

Welcome!

We are so thankful that you've joined us for worship today! This bulletin is also available on our website, fpccorinth.org. The following services are provided to make your worship with us as meaningful and comfortable as possible:

♦ **A Nursery is provided for infants and toddlers through age 3**, during Sunday School and the Worship Service. The nursery and toddler classrooms are located in the Education Wing by the playground, in rooms 1-4.

♦ **Children's Church, for ages 4 years - 5th grade**, is being held in the Fellowship Hall, located on the northeast corner of the campus. ♦ A wheelchair (access next to east entrance) and an oxygen tank are located in the large closet just off the narthex entrance and are available for anyone who has a need. Ushers will assist you.

A welcome/prayer card is available in each pew. We welcome your prayer requests, as these are brought before our Lord during our prayer time each Sunday, after the Worship Service, in our Chapel. You may use the card to tell us about yourself, and to invite our Pastor, Waring Porter, to pray for you, call you, pay you a visit, or all of the above!

We invite you to prayerfully consider making FPC your church home. First Presbyterian Church is an Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

The Church Calendar

December 1	First Sunday of Advent
December 1	Session Meeting 5 p.m.
December 4	YouthHouse Christmas Party
December 8	Board of Deacons Meeting 8 a.m.
December 8	Family Gingerbread House Party 4 p.m.
December 11	Last YouthHouse Wednesday & Last KidsQuest of the Year
December 12	The Lighthouse Toy Store
December 19-Jan 3	Alcorn Co. Christmas Break
December 22	YouthHouse Bake Sale 9:30 a.m. - No Sunday School
December 22	Sanctuary Choir Christmas Cantata
December 23-27	Church Office Closed
December 23-Jan 6	Corinth Schools Christmas Break
December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Service 4:30 p.m.
December 25	Christmas Day
January 1	New Year's Day - Church Office Closed

Those Who Serve Today

Assisting Elder:	Orma Smith
Acolytes:	Ryder Wesson & Sellers Brumfield
Greeter:	Cindy Blair & Gregg Parker
Ushers:	Alberto Albarracin, Scott Sawyer, Colby Carmichael, Brett Butler, Andrew LeGoff
Circle of Prayer:	Malechi Doren, Jenny Biggers & Janet Orman
Nursery/Toddler Rooms:	Laura Kate Carmichael, Tara Mathis & Leslie Fisher
Tech Crew:	Russell Smith & Landon Thomas

The Flowers

The beautiful flowers adorning the Sanctuary today are given by Ryan and Ellen Wesson.

The FPC Week

Sunday	9:00 A.M. Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:45 A.M. Morning Worship
Monday	7:00 A.M. 11th gr girls Bible study @ downstairs YH
M-W-F	9:00 A.M. Ladies Exercise Class - Fellowship Hall
Tues/Thur.	9:00 A.M.-2:30 P.M. FPC Day School
Tuesday	7:00 A.M. 5th/6th gr boys & girls Bible study @ KH 7:00 A.M. 8th gr boys Bible study @ Conference Room 7:00 A.M. 9th gr girls Bible study @ Parlor 7:00 A.M. 9th gr boys Bible study @ Gregg's Office 7:00 A.M. 12th gr boys Bible study @ YH 2:00 P.M. Knit for Kids @ Room 6 Education
Wednesday	5:30 A.M. Men's Prayer & Bible Study @ YH 7:00 A.M. 7th gr boys Bible study @ downstairs YH 7:00 A.M. 12th gr girls Bible study @ YH office 3:15-6:00 P.M. KidsQuest (Pre-K thru 6th gr) 3:30-4:30 P.M. Puppet Ministry Practice Kid's Library 5:30 P.M. Handbell Choir Practice 5:30-6:30 P.M. Jr. High Gathering @ YH 6:30-8:00 P.M. Sr. High Gathering @ YH 7:00 P.M. Choir Practice
Thursday	7:00 A.M. 10th gr girls Bible study @ downstairs YH 7:00 A.M. 10th gr boys Bible study @ Gregg's office 8:00 A.M. Weekly Gathering for Prayer - Sanctuary
Friday	7:00 A.M. 7th gr girls Bible study @ downstairs YH 7:00 A.M. 11th gr boys Bible study @ YH office

- ♦ 8th gr girls Bible study - the girls will be contacted for meeting day and time
- ♦ The church office is closed on Fridays

