

Morning Worship Second Sunday of Advent ☐ December 10, 2023 ☐ 10:30 a.m. ☐

Please complete the Red Friendship Book and pass it to others in your pew. Please note any concerns on the yellow prayer cards and place those in the offering plate.

Where indicated by the asterisk (*), please stand if you can do so comfortably.

Prelude: "What Child Is This?"

arr. Derek Hakes

Merry Ringers Bell Choir

Welcome Rev. Doug Hagler

Passing the Peace

Announcements Sarah Shulman

The Candle of Patience and Repentance Terri Camilari & Brigitte Anderson *Romans* 8

- We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor,
- ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

²⁴ For in hope we were saved.

Now hope that is seen is not hope,

for who hopes for what one already sees?

²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Call to Worship (leader, **people**)

Terri Camilari

Psalm 85

⁸ Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,

for he will speak peace to his people,

to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

1. continued ...

- ⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.
- ¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
- ¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.
- ¹² The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.
- * Hymn #121: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (see page 14)
 Featuring the Merry Ringers Bell Choir

(Please be seated.)

Prayer of Confession (unison)

This is the covenant God made with us: that God would put the law within us, and write it upon our hearts, and would be our God, and we would be God's people. God forgives the wrong we have done, and the good we leave undone. In penitence and faith, let us silently confess our sins to God.

(Silent prayer and reflection)

Assurance of Pardon (leader, **people**)

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone;

a new life has begun.

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Amen.

* Gloria Patri (Children may come forward now for the children's message.) Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

(Please be seated.)

Children's Sermon

Following the message, children may go to Fellowship Hall, to the church nursery room or they may stay with their family in worship.

Call to the Word: "Listen You Nations of the World"

R. Hillert

Prayer for Illumination

Terri Camilari

Leader: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

Listen for what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

⁸But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a} and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reading: Mark 1:1-8

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in he prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight,""

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Leader: This is the word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon Rev. Doug Hagler

* Hymn # 88: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1, 2, 6, and 7) (see page 15)

(Please be seated.)

Offering Prayer

With what shall we come before the Holy One, and bow ourselves before God on high? God has shown us what is good. Let us present ourselves to God as those who have been delivered from death to life.

Offertory: "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" arr. J. Ferguson

* Doxology

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. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

Elder: Jeff McLaughlin

(Please be seated.)
Joys and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

* Hymn # 105: "Light Dawns on a Weary World"

(see pages 16-17)

* Benediction

Rev. Doug Hagler

Postlude: "Even So Come" by Chris Tomlin, Jess Cates, and Jason Ingram
Praise Team

Congregational Meeting

A Congregational Meeting has been called for today, Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023 at 11:45 a.m. (Following the worship service.) The purpose of this meeting is to present the nominees for the next class of Elders and Deacons and to vote on this slate of officers. The nominees are:

Elders	Deacons
Ken Brown	Rebecca Barkley
Jacqui Busch	Jen Johnson
Eileen Naughton	Amy Mincavage
Doug Walker	Gail Schnaedter

Prayer Requests

Joys:

Concerns: Helen Harrop, Pat

PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE: FPC is happy to announce that the Prayer Chain Ministry has a new organizer, Sandy Shrack! With a new organizer comes a new email address - fpcprayerchain2@gmail.com. Please send a message to this new address for any prayer needs - joys, concerns, and issues in between. Sandy will distribute the note on your behalf to FPC's prayer angels. Their silent efforts will be put to work to lift you up. The same email address can be used for anyone wishing to join the praying team. Thank you to Sandy for taking lead on this vital ministry!

Upcoming Scripture Readings

- Dec. 17th: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; Psalm 126:1-6; Luke 1:46b-55
- Dec. 24th: Psalm 96:1-13; Luke 2:1-14

Staff Vacations

- Dec. 31: Pastor Doug, Diane Legnini
- Jan. 7: Pastor Doug

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS: Today and next Sunday, we will be rehearsing for the Christmas Pageant during Sunday School. At the conclusion of the children's message, all children should go to Fellowship Hall for rehearsal. The pageant will be presented during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 24. Parents/families, if you haven't already done so, please remember to log your availability for the 24th by visiting https://app.rallly.co/invite/toZylCFvB7Yt.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDER: The Sunday School students have been rehearsing for the upcoming Christmas pageant to be presented during the 10:30am worship service on Sunday, December 24th. Thanks to all who have responded to the survey indicating whether your child will be in church during that time. If you haven't yet responded, please do so by visiting this link: https://app.rallly.co/invite/toZylCFvB7Yt.

