



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day — November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

From Generation to Generation

A special welcome to those visiting with us today!

We are grateful for your presence with us and hope you find this time of worship to be meaningful.

When you see an asterisk *, please rise in body or spirit, however you are comfortable.

Children are welcome in worship! A nursery is also available for infants and toddlers in Room 119.

We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE

Lovely Fields So Gentle

Christopher Willibald Gluck

Flute Quartet

John L. Edwards, Linda Millier Bosteels, Karen Schiler, and Michael Johnston, flutes

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

CHIME

INTROIT

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Jacques Berthier

Sanctuary Singers

arr. Warren Puffer Jones

***CALL TO WORSHIP / LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - Isaiah 2:4**

Jeff, Siobhan, and Joie Morava

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

People: Advent means coming.

Leader: We are preparing ourselves for the days

People: when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;

Leader: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

All: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

ADVENT HYMN SING

HYMN 105

People, Look East

BESANÇON

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

HYMN 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

HYMN 92

While We Are Waiting, Come

WAITING (Cason)

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

HYMN 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits; the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

HYMN 83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTGART

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

Mary Ann Doolen

God of grace, ever faithful to your promises, the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes, for he is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God of promises and possibilities, we admit that we color the world according to our own limited vision. We are often unjust in our judgments and faithless in our relationships. We are haunted by sins we have not confessed. Hear us as we entrust them to your forgiving care. Help us to let go of our transgressions, to renew our covenant with you, and to live constructively with one another. In the spirit of Jesus Christ, whose coming among us we await with great expectation. (silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

To this peace we are called as members of a single body.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 582

Gloria Patri

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

***To God the Father, God the Son, And Holy Spirit Three in one.
May every tongue and nation raise An endless song of thankful praise. Amen.***

We Proclaim God's Word

DISCOVERY TIME Children are invited forward for a special message. Cyndi Lockwood

Children seated on the Chancel steps will be in view of the livestream image;
those on the floor facing the steps will not.

Afterwards, a nursery is provided in Room 119 for children four and under.

Children—5 years old to 4th grade—are invited to attend Children's Church in Room 215.

Parents may pick up children after worship from those locations.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SOLO

Light of the World

Laure Daigle, Paul Duncan,

Sarah Gwatney, mezzo-soprano

and Paul Mabury

The world waits for a miracle, the heart longs for a little bit of hope. O come, Emmanuel. A child prays for peace on earth, and she's calling out from a sea of hurt. O come, Emmanuel. And can you hear the angels singing: Glory to the Light of the world! Glory, the Light of the world is here. The drought breaks with the tears of a mother, a baby's cry is the sound of love come down. Come down, Emmanuel. He is the song for the suffering. He is Messiah, the Prince of peace has come. He has come, Emmanuel. For all who wait, for all who hunger, for all who've prayed, for all who wonder, behold your King. Behold Messiah, Emmanuel.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 2:1-5 (pg. 631)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

I Shall Know Him When He Comes

Douglas E. Wagner

Sanctuary Singers

Charlotte Lee

I shall know Him when He comes, not with sound of pipe or drum, but by the holy harmony which now His coming makes in me. He shall wear no royal robe, or a crown of precious gold, but He my Lord, my King shall be always, ever there for me. He shall not in castle warm live in splendor, safe from harm. But in a manger crude He'll sleep, warmed by the breath of cows and sheep. Come, Lord Jesus, tarry not. Find in me a resting spot. My heart is open, come dwell within. Let life be born in me again. By the holy harmony which His coming makes in me, I shall know Him when He comes.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mathew 1:1-17 (pg.)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

There's Room for Every Story

Rev. John C. McKinnon

We Respond to God's Word

*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 on 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.**

*CAROL 378

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

MERLE'S TUNE

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *"True, such a heart's chamber is" from Christmas Oratorio*

