

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

November 28, 2021
10:45 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church, Bryan, Texas
Link to worship videos available at: www.fpcbryan.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

arr. Cindy Berry

WELCOME AND LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Reader One: *Today is the First Sunday of Advent, in which we recall the faith we have in God's promise through Christ.*

Reader Two: *God told Abraham that through him all the nations of the world would be blessed, because he trusted and put his faith in God.*

Reader One: *The Old Testament spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Savior would be born, and would teach, love, lead wisely and bless all the nations.*

Reader Two: *We too believe in God's promise to send Jesus again to this world to establish his kingdom upon the earth.* (First Advent candle is lighted.)

Readers One and Two: *Faith is a hope in the promise of light in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the faith we place in Jesus Christ.*

OPENING PRAYER

God of Abraham and Sarah, Our Father and redeemer, Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate Jesus' birth to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit to make a home among us. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Light who is coming into the world. Amen.

* HYMN NO. 12 (st. 1,3,4)

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.**

**Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light. Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

* Please stand in body or spirit.
Text in **bold face type** is to be read by all.

PRAYERS OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Let us pray together . . . Merciful and Loving God, we admit that we have become impatient with ourselves, each other, and sometimes with you. We have turned our own way and have gone astray from your will. We live within a balance of faith and knowledge, sometimes allowing ourselves to laugh at our faith within the frame of our limited knowledge. Help us to be humbled in your presence, to experience the wonder that gives us life in hope, and that with strength, our faith in you may burst open the doors of our spirits that often remain locked in doubt or fear.

(All are invited to pray in silent meditation.)

Through the grace of God, granted us in Jesus Christ, we have been enriched in every way: in speech and knowledge of every kind.

Through the grace of God in Christ, we find grace and peace.

- * HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDRETH
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 18:2-15; Galatians 3:8
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL PROCLAMATION We Wait with Faith

- * HYMN NO. 475 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing NETTLETON
**Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!**
**Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**
**O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, adapted from Harry E. Fosdick
AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray . . . God of all times, and places, and people: We give thanks for your generosity and faithfulness, and for your calling us to serve you by faith among your people every day which you give us life. Receive, we pray, our thanksgiving for the encouragement of love from friends, family, colleagues, and even strangers, for the support of their confidence, the steadfastness of their support, and the warmth of their affection. We thank you for the encouragement of faith by your grace, from which we are strengthened both to walk bravely amid the hardships of life and to believe in our best when facing failure. We are grateful to You for all those living on earth, and all those departed hence, whose love has been our peace and strength; for the beauty of their lives through which you have shined your light; and for Jesus Christ who calls us, saying that we are more than servants, because we are friends in your grace through him.

Because friendship is so excellent a gift, O God, extend its reach. Reclaim from violence and strife positive healthy relationships of races and nations and communities. Redeem all people from both suspicion and rivalry toward relationships of both good will and trust. Grant the experience of your healing in particular ways to all who are ill, or injured, or in grief. O Source of every good gift: Have mercy upon us. Grant us your blessing. Make our human relationships a revelation to our souls of your unfailing love. Wrap your grace around us, support us by your power, and establish us in your fellowship, that from the faith you place within, we should be friends of one another and of you today and every day. Hear us also praying as Jesus taught disciples to pray:

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 NO. 39

Great is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee.

Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

REFRAIN **Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning, new mercies I see.**

All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above

join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. REFRAIN

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!** REFRAIN

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Longing

arr. Marvin Gaspard

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ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are available in the narthex.

Please help yourself or ask an usher for assistance.

NEW MEMBERS may be received any Sunday by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or transfer of membership. If you feel led to inquire about becoming a church member or deepening your commitment as a disciple of Jesus Christ, please indicate your desire on the fellowship folder. You may also call the church (979.823.8073) or email Pastor Ted Foote (tfoote@fpcbryan.org) or Associate Pastor Emily Béghin (ebeghin@fpcbryan.org). They will be glad to arrange a mutually convenient Sunday when you can be received by the Elders and introduced to the congregation.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP. Worship related activity sheets and markers are available on the tables in the Narthex. Room 108 is available for your nursery needs. If you are unfamiliar with our building and need assistance, an usher will be pleased to help you. Also, two rocking chairs are located in the narthex, where the worship service can be heard via a ceiling speaker.



A WARM WELCOME!

We are delighted that you chose to worship with us today.