SPECIAL FUNDRAISER INVITE: To FPC Friends & Families, Liz Carrabine has generously offered to host a Tupperware sale with 100% of the proceeds on existing inventory going to the Sunday School program. Bring a friend to the Carrabine's home (114 Charlestown Hunt Drive, Phoenixville) today, Sunday, Dec. 10th, from 11:30am-2:30pm. Hope you can drop in and do some Christmas shopping while helping raise money for our kids!

CAROLING & COCOA: The Parish Life Committee will host our annual Caroling & Cocoa gathering today, Sunday, December 10th. Please plan to join us for singing led by Rebecca Barkley, hot cocoa, and maybe some yummy goodies too. Meet for the merriment at 4:00 PM on the steps in front of church. Come have some holiday fun!

PUB THEOLOGY: At Pub Theology, experience some engaging conversation of current events and God in today's world. Be social. Be perplexed. Be a part of some fun fellowship! This gathering starts at 7:00 PM today, Sunday, December 10th, at The Foodery, 325 Bridge St.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT GREETING CARDS: Want to support a great cause and give a unique card to a special person? The MAC sponsored Alternative Gift Greeting Cards let you do both. They make wonderful teacher gifts, stocking stuffers, and are perfect for the person who has everything. This year's choices are as follows:

- Heifer International bees & training for a family in need
- PACS providing nutritious food to those experiencing food insecurity in our area
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance aiding those experiencing a disaster
- CWS Blankets responding to those affected by war, hurricanes, earthquakes
- Citizen Advocacy building relationships with people with disabilities

The cards are \$5.00 each and can be purchased before and after church in the narthex, and in the church office during the week.

HOLIDAY DISHWARE: People to People has received the donation of 2 sets of Christmas dinnerware dishes. If you would like to borrow, buy or view the dishes for your holiday gathering(s), please contact Sandy Heidel (<u>csheidel@verizon.net</u>). We would love them to be used rather than just stored at this time of year.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY: There are some scheduling and content changes to share regarding Adult Sunday School/Bible Study. Dec. 24th & 31st - no session; Jan. 7th - sessions resume at 8:30 AM. The book for the Advent Study will be *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem* by Adam Hamilton. New learners are always welcome. If interested, please contact <u>Sue Casey</u> for a book and the Zoom link.

SCRIP GIFT CARDS: Let the Stewardship Committee help you with your Christmas shopping, while at the same time provide you the opportunity to support our church. We are placing orders for gift cards every Wednesday. (Orders will be placed 12/15, and 12/22). If you would like to place an order, please call Lynne Williams at 610-415-1581 (home) or 610-955-4749 (cell). You may mail your check to Lynne, drop it off at her home, (14 Schofield Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460), or see her at church on Sunday morning. Orders and checks must be received by the day before the orders are placed (Dec. 14 & Dec. 21). Please make checks payable to "First Presbyterian Church DR". You do not need to fill out an order form. We will do that for you. Happy Christmas Shopping! As always, thank you for continuing to support this program.

BOOKS THROUGH BARS UPDATE: Please note there will be no Books Through Bars trip in December. The next volunteer opportunity will be the third Saturday in January, the 16th.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES: Offering envelope boxes are ready for you to pick up. They are on the table outside of the office, or in your mailbox in the office. Beginning Sunday, December 17 they will be on the table in the narthex.

PLEDGE FULFILLMENT: This is the time of year that our Finance Committee works to balance everything and close the books for the year as we look forward to 2024. Know that we appreciate your financial commitment to First Presbyterian Church throughout this past year. We ask that you please take a moment to reflect on your giving and prayerfully consider fulfilling your 2023 pledge. Thank you for all that your do and for your faithful support. - *The Stewardship Committee*

2024 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN: The 2024 Pledge Campaign - The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone who has completed and returned their pledge card for 2024. If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, please know that it is not too late! We ask that you take a moment to reflect on your giving for the coming year. Your generous and faithful offerings help to support the ministry and the many good works of FPC. By completing your pledge card, you are helping the Finance Committee as they plan for 2024. Completed cards may be returned by mail, dropped off at the church office, or placed in the offering plate on Sunday morning. If you need a pledge card, please call the church office at 610-933-8816.

GRATITUDE JOURNAL: During our year-long journey of gratitude, we invite you to record your responses in a journal so you can reflect at the end of the year. This week's prompt is: **How do you appreciate natural gifts?** If you would like to share your reflection (1-2 minutes) after a specific prompt or something you are grateful for, please let us know and we can let you share! *The Church Growth Committee*

ADVENT / CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

- 3rd Sunday Dec. 17th
- 4th Sunday Dec. 24th
 - o 10:30am Advent! Pageant! Christmas!
 - o 9:00 pm Candlelight! Communion! Christmas!

