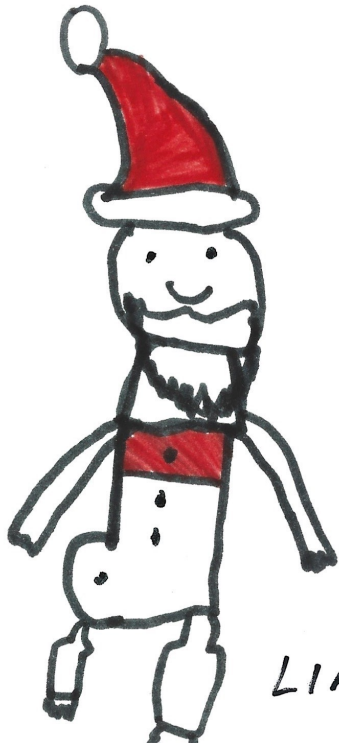


Rejoicing & Revolution

Rejoicing and



LIAM



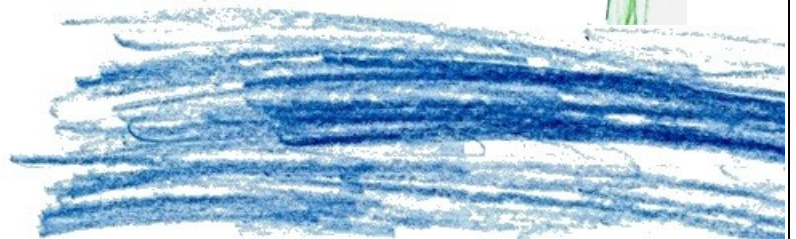
Revolution. James



Pierce



Rejoicing and Revolution



Morning Worship
Third Sunday of Advent
‡ **December 17, 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: “*My Heart Is Longing / The Angel Gabriel*” M. Sedio

Welcome Rev. Doug Hagler

Passing the Peace

Announcements Sarah Shulman

The Candle of Rejoicing and Revolution The Hobbins Family

Psalm 126

- ³ The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.
- ⁴ Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.
- ⁵ May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.
- ⁶ Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

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

Alcuin of Tours (c.735-804)

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts;

Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil;

Eternal Power, be our support;

**Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance;
Eternal Pity, have mercy on us,
that with all our heart and mind and strength
we may seek your face
and be brought by your infinite mercy
to your holy presence;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

* Hymn # 744: “Arise, Your Light Is Come!” *(see page 14)*

(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 sermon.)*

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

Sue Casey

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: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil. ²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reading: Luke 1:46b-55

^{46b} My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;

53 he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
54 He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon

Rev. Doug Hagler

* Hymn # 772: “Live into Hope”

(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: “*Hail To The Brightness of Zion’s Glad Morning*” E. Butler

* 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: Adam Smith

(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 # 100: "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" (see pages 15-16)

* Benediction

Rev. Doug Hagler

Postlude: "*Sing We the Song of Emmanuel*" by M. Bosswell & M. Papa
Praise Team

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## Prayer Requests

**Joys:**

**Concerns:** Helen Harrop, Pat

**PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE:** We welcome and thank Sandy Shrack for becoming our new Prayer Chain organizer. Please send any prayer needs to this new address, [fpcprayerchain2@gmail.com](mailto:fpcprayerchain2@gmail.com). 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. 24<sup>th</sup>: Psalm 96:1-13; Luke 2:1-14

Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>: Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Luke 2:22-40

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS:** At the conclusion of today's children's message, all children should go to Fellowship Hall for pageant rehearsal. In addition, pageant participants are asked to stay after worship to practice music and logistics. The pageant will be presented during the 10:30 a.m. worship service next Sunday, December 24.

**MEN'S GROUP:** All men of FPC and friends are invited to meet in the main office after worship today, Sunday, the 17th. Join Pastor Doug and the crew for a lunch outing!

**WOMEN'S CIRCLE:** FPC's Women's Circle will meet in the parlor following today's worship service. To make December's gathering special, healthy snacks will be provided. Also included will be a video and discussion relating to the study of "*Sacred Encounters - The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts.*" All ladies are welcome to join in this fellowship and study session!

**ANTIRACISM BOOK CLUB:** Zoom with the Antiracism Book Club when they meet again tonight, Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Discussion will flow from the book *We Remain: Race, Racism, and the Story of the American Indian* by Keith R. Burich. Join us at 7:00 PM and discover how much there is to learn! Newcomers are welcome!

**QUEER CIRCLE:** The next Zoom gathering for the Queer Circle will be tomorrow, Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm. Conversation will continue about *The Book of Queer Prophets: 24 Writers on Sexuality and Religion*. Zoom with the group anytime to learn more about genders, sexual orientation, Christian faith, and related issues. Talk to Pastor Doug, Sarah, or Jacqui for more information.

