



First Presbyterian Church

OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day – November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

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.

We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Paul Manz

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

CHIME

INTROIT

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Jacques Berthier

Sanctuary Singers

arr. Warren Puffer Jones

CALL TO WORSHIP – ADVENT LITANY AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Blaine Moore

THIS WILL BE A SIGN FOR YOU (please see bulletin bookmark)

*ADVENT HYMN 83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTGART

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

Direct our attention, O God, above the turmoil of our times, beyond the distress of human greed. We look for signs that your realm is near, that your Word rules the world. Free us from the weight of heavy cares to bear your joyous truth into our relationships. Join us together in a spirit of thanksgiving and earnest praise as we worship you. 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 and 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.

ANTHEM

Are You Looking for Jesus? Robert Wetzler, Herbert Brokering
Sanctuary Singers

Are you looking for Jesus? Keep looking in awe. Seek and you'll find Him sleeping in straw. Feed a child who is hungry and cold through and through. If you're looking for Jesus, He'll be there for you. Are you looking for Jesus? Come see in the cup; look in the eyes when thirst looks up. Give a child who is thirsty a drink for a feast. You will find Jesus serving in midst of the least. Are you looking for Jesus? Then look all around. Here on the earth Messiah is found. Hold a child who is lonely and silent as night. If you're looking for morning, love wakens the light. Are you looking for Jesus? Then look anywhere. Find Him alive where someone needs care. Love a child who in spirit is seeking someplace where the wonder of Jesus brings Christmas with grace.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:14-18 (pg. 92)

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

SOLO

Even So, Come

Chris Tomlin, Jess Cates,

Puffer Jones, baritone

and Jason Ingram

All of creation, all of the earth make straight a highway, a path for the Lord; Jesus is coming soon. Call back the sinner, wake up the saint, let every nation shout of your fame; Jesus is coming soon. Like a bride waiting for her groom, we'll be a church ready for you. Every heart longing for our King, we sing: Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come. There will be justice, all will be new, your name forever faithful and true; Jesus is coming soon. So we wait for You. God, we wait: You're coming soon.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 7:10-14 (pg. 636)

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

SERMON

Witnesses to Glory

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.**

*ADVENT HYMN 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 2: High/Treble Voices

Stanza 3: Low/Tenor/Bass Voices

Stanza 4: Organ

Stanza 5: Choir

Stanza 6: All

Stanza 7: All

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSE

Advent Amen

STILL, STILL, STILL

Sanctuary Singers

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Sarabande

Arcangelo Corelli

Arranged by Joseph W. Cloke

*PRESENTATION HYMN

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

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

- 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.
 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. 23: O Emmanuel (1)

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.

We Go in God's Name

*ADVENT HYMN 384

Soon and Very Soon

SOON AND VERY SOON

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

People, Look East

Michael Bedford

The rosebud on the communion table is in celebration of the birth of Llewyn Ross O'Neil, born November 17, 2022. Congratulations to parents Meredith Tack O'Neil and Patrick O'Neil and grandparents Jim and Ginnie Tack!

Today

Sunday School | 9:30 a.m.

- Youth Class | The Lounge (Basement)
- Builders Class | Room B-8
- New Beginnings | Fireside Room
- Evergreen Class | Room B-14
- Children's Sunday School | Room 213

Sanctuary Worship | 11:00 a.m.

ADVENTure: Starry Night | 4:00 p.m.

Join us in Watchorn Hall for a special starry night celebrating the Advent season! While the kids are knee deep in stars (and probably glitter) the adults are invited to make the annual Advent Wreath (stars will be added this year). A soup and salad dinner will be served as well as pizza for the kids.

Volunteer Opportunities

Christmas Food Boxes

Friday, December 2 & Saturday, December 3 | 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

We still need a few more volunteers to help us pack Christmas Food Boxes at The Urban Mission! Contact Jim Tack (jtack@robertsonwilliams.com) to RSVP or for more information!

FPC-OKC Tree Planting — Saturday, December 10 | 9:00 a.m.

Mission Council is purchasing three shade trees to plant in the church playground. We would like 8-10 volunteers to help with the planting. We are renting a small track hoe to dig the holes and need help getting the trees out of the trucks, centered, and secured. We'll add compost, edging, and gaters filled with water. If they have them, volunteers should bring gloves, shovels, and rakes. Wheelbarrows are also needed. For more information or to volunteer, contact Dan MacLemore (rockdoc1949@gmail.com).

