Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread*

Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;  
Savior, abide with us, and spread Your table in our heart.  
Here share with us, in love divine, Your body and Your blood,  
that living bread, that heavenly wine be our immortal food.

✠ THE LORD'S SUPPER ✠

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Therefore, we praise You, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, 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.**

You are holy, O God of majesty.... Great is the mystery of the faith:  
**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. (2 x)**

Gracious God, pour out Your Holy Spirit.... Through Christ, all glory and honor are Yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; 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**

#### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**✠ We Are Sent in God's Name ✠**

#### **† Hymn of Sending**

**#82**

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by Thine all-sufficient merit raise us to Thy glorious throne.

## Closing Voluntary

Max Jackson

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*  
(Paul Manz)

## † Benediction

† Standing if you are able.

### SERVING TODAY

Children's Moment: *Lisa Stevens*

Head Usher: *Kelly Hanni*

Liturgist: *Mitch Hall*

Videographer: *Ryan Whitman*

### LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 68

General Offering: \$1,785.00

Tour of Homes: \$100.00

Poinsettias: \$75.00

Online Giving: \$268.00

**Total Offering: \$ 2,228.00**

### IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

**Highlands Museum Christmas Tour of Homes, 1 – 5 p.m.**

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m./Bob Evans

Bells Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

**Men's Lunch Bunch, 11:30 a.m.**

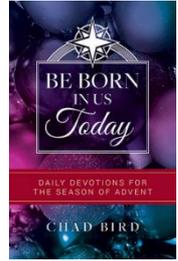
#### MITTEN TREE



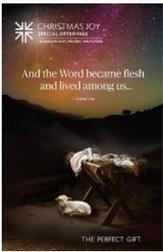
We are, again, providing a mitten tree during the Advent/Christmas season. All winter donations (mittens, socks, scarves, and gloves) will be given to the Ashland Schools Family Resource Center. Thank you for your wonderful response in the past.

## ADVENT DEVOTIONALS & CALENDARS

The Worship Ministry Team here at FPC is pleased to offer you and your family this year's Advent devotional, *Be Born in Us Today*. It is their hope and prayer that these devotional readings will be helpful in our preparation for the Christmas Season. Please feel free to take one for your family and any other person who might benefit from these words of encouragement. An **Advent calendar** is also provided (1 per family).



## THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING 2022



We will receive the JOY Christmas offering during morning worship on Sundays, 4, 11 & 18. This offering is collected each year through the PCUSA and is divided evenly between retired church workers and scholarships for students to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Thank you for your prayerful response to this special offering this year!

## CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES ARE HERE

They have arrived! Our new Church directory is available for you to pick up. These are in the Church office and can be picked up (one per family). Thanks to the Membership Ministry Team for their diligent work in making these possible.

## LOOKING AHEAD!

- **Cookie Exchange**, Sunday, Dec. 11 following Morning Worship
- **Parents' Night Out**, Friday, Dec. 16, 5:30 – 8 p.m. (Volunteers are needed to hang out with the kids. Contact Lee McCloud for information.)
- **Lessons & Carols**, Sunday, Dec. 18, 10:50 a.m.
- **Christmas Eve Worship Services**, Saturday, Dec. 24, 7 p.m. & 11:30 p.m.
- **Christmas Day Worship Service**, Sunday, Dec. 25, 10:50 a.m.



**Your Name:**

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**Number of poinsettias:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In memory of** (list name as you want it listed in the bulletin):

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**In honor of** (list name as you want it listed in the bulletin):

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Please include **\$15** for each poinsettia ordered. Checks may be made out to First Presbyterian Church noting poinsettia on the memo line. **Orders are due by Sunday, December 18.** You may take your poinsettia(s) home following the Christmas Eve/Day service.

*Thank you for helping decorate the church for the  
Advent/Christmas season!*



## PRAYER REQUESTS

### Week ending December 2, 2022

Family of David Jones (Andrew Jones' father)

Family of Peggy Rucker (Ann Wiseman)

### Week ending November 25, 2022

Charline Eastin in Haiti (Bettie George Frye's sister)

Ransom Gehringer

Frank Herford (Jimmy Hall)

Nancy Jackson/Kingsbrook #220 (Steve Jackson's wife)

Kevin Goldy (Benita Heath)

Family of Mary Goldy (Benita Heath)

Vernie Tackett (Geri Willis' sister)

Stu Taylor (Pastor Bill & Nanette)

### Week ending November 18, 2022

Pastor Bill

Lini Breeback (Ruth Anne Hall's sister)

Judy Fannin/Woodland Oaks #405

Donna Isaacs (Kelly Hanni's mother)

Kim Whitman

*Prayer requests will rotate off after three weeks. If you have an ongoing concern, please contact the church office.*

**Ongoing:** Derek Payne, Nancy Payne, Janet Winans,  
Ann & Jim Wiseman

**Morning Pointe:** Carolyn Graber

### **Military:**

Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, Dayton, OH, son of Kris Adkins)

Cadet Katie Brown (West Point, granddaughter of Kim & Mike  
Whitman)

Major Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lily)

## STAFF

Minister: *Rev. William Pollack*  
Choirmaster, Organist: *Max Jackson*  
Administrative Assistant: *Nanette Pollack*  
Custodian: *Glen Thomas*  
Nursery Attendant: *Kara Adkins*

## SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Mitch Hall*  
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*  
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2023	2024	2025
<i>Judy Fannin</i>	<i>Cathy Wilson*</i>	<i>Kelly Hanni</i>
<i>Mitch Hall</i>	<i>J.T. Norris</i>	<i>Kim Whitman</i>
<i>Ryan Whitman</i>	<i>Breck Tarr</i>	<i>Geri Willis</i>
		*2nd term of service

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Building & Grounds: *Judy Fannin*  
Christian Education: *Kim Whitman & Lee McCloud*  
Congregational Life: *Cathy Wilson*  
Finance: *Trish Hall*  
Membership: *Breck Tarr*  
Mission: *Geri Willis*  
Personnel: *Janet Holbrook*  
Worship: *Ryan Whitman*

**If you are interested in joining any of these ministry teams, please contact the Chairperson or call the Church office.**

**To visit the church website, scan the code below.**



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