**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 ([csheidel@verizon.net](mailto:csheidel@verizon.net)). We would love them to be used rather than just stored at this time of year.

**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.

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

**SCRIP GIFT CARDS:** Last chance to **Christmas shop with scrip**. Orders and payments are due by Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Please place your order by contacting 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. Checks are to be made 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.



**2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Offering envelope boxes are ready for you to pick up. Beginning today, Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 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 you 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 are you thankful for gifts and talents?** 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*

## **STAFF VACATIONS**

Dec. 31: Pastor Doug, Diane Legnini

Jan. 7: Pastor Doug

**RESTROOM ACCESS DURING WORSHIP:** You are welcome to use the doors on either side of the chancel to go to the restrooms at any time during worship. If you have a mobility concern, then an usher in the Narthex will accompany you down the outside ramp and let you in through the glass door. For security reasons, we will be keeping the glass door locked during worship.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE:**

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Dec. 24th

10:30 am Advent! Pageant! Christmas!

9:00 pm Candlelight! Communion! Christmas!

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This Week in the Life of the Church

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

Monday, December 18

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

Tuesday, December 19

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

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting—Zoom

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

Wednesday, December 20

No events scheduled.

Thursday, December 21

- 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)

Friday, December 22

- 9:00 a.m. Women, Infants & Children (Old Library Room)
- 1:00 p.m. Jeanne Blackburn’s Memorial Service (FPC)

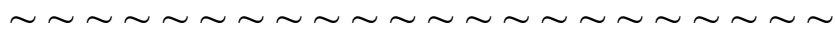
Saturday, December 23

No events scheduled.

Sunday, December 24 *(Childcare **not** available for either service.)*

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT/CHRISTMAS EVE

- 10:30 a.m. Worship with Pageant – Rev. Doug Hagler, in-person and on YouTube
- 9:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship with Communion—Rev. Doug Hagler, in-person and on YouTube



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
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In Appreciation For:

Deborah Williams	by Lucinda Parrish
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FPC Phoenixville

Rev. Douglas Hagler, Pastor145@comcast.net; 415-300-7912 (cell)

Diane Legnini, Director of Music

Sarah Shulman, Praise Team Leader

Maggie O'Malley, Office Manager & Communications Coordinator,

Secretaryfpc145@gmail.com & FPCcommunications@comcast.net

Jeff McLaughlin, Children & Youth Coordinator,

fpcchildrenandyouth@gmail.com

Church Treasurer: fpctreasurer145@gmail.com

Church Telephone: 610-933-8816

Website: FPC-Phoenixville.org

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

744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Arise, Your Light Is Come!'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written between the staves. The first system contains four verses of the hymn. The second system contains the concluding lines of the hymn.

Echoing imagery from Isaiah 61:1-2 and other passages, this text was created as an inclusive-language alternative to an older hymn using this late 19th-century tune. Because it is a song of encouragement rather than a song of praise, it is not directed to God but to people.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1974
MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1894
Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

FESTAL SONG
SM
(this tune in a lower key, 815)



ADVENT

1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -
 2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight
 3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to
 4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

gained, the end of greed. The op-pressed shall be the
 and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of
 speak, the right to be, the right to have one's
 fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!
 pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.
 dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
 full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout *continued*



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer-or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

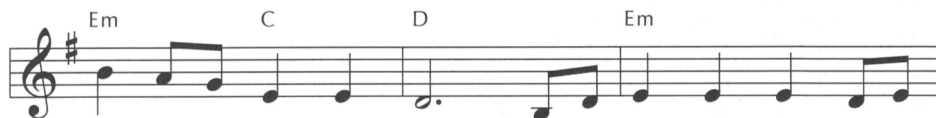


name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

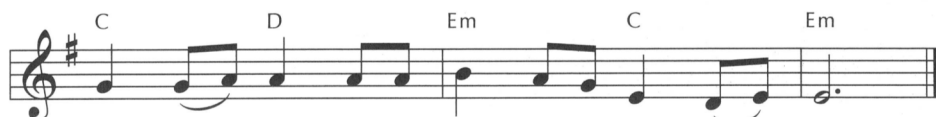
Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Advent Word Search



Words to Find

Words can be found left to right, up and down, and diagonal

- Advent
- Wreath
- Candles
- Purple
- Hope
- Peace
- Joy
- Love
- Angel
- Mary
- Joseph
- Jesus
- Emmanuel
- Savior
- Gaudete
- Rejoice
- Penance
- Prayer