This Week in the Life of the Church

Sunday, December 10 (*Childcare available.)

SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT

8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study - Zoom

10:30 a.m. *WORSHIP – Rev. Doug Hagler, in-person and on YouTube

10:45 a.m. *Sunday School classes (Fellowship Hall)

11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tupperware Sunday School Fundraiser

(Carrabine Residence, 114 Charlestown Hunt Drive, Phoenixville)

11:45 a.m. Congregational Meeting

12:00 p.m. Worship & Music Committee Meeting (Parlor)

4:00 p.m. Caroling & Cocoa (Front Steps of Church)

7:00 p.m. Pub Theology (The Foodery, 325 Bridge St, Phoenixville)

Monday, December 11

9:00 a.m. People to People Clothing Ministry (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, December 12

6:30 p.m. Zumba class (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting

7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, December 13

7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, December 14

9:00 a.m. Public Health Management (Fellowship Hall)

9:00 a.m. People to People Clothing Ministry (Fellowship Hall)

10:00 a.m. People to People Food Ministry (Kitchen)

7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal (Choir Room)

7:00 p.m. Compassionate Friends Meeting (Parlor)

Friday, December 15

9:00 a.m. Women, Infants & Children (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, December 16

No events scheduled.

Sunday, December 17 (*Childcare available.)

THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study - Zoom

10:30 a.m. *WORSHIP – Rev. Doug Hagler, in-person and on YouTube

10:45 a.m. *Sunday School classes (Fellowship Hall)

12:00 p.m. Men's Group (meet in the main office)

12:00 p.m. Women's Circle (Parlor)

7:00 p.m. Antiracism Book Club - Zoom

Nursery & Sunday School: The church nursery is located on the 2nd floor of the main building in room 209 and is available for children ages infant-3 years. All children 3 years and older are invited to attend Sunday School during worship (children will depart fellowship hall for their classrooms immediately following the Children's Sermon), with ages 3-5 in room 210, ages 6-8 in room 208, and grades 5 and older in the third-floor class-room. Sunday School is from 10:45am–11:45am.

Restrooms: The church restrooms are located on the first & second floors of the main building. Ushers can help direct you to the restrooms.

For Hearing Assistance: If you wish to use a wireless assistive listening device to better hear the service, see one of the ushers.

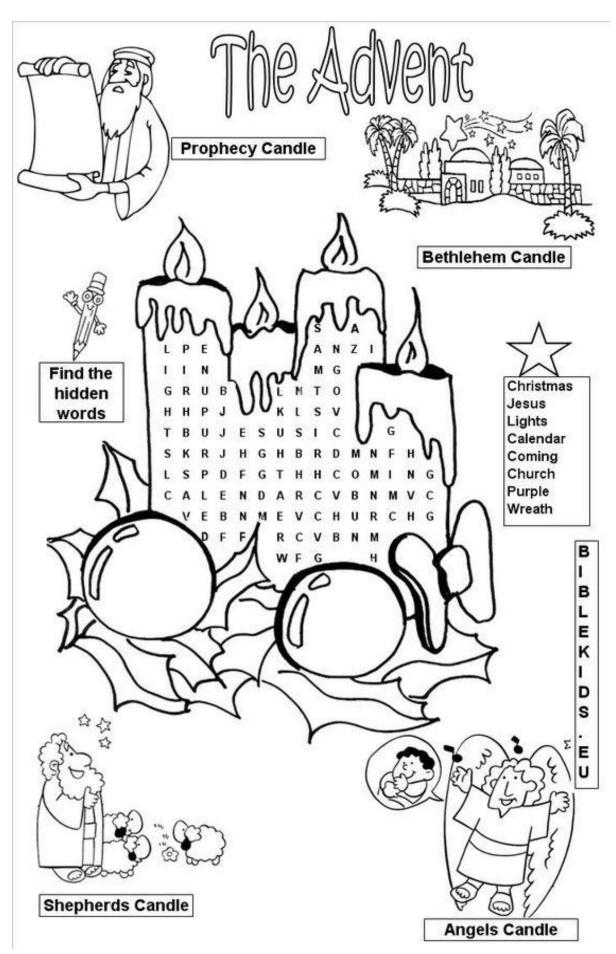
Large Print Bulletins are available from an usher.



