

Dear All,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ!

This coming Sunday, November 27, is the first Sunday of Advent. It's time to dive back into our Adventen prophet Isaiah to learn of the hopes and visions of a people longing for the transformation that would come through a messiah. It's time to turn to the gospels to learn of the hopes and visions of a young woman longing for the transformation that would come through the messiah she carried within her. It's time to turn to our own communities and to our own interior selves to reflect upon our need for the transformation that our messiah—prophesied in the scriptures and born to Mary—offers even to this day! So, let's pull out our candles and create sacred spaces in our homes and in our sanctuary to mark with intention the hope, peace, joy, and love of this season so pregnant with longing and expectation! Please note that as part of our Adventen journey we will have an ADVENTure each Sunday in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship, during which we will take a deeper look at the reason for the season and engage in some meaningful spiritual practices. Join us in worship and join us afterwards!



I would like to take the opportunity to share some great news in this season of Hope. Recently the First Presbyterian Church of Hammond blessed us with a donation of \$20,000! These funds will help to support the ministries of First Presbyterian Church of Highland as we strive forward in our mission to be the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus Christ. The Body of Christ is made up of many members, and we are grateful to be part of this body with our siblings in Hammond!

We will continue our practice of hybrid worship this Sunday. This means that you are welcome to join us in person and that you are welcome to join us from home, whatever works best for you. If you are able to access technology for virtual worship, we will be live streaming the service via Youtube and Facebook. For Youtube Live, please go to our channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPh2zjtSFxk2uo9_YWEusCQ/, subscribe to it, and enable notifications. The live video should be up and running just before 10:30 AM Central.

For Facebook Live, please go to our page

here: <https://www.facebook.com/firstpchighland/> around 10:30 AM Central. We will also post a recording of the service later in the day.

As always, I have included all of Sunday's worship materials, including the bulletin, readings, hymns, sermon, and creative activities for disciples of all ages.

I leave you with these words from *Matthew*:

*He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!
In Christ and with Love,*

Rev. Tyler Orem