



FIRST SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY**



The ♥ of Ashland

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Bill Pollack

Advent Reading and Candle Lighting

Mitch & Lee Hall

Prelude

Max Jackson

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night
(Morgan Simmons)

Call to Worship

Breck Tarr

L: The advent of Christ brings the joy of God's presence in our midst!

P: We sing praises to God for the salvation Christ brings to us.

L: Because of Christ, the weak are strengthened, the fearful are encouraged, and the unrighteous are redeemed.

P: Joy and gladness are ours, because God has come to us in Christ; to walk with us in the paths of righteousness!

All: As we continue our preparations for Christmas, may our celebrations renew our faith and fill us with joy and thanks.

† **Hymn of Advent**

#88 (1,2,3,6)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily:
to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go.

[Refrain]

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

[Refrain]

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine
advent here;

disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight. [Refrain]

Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we long for and need the presence of Christ in our lives. We hope for a holy visitation but confess that we are too distracted to notice when it arrives. We long for peace but confess that we will not be still long enough to greet it. We long for the joy of new babies and angelic choirs but confess that we are too frantic to stop and look and listen. Forgive us Lord. Forgive our misplaced priorities that crowd You out of our Advent worship and our lives. Renew in us a desire for You above all else. For the sake of Christ, we pray. 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

Kelly Hanni

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Advent Carol
(Alfred Fedak)

Desert blossom as a rose rising radiant as it grows, All arrayed in crimson show; come to us, O God of Hope. Thirsty land become a stream, flowing fountain, calm serene, Clear cascade from heaven above; come to us, O God of Love. Alleluia! Weakened hands, be now made strong, Silent tongues, break forth in song.

Blinded eyes, your sight employ; come to us, O God of Joy.

Soon the pathway shall be found; for the faithful, holy ground,
Safe from angry, warring beast; come to us, O God of Peace.

Alleluia! Sing God's praise, Jerusalem!

Hope, joy love and peace shall come. Sorrow, sighing now dispel;
come to us, Emmanuel. King of glory, Soul of bliss, everlasting life
is this: Thee to know, thy power to prove, thus, to sing, and thus
to love! Alleluia!

Prayer for Illumination

The Epistle Lesson

1 Peter 4:7 – 11 (NRSV)

⁷ The end of all things is near; therefore, be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. ¹¹ Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To Him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 122

(tune – Forest Green)

Rejoice, Rejoice, Come Sing with Me

Rejoice, rejoice, come sing with me: "This is the house of God!"
The temple gates swing wide and free – this is the house of God!
For every tribe and every race, this is the house of God!
God calls us to this holy place – this is the house of God!

In market square and city street we seek the peace of God.
Before the ruler's judgement seat, we seek the peace of God.
In joyful song and whispered prayer, we seek the peace of God.
God's city can be anywhere we seek the peace of God.

† The Gospel Lesson

John 9:1 – 7 (NRSV)

As He walked along, He saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As

long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”⁶ When He had said this, He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes,⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ.

P: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Pastor Bill

When the Light Comes - Hope

✠ **We Respond to God’s Word** ✠

Hymn of Response

#81

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

Glorious things of Thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God.
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.

On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river ever flows, their thirst to assuage?

Grace, so like the Lord the Giver, never fails from age to age.

† **Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

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 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.

Offering Acknowledgement

Special Offering: CARES

† 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

✠ **We Are Sent in God's Name** ✠

† Hymn of Sending

#119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: *Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn
king!"*

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. [Refrain]

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the sun of righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

[Refrain]

Closing Voluntary

Max Jackson

Come, Now, Savior of the Nations
(Johann Pachelbel)

† **Benediction**

† Standing if you are able.

SERVING TODAY

Children's Moment: *Kelly Hanni*
Head Usher: *Charlie Holbrook*
Liturgist: *Breck Tarr*
Videographer: *Ryan Whitman*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 82
General Offering: \$2,048.00
Blazer Youth Service Center: \$200.00
Clean Start: \$20.00
Shoeboxes: \$200.00
Window Fund: \$5,810.05
Online Giving: \$275.00
Total Offering: \$8,553.05

Stewardship Campaign Update

We have received 41 commitment cards with pledges totaling: **\$177,180.00**. Thank you to everyone who committed to First Presbyterian for 2023. If you have not submitted your faith pledge card, there is still time. You may pick up a card on the table in the Narthex. Thank you for your continued support and prayers!

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Session, 5:30 p.m. Bethesda Community Hall

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

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

Bells Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

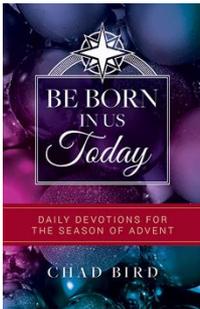
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Highlands Museum Christmas Tour of Homes, 1 – 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

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

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).

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.



ORDER YOUR
Poinsettias

Your Name:

Number of poinsettias: _____

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

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

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 November 25, 2022

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

Ransom Gehringer

Frank Herford (Jimmy Hall)

Nancy Jackson (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

Donna Isaacs (Kelly Hanni's mother)

Kim Whitman

Week ending November 11, 2022

Baby Theo (grandson of Margaret Von Voorhis, friend of Melissa Riggsby)

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)

SERMON NOTES

When the Light Comes – HOPE!

John 9:1 – 7

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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