WORSHIP NOTES

PREACHER

Rev. Emily K. Béghin

ADVENT CANDLELIGHTERS

The Moser Family:

Jim & Suzette, and their children,
Sarah & Charlie

USHERS | GREETERS

Rick Avery; Karon Mathews;
Raney McDonald; Janice Sahn

MUSICIANS

Michelle Lassiter, *piano & organ*
David Kipp,
Director of Music Ministries

AUDIO-VISUAL | SOUND

Adam Hartman; Nicole McKinley;
Jerry Norris; Bill Watson

CHANCEL FLOWERS

With thanksgiving to God for
and in celebration of
Alice & Dick Hickerson
on their 55th Wedding Anniversary

LITURGICAL BANNER

Pulpit side: Advent Banner
by Becky Alter

COVER ART

from www.crosswalk.com

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THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, NOVEMBER 28, 2021

9:20am Church School-VC

10:45am WORSHIP (livestreamed)-Sanctuary *

Live-streamed worship will be viewable via www.fpcbryan.org,
with a click on the homepage "sentence about worship"
or small red YouTube icon in far top right of homepage screen

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2021

5:30pm Cub Scout Pack 350-FH

6:00pm Stewardship & Finance Committee-L

7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 976-FH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2021

11:30am Men's Lunch Group-Chicken Oil Co, Bryan

6:00pm Soup and Salad Supper Handbell Choir Rehearsal-FH

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021

11:30am Staff Meeting-L

6:00pm Wednesday Night Dinner Group- C&J Barbeque, Bryan

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2021

6:30am Men's Fellowship Breakfast-CCF

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2021

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 5, 2021

9:20am Church School-VC

10:20am Pop-up Choir Rehearsal-S

10:45am Worship (livestreamed with Lord's Supper)-S*

Live-streamed worship will be viewable via www.fpcbryan.org,
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or small red YouTube icon in far top right of homepage screen

1:00pm Youth/Young Families go Ice Skating ('til 3:00pm)

5:30pm Examination of Elders-elect/Session Stated Meeting-P

* *Loving childcare provided.*

First Presbyterian Church | 1100 Carter Creek Parkway | Bryan, Texas 77802

PH. 979.823.8073 | FAX. 979.822.7063 | Website: www.fpcbryan.org | Email: office@fpcbryan.org

Find "First Presbyterian Church of Bryan, Texas" on FACEBOOK

PAPER GOODS DRIVE FOR STILL CREEK



The Mission Committee's Paper Goods Drive for Still Creek Ranch—a home for boys and girls from crisis environments—continues. The November drive is for: **COPY PAPER, PAPER TOWELS, FACIAL TISSUES, and TOILET PAPER.** Please place your donations on the table in the Patio. *Thank you for your help!*

THE SALVATION ARMY'S ANGEL TREE



The Angel Tree is set up in the Patio. The Angel ornaments on the tree provide the name, sizes, and wish list for a child to whom you can bring the joy of Christmas. Pick up your "angel's" name and information sheet and enjoy the experience of Christmas shopping at its best! Place your gifts for your "angel" near the tree in the Indoor Patio **by FRI, DEC 10.**

Thank you for sharing the joy of Christmas!

REACHING OUT TO OUR NEIGHBORS



Sunday, December 5, is "Stock the Pantry" Sunday. You are invited to bring your donated goods to worship or to the Patio anytime you are at the church on weekdays.

At the top of The Pantry's needs are **CANNED FRUITS (PEACHES, PEARS, PINEAPPLE, ORANGES, FRUIT COCKTAIL, etc.)! Personal hygiene products and non-perishable foods are always welcome. Monetary donations are also very much appreciated.** When you are out shopping, pick up extra items to share.

Thank you for your generosity!

THE 2021 ANNUAL Christmas Gift Making Workshop

for all children 3-year-old thru GR 5
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11
10:00AM TO NOON

Parents and grandparents, watch your inbox for details!

For more information,
contact Kathryn Nachlinger,
knachlinger@gmail.com



The deadline for the next issue of the newsletter, The Chimes, is **Noon TODAY.**

This newsletter will be distributed Wednesday, December 1. Submit content to office@fpcbryan.org.



NEW! Find all of our social media in one place!

- ★ Visit <https://linktr.ee/fpcbryan> or scan the QR Code to your right
- ★ **On the web** www.fpcbryan.org (newsletter, announcements, worship bulletin, calendar, ...)
- ★ **Facebook** www.facebook.com/FPCBryan
- ★ **Instagram** www.instagram.com ([fpcbryantx1867](https://www.instagram.com/fpcbryantx1867) and/or [fpcbryan_youth](https://www.instagram.com/fpcbryan_youth))

BE THE FIRST TO KNOW when **WORSHIP** and **ACTIVITY** videos are uploaded to our **YouTube channel!**

Go to www.youtube.com, search for First Presbyterian Church of Bryan, Texas, then click **SUBSCRIBE**

Share prayer needs and church group news with fellow FPC participants on Church Updates—

FPC-Bryan's online tool for YOU to post church-related announcements, ways to serve, and your current prayer needs. This online tool is "REAL TIME." Users receive a weekly reminder email on Thursdays to view new posts.

Contact Karen in the church office, 979.823.8073 or office@fpcbryan.org to set up your account.

Then, login at <https://fpcbtx.churchupdates.org/login> to create your password-protected account.