

Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Devoutly.
Leave Gracefully. Serve Christ Faithfully.

PRELUDE

Sleepers Awake, A Voice Is Calling
From Cantata No. 140

WACHET AUF
Philipp Nicolai
Johann Sebastian Bach

GREETINGS

INTROIT

Now Let Every Tongue Adore Thee

Johann Sebastian Bach

Now let every tongue adore Thee! Let men with angels sing before Thee!
Let harps and cymbals now unite! All Thy gates with pearl are glorious,
Where we partake through faith victorious, with angels round Thy throne of light.
No mortal eye hath seen, No mortal ear hath heard Such wonderous things,
Therefore with joy our song shall soar In praise to God for evermore.
Philipp Nicolai

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE/CALL TO WORSHIP

Jacob, Hailey, Poppy, Michael, and Artie Mikulecky

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

No. 153
HYFRYDOL

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles’ Creed

*THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX
Henry W. Greatorex

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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal King, during Advent we commemorate Your promise of peace, fulfilled in the Messiah’s coming. We need the peace of Advent. The holidays can demand so much from us when we succumb to the pressure that we put on ourselves. As in the story of Martha and Mary, we tend to become ‘anxious and troubled about many things’ when only ‘one thing is necessary.’ Forgive us for letting the materialistic expectations of the season rob us of what is most important, knowing You. Slow our hearts and minds. Redirect our attention to the peace You freely give. Help us relinquish our frenzy over preparations and choose ‘the good portion’, sitting at Jesus’ feet ready to listen. Thank You for Your forgiveness and the serenity that worshiping You brings. We pray in Jesus’ name, Amen!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 57:15-19
Leader: “Thus says the One who is high and lifted up,
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
‘I dwell in the high and holy place,
and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly,
and to revive the heart of the contrite.’”

People: “For I will not contend forever,
nor will I always be angry,” says the LORD.
“For the spirit would grow faint before me,
and the breath of life that I made.”
All: “Peace, Peace, to the far and to the near’ says the LORD, and
I will heal him.”

ANTHEM OF PRAISE

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain

Carolyn Jennings

Climb to the top of the highest mountain, Joyous tidings proclaim to the world,
Lift up your voice, Shout the good news: Behold, your Lord comes to you.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd, He will carry the lambs in his arms,
He will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you.
He who made the stars in the heaven, He who fashioned the earth and the sea,
From time eternal He was God, the Alpha and Omega, He. Behold, your Lord!
He will come in power and glory, He will rule with mercy and truth,
Hope of the nations, Light of the world, Light of all. He will love the little children.
He will hold them in his arms. Love and trust him as a child, your Lord.
Love him as a child.
Isaiah 40

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

*✠*Children in 3K-5K are invited to go with a worship caregiver to attend *Children’s Church*.
If this is your child’s first visit, we encourage you to walk with them. Parents, pick up your children at Room 100 at the end of the service.

Kelly Hickey

PRAYER FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

Elder Rob Hall

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory
Christus Paradox

PICARDY
French carol
arr. Alfred V. Fedak

You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd. You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
You, peacemaker and sword-bringer of the way You took and gave.
You the everlasting instant; You, whom we both scorn and crave.
Clothed in light upon the mountain, stripped of might upon the cross, shining in
eternal glory, beggar’d by a soldier’s toss, You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are both gift and cost. You, who walk each day beside us, sit in power at
God’s side. You, who preach a way that’s narrow, have a love that reaches wide.
You, the everlasting instant; You, who are our pilgrim guide.
Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ!
Worthy your defeat and victory, Worthy still your peace and strife.
You, the everlasting instant; You, who are our death and life.
You, the everlasting instant; You, who are our death and our life. Alleluia.
Sylvia Dunstan

SERMON

The True Bread
John 6:25-35
(Pew Bible page 1056)

Dr. Darryl Evans

“Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you the truth,
it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but
it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.’”
– John 6:32

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

The Lord’s Prayer

No. 740
Albert Hay Malotte

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Prepare the Royal Highway

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN
Swedish folk tune
setting by Ferguson

Prepare the royal highway; The King of kings is near!
Let every hill and valley A level road appear! Then greet the King of glory,
Foretold in sacred story: Hosanna to the Lord, For He fulfills God’s Word!
Frans Mikael Franzen

*POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN
Swedish folk tune
setting by Manz

This morning’s worship is led by
Dr. Darryl Evans, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff
Dr. Bill Cain, Assistant Pastor
Mr. Rob Hall, Elder
Kelly Hickey, Director of Children’s Ministry
Ann Rodgers Chandler, Organist and Director of Music
Chancel Choir
Cailin Foxworth, soprano
Jennifer Foxworth, violin
Betsy Johnson, flute and percussion

*Congregation is invited to stand if able.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome guests! If you’re visiting us for the first time this morning, we would like to give you a small gift. As you leave the sanctuary, deacons (with name tags on) will be near the doors and have a gift bag ready for you. We are glad you’re with us today.