J.S. Bach

Flute Quartet

*DOXOLOGY

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

***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

We Go in God's Name

*CAROL 756

O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN

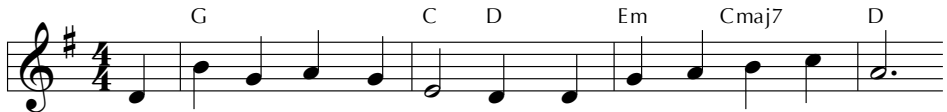
*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

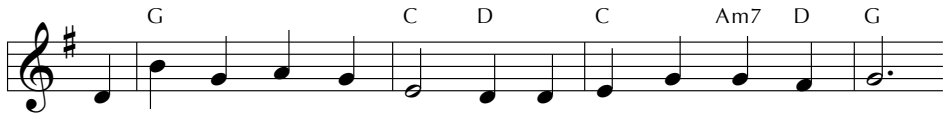
**Give to
FPC today!**



We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom 378



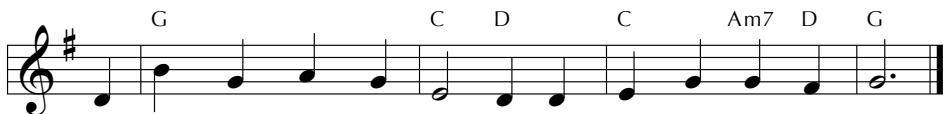
1 We wait the peace-ful king-dom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
 2 Where is the peace-ful king-dom? When will this new day start?
 3 When wars of des-o-la-tion and hate come to an end,
 4 That lit-tle child shall lead us to walk the cho-sen way,



in gen-tle-ness and friend-ship with-out a fear or sigh,
 We long for peace and com-fort to reign with-in each heart.
 when na-tion meets with na-tion and calls the oth-er "friend,"
 to share the peace-ful king-dom, to greet God's new-born day.



when li-on shall be graz-ing, when snake shall nev-er strike;
 Yet not in our lives on-ly, nor sim-ply in our home:
 still peace in all its full-ness will on-ly have be-gun:
 The child born in a sta-ble is sent to break our chains,



a lit-tle child shall lead us both strong and weak a-like.
 we pray that all cre-a-tion will one day find sha-lom.
 sha-lom for all cre-a-tion be-gins with jus-tice done.
 to bring through word and ta-ble the day when jus-tice reigns.

This text paraphrases Isaiah 11:6–9 in the first stanza, then reflects on that passage in widening frames of reference from self to all creation and identifies its “little child” with one born at Bethlehem. The tune is named for the composer’s sister, his first piano teacher.

O God of Every Nation 756

1 O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
 3 Lord, strength-en those who la - bor that all may find re - lease
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem the whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand.
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

Where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
 when hope and cour - age fal - ter, your still small voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

If we truly believe that God cares for all people, we cannot limit our prayers and songs for peace to the welfare of our own nation, no matter how much we may love it. This challenging text is set to a stirring Welsh tune, named for a hamlet with a prominent Baptist chapel.

Today

Sunday School Classes

- Evergreen | Room B-14 (9:30 a.m.)
- New Beginnings | Fireside Room (9:30 a.m.)
- Builders | Room B-8 (9:45 a.m.)
- High School | Youth Lounge (9:45 a.m.)
- Middle School | Room B-10 (9:45 a.m.)
- Children | Room 213 (9:45 a.m.)

Coffee & Cookies Fellowship | 9:30-10:55 a.m.

Coffee, cookies, and fellowship are available in the Reception Center every Sunday before worship!

Sanctuary Worship | 11:00 a.m.

ADVENTure | 12:00 p.m.

Kick off the Advent season with our annual ADVENTure fun! There will be an opportunity to make an Advent wreath with fresh greens. We'll also provide the five candles needed to begin your weekly candle lighting to celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ.

During this time, the children and youth will have their Christmas pageant rehearsal. Lunch will be provided.

Youth Chorale Rehearsals

Middle and High School students (grades 5th through 12th) are invited to stay after worship on Sundays (except for the 1st Sundays of the month)! We'll meet in Room B-32 and make music until 12:30 p.m.

PW's Cookies in a Jar Fundraiser

The Presbyterian Women will be selling cookie mixes for \$10/each, beginning today. Stop by and grab a gift while supporting PW and all the work that they do!