Urban Mission's Santa Store — Saturday, December 10 | Various Shifts

The Urban Mission needs more volunteers for their Santa Store this year! For more information or to volunteer, visit urbanmissionokc.org/santa-store.

384 Soon and Very Soon

1 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 2 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 3 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 4 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.

Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.

Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're going to see the King!

This spirited African American gospel hymn draws on John's vision of the new heaven and the new earth in Revelation 21:3-4, with its wonderful promise that God will wipe away the tears from all eyes, that death will be no longer, and that there will be no more mourning or pain.

Upcoming Events

Presbyterian Women

Cookies & Cocoa — Sunday, December 4 | After 11:00 a.m. Service

Cookies are one of our favorite holiday traditions! This year PW would like you to share your favorite cookies with our church family. PW is hosting a Christmas cookie competition. We are looking for 12 people to sign up. After 11:00 a.m. worship on December 4, our friends and family will gather in Watchorn Hall for cookies and cocoa. Everyone is invited to grab a cup of cocoa, sample the cookies, and vote for their favorite one. The winner will receive a \$50 Target gift card. **The sign-up closes November 28 or when we fill all 12 slots. Sign up by calling the church office (405-525-6584) or online at tinyurl.com/cookiesandcocoa22.**

PW's Cookies in a Jar Fundraiser

Are you looking for a fun holiday gift? Look no further than PW's Cookie in a Jar fundraiser. PW will start selling cookie mixes at the Cookies & Cocoa event for \$10 per jar. They will be available for purchase the following Sundays (until they sell out). Stop by and grab a gift while supporting Presbyterian Women and all the work that they do.

PW Sock Trees

Please join PW Council and Priscilla Circle by donating **new** socks for Sox of Love this Christmas season. Sox for Love, a nonprofit based in OKC, has a mission to “Warm Hearts, Feet First.” Beginning Sunday, November 27, PW Sock Trees will be available to hang your sock donations on in the Reception Room and at ADVENTure in Watchorn Hall. During December, the Sock Trees will be in the Reception Room and the Sanctuary narthex.

Help us keep our community members warm during the cold winter months. Sox of Love asks for new socks in the original packaging so that they know the size. Bring your donation on Sunday mornings or during business hours throughout the week. Let's fill the Sock Trees this year!

Priscilla Circle — Tuesday, December 13 | 10:00 a.m.

In the Reception Room.

Phoebe Circle — Tuesday, December 13 | 1:30 p.m.

At Mary Ann Doolen's House.

Abigail Circle — Tuesday, December 20 | 6:00 p.m.

Location TBD.

MORE EVENTS ON BACK

Children & Youth

Gingerbread Houses— Sunday, December 4 | After 11:00 a.m. Service

On Sunday December 4, after the 11:00 service, Sunday School will be crashing the PW Cookies & Cocoa Event. Besides enjoying the cookies and the hot chocolate, we will be making small gingerbread houses. **Please RSVP to Miss Cyndi (cyndi0507@gmail.com) ASAP, so she can prepare your gingerbread house for decoration.**

Tactus - Handel: *Messiah*— Sunday, December 18 | 4:00 p.m.

Get your tickets now! Experience the majesty of one of the greatest works of all time performed in the original baroque style by professional musicians. The joy of Christmas comes alive with exciting choruses like “For Unto Us a Child Is Born,” “Glory to God,” and “Hallelujah!” Expressive arias — such as “I Know that My Redeemer Liveth” and “He Shall Feed His Flock” — sung by our all-star team of voices with expert accompaniment by the Tactus Chamber Orchestra.

Buy tickets from Puffer after Thanksgiving or online at tinyurl.com/tactusmessiah22.

Service of Healing & Wholeness — Wednesday, December 21 | 12:00 p.m.

On December 21, we will have a Service of Healing & Wholeness at noon to be followed by a time of food and fellowship in the Reception Center. Holidays can be both joyous and difficult times. Come worship with us as we seek God’s healing in our lives and in the lives of our neighbors, local and globally.

Christmas Eve Services

Young & Young at Heart Service — Saturday, December 24 | 4:00 p.m.

Our family-friendly Young & Young at Heart Service will include the Treble Choir, handbells, and some of your favorite carols!

Service of Lessons & Carols — Saturday, December 24 | 10:30 p.m.

(Prelude begins at 10:00 p.m.) Our candlelight service of Lessons and Carols is modeled after the service made popular by King's College, Cambridge of nine lessons and carols.

The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short lessons from Genesis, the prophetic books, and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns, and choir anthems. We hope you can join us for this very special time of worship!