

# First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day  
First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

10:00 a.m.

*In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.*

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Concerns of the Church

Prelude "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" arr. Wold

Call to Worship *from Matt. 13:11-14*

Salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;  
***the night is far gone, the day is near.***

Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light;  
***Christ is coming! Let us live honorably as in that day!***

\* Hymn 83 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"  
*Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.*

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession

***God of the future,  
you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.  
We confess that we have not expected your kingdom,  
for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.  
We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors,  
abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Grant us wisdom to welcome your way,  
and to seek things that will endure  
when Christ comes to judge the world.***

\* Silent Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

Liturgy of Hanging the Greens

Congregational Response (95)

***Prepare the way of the Lord! Prepare the way of the Lord,  
and all people will see the salvation of our God.***

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Advent Response (see insert for music)

***When all on earth has cause to mourn, God sends Creation's spark.  
Love shakes us from our slumber when the skies have all gone dark.  
For hope is born among us as Christ brings light and life.  
The dawn of grace shall set us free from all our pain and strife.***

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5 (OT, p. 631)

Anthem "Keep Your Lamps" Thomas

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 24:36-51 (NT, p. 26)

Sermon: "Hope is the Holy Disruption" Rev. Carter  
*Advent sermon series: "Hope is..."*

## RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\* Hymn 94 "Now the Heavens Start to Whisper"

\* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Offering

Offertory "Variations on Saviour of the Nations, Come" arr. Crisafulli

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

*Please hold the bread until all are served, so that we might share it as a sign  
of our unity in Christ. As a sign of individual devotion and commitment, you  
may drink the cup as you are served.*

*During distribution of the elements, "Come, Messiah, Come" by Mayo and "Only a  
Baby Come" by Sleeth will be sung by Ariana Billiot and Riley Wescott.*

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\* Hymn 88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1, 2, 6, 7)

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Congregational Response (765)

***May the God of hope go with us every day  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.***

***May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.***

***Praying, let us work for peace. Singing, share our joy with all.***

***Working for a world that's new. Faithful when we hear Christ's call.***

\* Postlude "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" arr. Powell

*All are invited to remain seated to listen to the postlude.*

*If you are leaving before it is finished, please do so quietly.*

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\* All who are able shall stand.

***The flowers*** this morning have been given by Karen White to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones.

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Betsy Ellis
Ushers	Betty Keen, Jim McLaughlin
Greeter	Al and DebbieTraettino
Advent Candlelighter	The Cole Family
Communion Servers	Connie Weiss, John Weiss, Dave Porter, Donna Porter, Sue Flynn, JoAnn Hall

*We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.*



Keep  
**awake**  
therefore,  
for you  
do not know  
on what day  
your  
**Lord**  
is coming.

Matthew 24:42, NRSV

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