



First Presbyterian Church

Welcome Home!

Order of Worship

2nd Sunday of Advent December 9, 2018 11 AM

PREPARATION

A Prayer of Preparation

In this Advent draw us together in unity, that our praise and worship might echo in these walls and also through our lives. In this Advent draw us together in mission, that the hope within might be the song we sing, and the melody of our lives. In this Advent draw us together in service, that the path we follow might lead us to the stable, and also to a glimpse of eternity. Amen.

Welcome

Rev. Shon Peppers

Ministry of Friendship

Please pass the friendship register so all may sign it; pass it back so you may become acquainted with those sitting on your pew.

Prelude

Masters in This Hall

arr. Gail Downey

ADORATION

Choral Call to Worship (Hymn 107)

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

Chancel Choir
Marty Haugen

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Judy Holcomb
Linda Snowden
Carroll Todd

For each Sunday in Advent, our opening liturgy will focus on the song sung by Mary in Luke 1:46-55. Today we focus on *PEACE*.

*Hymn 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

Large print bulletins are available. Please let an usher know if you would like one.

The 11 am service is streamed live at www.fpcga.org and later is available on our website. Sunday sermons are also broadcast on WDUN AM 550 each Sunday following the 8:30 am news.

The bulletin insert this morning is a coloring sheet taken from *Mary's Song*, an Advent devotional guide for all ages. You are invited to take one of the booklets home with you today!

We give thanks to God for the musical gifts of our Chancel Choir and Primetime Singers, proclaiming the good news in song this morning.

CONFESSION

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Margaret Turney-Ayer

Forgive us, Lord, for the times we refuse to listen to those who announce your presence. Forgive us when we ignore the cries that come from the wilderness. Allow us to understand that, like John the Baptist, we too are unworthy before the Lord of All. Help us live into our baptisms. Remind us of the beginning of the Good News of Jesus Christ, and empower us to be the continuation of that Good News...

(Silent Prayers of Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Celebration of Forgiveness

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN 42

"Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God.

"Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load.

To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!

Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over!"

Time with Our Children

Rev. Lee Koontz

All children are invited to come forward. When dismissed, children

(ages three through second graders) may participate in

Children's Church in the Sunshine Lodge in the Children's Wing.

PROCLAMATION

Old Testament Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

The Word of the Lord.

(Pew Bible page 915)

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

O Come, Emmanuel

arr. Alice Parker

The text and tune can be found at No. 88 in the hymnal.

New Testament Reading

Luke 3:1-6

The Word of the Lord.

(Pew Bible page 56)

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Into the Wild

Rev. Koontz

Moment of Reflection on God's Word

RESPONSE

*Affirmation of Faith, *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People, concluding with *The Lord's Prayer* Dallas Thompson

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.

Offertory *Change Ring on "Divinum Mysterium"* arr. Fred Gramann

*Presentation Hymn *Doxology* VENI EMMANUEL

**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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING FORTH

*Parting Hymn 93 *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* TRURO

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Hymn to Joy* arr. Albert L. Travis

The white rose in the narthex today is in memory of Paula Newkirk, who passed away Saturday, December 1.

The large poinsettias in the narthex are in memory of Tom Hodge, and Adelaide and WL Norton, given by Martha Hodge.

The Chancel Bell Ringers are directed by Hope Testament.

TODAY'S SERVANTS
Chancel Flower Guild
The Entire Guild
Sound and Lighting
Rick Plummer
Greeters and Ushers
Dan Hartley, Head Usher;
Don and Gerri Crane, Sybil
Nash, Jeff Nylander, Doug
and Elaine Parmenter, David
Stewart, Ushers; Bernice Cox,
Jay Fulenwider, Greeters

* Please stand as you are able.

Welcome, guests!

If you would like to know more about our church, learn more about Jesus as Lord, or are in need of prayer, please join one of our pastors and elders in the church parlor following this service.

Our Pastors

Lee Koontz
Senior Pastor
lkoontz@fpcga.org

Shon Peppers
Associate Pastor
speppers@fpcga.org

Margaret Turney-Ayer
Interim Director of Faith Development
mturneyayer@fpcga.org

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Sam Marley
Director of Choirs

Sophie Shoults
Contemporary Worship Leader

Dallas Thompson
Director of Youth Ministry
dthompson@fpcga.org

Ali Thompson
Director of Children's Ministry
athompson@fpcga.org

Ronny Childs
Audio/Visual Coordinator

BJ Maher
Substitute Organist

Are you interested in joining First Presbyterian Church?

Anyone who trusts in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and desires to follow and serve Christ is invited to become a member of this congregation. If you're interested in discovering more about how to become a member, please speak to one of the pastors following the service.

Pastor on call

If you have a pastoral emergency outside of regular church hours, dial 770-718-8584.

800 South Enota Drive
Gainesville, GA 30501
www.fpcga.org
770-532-0136



POINSETTIAS

Today is the deadline to purchase poinsettia plants in memory or in honor of loved one(s). Order forms are available at the information desk and Morning Light welcome table. The cost is \$13 each.

Children's Christmas Program Wednesday, December 12 at WOW



Beginning at 6:30
following WOW supper (5:45)
(Ages 12 & up \$6, Child \$3, Family \$17)



We are hosting Family Promise families December 23-30. Please contact Jane Davenport 770-712-9832 or Shon Peppers 678-936-5357 for information about how you can help.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

9:00am Morning Light Worship SH
10:00am Fellowship Coffee SH
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
12:15pm Stephen Ministry Check In M303
6:00pm Youth Fellowship
6:00pm Chancel Ringers

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

12:00pm Ladies' Bible Study M303
2:00pm Gentle Yoga SH503
2:00pm Stephen Ministry Leaders CR*
6:30pm Beginners' Square Dancing Class, Gym

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

9:00am Yoga SH503
10:00am Prayer Group, Cabin 1
5:00pm Adult Ministry CR*
5:30pm AA Group, Lake House
6:00pm The Session, SH*
6:30pm Congregational Care, Cabin 1*
6:30pm Fellowship Ministry M303*
6:30pm Outreach Ministry, Cabin 4*
7:15pm The Diaconate M303*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

10:45am Primetime Singers
12:00pm Gentle Yoga SH503
5:15pm Andrew Ministry, Cabin 1
5:45pm WOW Supper & Activities
6:30pm Youth Small Groups
6:30pm Children's Christmas Program
7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

9:00am Yoga SH503
10:00am Lanier Women's Club SH503/SH
5:00pm Youth Ministry Team, Youth Area*
6:00pm Children's Ministry Team, Cabin 3*
7:00pm Book Club CR
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14
No Kids Night Out

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

10:00am Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
10:00am Salvation Army Christmas Bell Ringing
7:30pm Lakeshore Squares, Gym

*Committee Meeting

CR-Conference Room, SH-Swetenburg Hall