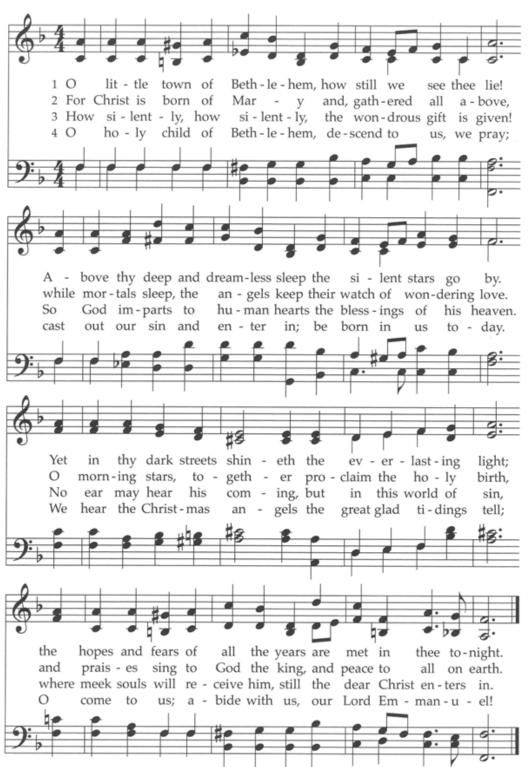
Christmas Poinsettias 2023

In Memory Of:

Steve Pilotti	by Sarah, Noah, & Shane Pilotti		
Robert Mucklow	by Richard, Rebecca, & Sarah Barkley		
Jack Giebler	by Gary & Barbara Giebler		
Helen & Dick Schnaedter, Marian & Don Meckstroth	by Gail & Rick Schnaedter		
Our Family members celebrating Christmas with us in spirit	by Randy & Sandy Schrack		
Abe & Pat Hostetter, Andrew J. Hostetter	by Becky Sinapius		
Karen & Larry	by Lucinda Parrish		
My parents: Louise & Chet Hain	by Jewell Baker		
Ann Miller	by Jen Johnson		
Victor & Dorothy Johnson; Paul & Marge Anguish	by Jen Johnson		
In Honor Of:			
David, Paul, & Jay Parrish	by Lucinda Parrish		
In Appreciation For:			
Deborah Williams	by Lucinda Parrish		



121 O Little Town of Bethlehem



Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung this carol he wrote in December 1868 for the Sunday School children of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

TEXT: Phillips Brooks, 1868 MUSIC: Lewis Henry Redner, 1868

ST. LOUIS 8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6 (alternate tune: FOREST GREEN)

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



5 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

Rejoicel Rejoicel Emmanuel

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

- 6 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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

 Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)
 Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)

 Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)
 Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)

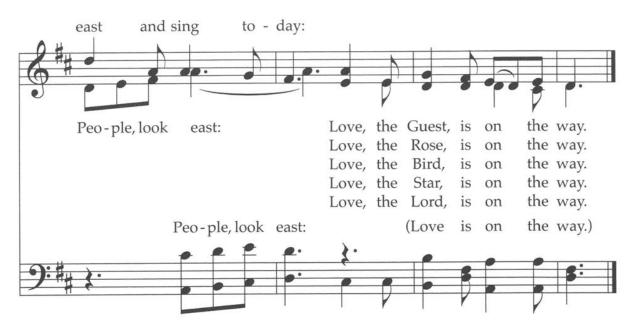
 Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)
 Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)



16. continued ...



This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.

TEXT: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928, alt. MUSIC: French folk melody; harm. Martin Shaw, 1928 Text © 1960 David Higham Associates, Ltd. Music Harm. © 1928 Oxford University Press

BESANÇON 8.7.9.8.8.7



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Sarah Shulman, Praise Team Leader

Maggie O'Malley, Office Manager & Communications Coordinator,

Secretaryfpc145@gmail.com & FPCcommunications@comcast.net

Jeff McLaughlin, Children & Youth Coordinator,

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Elders on Session

Ken Brown

Kevin Carrabine

Kathryn Grocki

Roger Warwick

Jewell Baker (Clerk)

George Cockerill

Jeff McLaughlin

Adam Smith

Karin Goodman

Cassy Gulden

Jill Kleppinger

Jeanie Osterhoudt

Deacons

Jen Johnson

Kathy Thais

Gail Schnaedter

Ellen Williams

Kristin Craven

Gail Landazuri

Mona Sabia (Chairperson)

Paulette Mark

Lucinda Parrish

Lynne Williams

Bob Wittrock