

**Service for the Lord's Day**  
Third Sunday of Advent, Confirmation Sunday  
December 11, 2022  
10:30 a.m.



**First Presbyterian Church**  
Asheboro, North Carolina

# Preparation for Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

L: The Lord be with you.

P: **And also with you.**

## The Gathering of God's People

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

*Light one candle for joy,  
One bright candle for joy.  
He brings joy to ev'ry heart.  
He comes. He comes.*

*Light one candle for joy,  
One bright candle for joy.  
He brings joy to ev'ry heart.  
He comes.*

*Light One Candle*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*The Pugh Family*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

SONG OF PRAISE

*O Come O come Emanuel*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our path. Forgive our sin and renew us in hope, peace and joy that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love, as Lord of lords and King of kings.**

SILENT CONFESSION

L: Lord, in your mercy.

P: **Hear our prayer.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE OF PRAISE #82

*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.*

*Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus (vs 1)  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

# Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism and Profession of Faith

PRESENTATION OF CONFIRMANDS

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Charlotte Smith*

AFFIRMATION OF THE CONGREGATION

BLESSING

**O Lord, uphold Helen, Jeremiah, Wes and Charlotte by your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the trust in the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF WELCOME

SPECIAL MUSIC

*In The Bleak Midwinter*  
Guest Soloist: Samantha Saake

Gustav Holst

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY #606

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 2: 8-10

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 15: 8-12

L: The word of the Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Abide With Me”

The Reverend Brian K. Rummage

## Responding to the Word

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from *The Study Catechism*

**I am a child of God. I belong to God, who loved me even before creation of all that is. Even though all of us have turned away from God and fallen into sin, God never stops loving us. In the fullness of time, God sent Jesus to be our Messiah—the anointed one who rescues us from sin and death. Jesus called disciples to follow him. He fed the hungry, healed the sick, blessed children, befriended outcasts, required people to repent, and forgave their sins. He taught people not to fear but to trust always in God. He preached the good news of God’s love and gave everyone hope for new life. Amen.**

## Being Sent Into the World

HYMN #611

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

## Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

**We welcome you to worship this morning.** If you are visiting with us, we hope you find our congregation to be a place of welcome and spiritual nurture. Please take a Visitor Gift Bag with a devotional book and other gifts and information about FPC, as our way of thanking you for worshiping with us. Visitor Gift Bags can be found just outside the center Sanctuary door in the Narthex or in the Hospitality Center.

**Children’s Worship and Nursery Ministries:** Our infant nursery is located in room #114 on our Children’s Ministry hallway immediately behind the sanctuary. If you are unfamiliar with our facilities, an usher will happily guide you.

Worship is the heart of church life and it is important that our children feel welcomed and are strengthened for their own walk of faith. At the appropriate time in the service, children are invited to come to the front of the church for our children’s message time with Pastor Brian. Afterwards children are dismissed to either return to sit with their parents or leave with our Children’s Ministry Director Carla Lovell.

For those who choose to participate in in our children’s worship experience, younger children (preschool-1st grade) will stay with Ms. Carla in Room 110. Older elementary age children (2nd-5th grade) will go to room 200. Our teachers will use this time to explore the different aspects of worship in a fun and engaging way.

Again, children are always welcome to stay for the entire “big church” service. As they grow and mature, we encourage them to be part of the full worshipping community.

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In consideration of others, please silence or turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices.

Protective face masks are available in the Narthex.

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