Upcoming Events

Bridge Group — Mondays | 6:00-8:00 p.m. & Wednesdays | 9:00-11:30 a.m.

We meet in Room B-10 (basement) on Mondays from 6:00–8:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9:00–11:30 a.m. Whether you’ve never played, are returning after a break, or just want a friendly bridge group to join, **contact Dan MacLemore at 405-496-0185 or rockdoc1949@gmail.com.**

Evening Prayer Service — Wednesdays | 5:00 & 5:30 p.m.

The Sanctuary is open on Wednesdays for individual meditation and prayer at 5:00 p.m., followed by an Evening Prayer Service from 5:30–6:00 p.m. This is a short worship service featuring sung psalms, readings, and prayers, offering a period of respite and contemplation after the workday, to help transition into the restful night.

After the service, we’ll have a time of fellowship in the Reception Center from 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Free Yoga Class — Wednesdays | 6:00 p.m.

Our Free Yoga Class is available weekly on Wednesdays! Angela Rose leads the hour-long class in the Rec Room in the basement. All skill levels are welcome.

Choir Rehearsal — Wednesdays | 6:30-8:00 p.m.

The choir rehearses at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays! **If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please reach out to Puffer Jones (puffer@fpcokc.org).**

Urban Mission Christmas Food Boxes

Friday, December 5 & Saturday, December 6 | 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Volunteer to help with Christmas Food Boxes at The Urban Mission!

- On Friday, December 5, volunteers are needed to set up the assembly line and put together boxes.
- On Saturday, December 6, volunteers are needed to pack food boxes and hygiene bags.

You can sign up at tinyurl.com/UMChristmasBoxes or by calling the church office at 405-525-6584.

Contact Jim Tack (jtack@robertsonwilliams.com) to RSVP or for more information!

First Sunday Lunch — Sunday, December 7 | 12:00 p.m.

Our First Sunday Lunches are a great time to share in fellowship with the congregation. After the worship service, we’ll gather in Watchorn Hall to enjoy a delicious meal organized by Junebug Catering.

Menu: Ham & Swiss Sliders, Chicken Salad Croissants, Mini Burger Sliders, Potato & Green Chili Soup, Vegetable Soup, Chili, and Assorted Cookies

Service of Preparation — Sunday, December 14 | Chapel | 2:00 p.m.

Are your heart, mind, and spirit ready to welcome the Christ Child anew? If that question causes you pause, you are not alone. For many of us, holidays are both joyous and difficult times for a variety of reasons. A lot can happen in a year, and 2025 might have been a challenging one for you. Or some carry difficult memories that the holidays are an annual reminder of. Maybe there is no grief, but you are just too tired to feel ready to welcome your Savior.

The demands of the world can threaten to rob us of the true joy of the season if we are not attentive to ourselves. So, if you need to slow down, or be held in community, or pray for healing or wholeness in your own life, the life of another, or the life of the world, join us for a service of word, song, and image as we prepare.

Deacons Out & About: Sparkle — Saturday, December 20 | 5:30 p.m.

Celebrate the season with the Deacons as we enjoy an evening at Scissortail Park! We'll meet at 5:30 p.m. at Social Capital for fellowship and food before heading into the park around 7:00 p.m. for SPARKLE, the immersive holiday light-walk. This experience features dazzling holiday lights, whimsical scenes, and family-friendly displays winding throughout the park.

Tickets are limited, so sign up today by visiting tinyurl.com/FPCOKCsparkle or calling the church office at 405-525-6584. **If you have any questions, please contact Lancelot Duff-Williams (ldw.fpc@gmail.com).**

FPC-OKC Podcast

Discover the FPC-OKC Podcast, featuring weekly sermons, sacred music, and evening prayer services. Whether you missed a Sunday or want to revisit a meaningful message or song, each episode offers inspiration, reflection, and a sense of connection wherever you are. Listen on your favorite streaming platform by searching FPCOKC or visit tinyurl.com/FPCOKCpodcast.

First Presbyterian Church

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