The roses on the chancel this morning are in honor of Meredith Faye Pennstrom, born November 28, 2022, daughter of John and Ashton Pennstrom and Eloise Pittman, born December 1, 2022, daughter of J.B. and Allyson Pittman.

2022 Advent Devotional: Dr. Darryl Evans’ Advent devotional booklet, “Longing for God,” was mailed out last month to our members. There will be additional printed copies in the church office if you would like more than one.

Living Nativity Dress Rehearsal: The Angel Choir and cast will meet today from 3:00 – 4:00 pm for a mandatory dress rehearsal. The Angel Choir will begin in the Fellowship Hall while the cast begins in the CLC. Since this is our last rehearsal before our performances on Tuesday, December 6 and Wednesday, December 7, please make every effort to attend today. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Kelly Hickey or Ashley Hylton.

Children’s Church

Beginning Sunday, December 18, Children’s Church will meet in the Children’s Chapel for *Children in Worship*. This amazing program is for children ages 3K-5K. It is designed to teach children about worship and allow children to experience Bible stories while learning in their own special worship center. The Children will gather every Sunday after the Message for Young Disciples in the Children’s Chapel, which is close to the Lawson-Rain Chapel. Should you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Kelly Hickey.

As we begin a time of listening to the Holy Spirit together — please pray about, talk over with a friend, and think about these three questions: (1) when have you experienced the most **joy** at FPC? (2) When are we at our **best**? The most fruitful? What do we do well? (3) Where should we be in **3 years**? So that if we fell asleep and woke up three years later, what would we like to see different at FPC? The session would like to know your thoughts as we discern God’s voice together. In addition to our face-to-face conversations, you are welcome to leave a note in a suggestion box in the Narthex or Welcome Center.

Keenagers: The Christmas luncheon will be held at noon Tuesday, December 6, in the Jenkins Fellowship Hall. Meal will be glazed ham, pineapple casserole, copper pennies, green beans with potatoes, rolls and dessert, prepared by Mike Morgan. Cost is \$6. Program will be *A Country Christmas* presented by the staff. Anyone 55 or older is invited to attend. Come out for good food and a good time.

Save the Date for Caroling: Please join First Presbyterian Church for caroling on Wednesday night, December 21. More information to come.

Cover Art: Thank you to Dr. Patricia Fast for the bulletin cover art this year for Advent.



As we prepare to decorate our Sanctuary for Advent Season, consider sponsoring our Christmas Greenery to honor loved ones or in memory of loved ones. The form is needed so acknowledgement can be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

In honor / memory of: _____

Given by: _____

The cost is \$12 per designated name or couple and should accompany your order.

Amount included: \$_____ **Return form to the church office by Friday, Dec. 16.**

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 3:00 PM Dress Rehearsal for Living Nativity
- 4:30 PM WiM Sunday Afternoon
- 5:00 PM Youth: Small Groups
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC
- 6:30 PM Boy Scouts: Scouts Room
- 6:30 PM GriefShare: Pilgrim
- 6:45 PM Girls Basketball Practice: CLC
- 7:00 PM Men’s Bible Study: Room 203

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

- 7:00 AM Men’s Prayer Breakfast
- 9:30 AM WiM Coordinating Team: LR
- 10:45 AM CDC Music: JFH
- 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
- 12:00 PM Keenagers: JFH
- 5:00 PM 8U Team A Basketball Practice: CLC
- 6:00 PM 8U Team B Basketball Practice: CLC
- 6:30 PM Living Nativity
- 7:00 PM 10U Basketball Practice: CLC

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 5:00 PM WiM Bible Moderators: Women’s Only
- 6:30 PM Living Nativity
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

- 7:00 AM Men’s Bible Study: Room 202
- 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops
- 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202
- 6:00 PM 14U Basketball Practice: CLC
- 6:30 PM CDC Christmas Program

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 6:00 AM Parking Lot Mission: Hope Health Parking Lot
- 9:00 AM WiM Bread & Fish: Room 100

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship: Lessons and Carols
- 5:00 PM Youth: Small Groups
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC

11 a.m.

December 4, 2022



First Presbyterian
FLORENCE SOUTH CAROLINA