FPC Staff

Pastor	Rev. Waring Porter - wporter@fpccorinth.org
Director of Discipleship	Gregg Parker - gparker@fpccorinth.org
Director of Intergenerational Ministries	Brett Grantham - brettgranthamfpc@gmail.com
Day School Director	Phyllis Sellers - psellersfpc@gmail.com
Student Ministry Coor.	Jennifer Shipp - jdeckshipp@yahoo.com
Choir Director	Jan Pike - janice.pike85@yahoo.com
Accompanist	Malechi Doren - malechi@live.com
Secretary	Lisa Kramer - lisakramer@fpccorinth.org
Bookkeeper	Sammy Allred - sallred@fpccorinth.org



LITURGY FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD
December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent

The Advent Wreath

Advent is (roughly) Latin for “coming” and is the season of the Liturgical Year that begins four Sundays before Christmas. Advent celebrates the mystery of God’s incarnation in the person of Jesus Christ when, in the words of John’s Gospel “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14) Advent is a season of preparation, waiting and anticipation, in which we prepare our hearts for the coming of God to us, not only in his Nativity, but also in his Second Advent. A deliberate tension must be built into our practice of the Advent season. Christ has come but not all things have reached completion. While we remember Israel’s waiting and hoping, we also give thanks for Christ’s birth. The Scriptures tell us that Christ will return to create a new heaven and earth and to finish God’s work of redeeming creation. For this reason, Advent began as a penitential season, a time for discipline and intentional repentance in the confident expectation and hope of Christ’s coming again. In the gospel Jesus is called “the Light of the World” and thus we light a new candle on the Advent Wreath each Sunday in commemoration of the light of Christ. Each week there will be a scripture passage we will read and meditate upon in order to remind us of the fulfillment of God’s long awaited promise to send a Redeemer to free us from our sins and save us.

PRAISE THE GOD OF GLORY

The Piano Prelude Jill Taylor

Call to Meditation: Isaiah 9:2

*“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.”*

The Prelude Malechi Doren

The Lighting of the Advent Candle: Andy, Lauren, Martha, Betsy and John Butler
Isaiah 42:1-7

The Choral Introit: “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

(*please stand)

***Call to Worship:** based on Psalm 130:5-7

Leader: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his Word I hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.

Congregation: *There is no darkness with you, O Lord.*

Leader: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plenteous redemption.

Congregation: *There is no darkness with you, O Lord.*

Leader: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: *There is no darkness with you, O Lord.*

***The Hymn of Praise:** “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus” No. 124

***Responsive Reading:** taken from Isaiah 65

Leader: For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth,

All: *and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind.*

Leader: But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create;

All: *for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness.*

Leader: I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people;

All: *no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.*

Leader: No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days,

All: *or an old man who does not fill out his days,*

Leader: the wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent’s food.

All: *They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain,” says the Lord.*

***Congregational Response:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (vv.1,2) No. 123

***Profession of Faith:** The Apostles’ Creed (may be found on the inside cover of the hymnal)

***Prayer of Invocation & The Lord’s Prayer:** (may be found on the inside cover of the hymnal)

PRAISE THE GOD OF GRACE

Corporate Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his arrival. (excerpted from The Worship Sourcebook)

Silent Confession

Assurance of Divine Pardon: Isaiah 40:1-2

“Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Your sins are pardoned.

Your penalty is paid.”

***Gloria Patri:**

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.

Greetings & Announcements

The Giving Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Anthem: “Will We Know Him?”

Are we ready for the Babe of Bethlehem to be born in a lowly stall?

Are we ready to greet the tiny little king who will come to save us all?

Are we ready for the star of Bethlehem to appear in the winter sky?

Are we ready to follow anywhere it leads, and let its light fill all our lives?

Prepare ye the way for the King of Glory,

Once again proclaim the wondrous story.

God will send His own true Son,

But will we know Him when He comes?

Are we ready for the song of Bethlehem to declare our Savior’s birth?

Are we ready to join the angels as they sing, and spread their news to all on earth?

Prepare ye the way for the King of Glory,

Once again proclaim the wondrous story.

God will send His own true Son,

But will we know Him when He comes?

Are we ready for the Babe of Bethlehem, God’s true and promised Son?

Are ready to greet the tiny little King and will we know Him when He comes?

Will we know Him when He comes?

- Don Besig & Nancy Price

***The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAISE THE GOD OF TRUTH

Scripture Reading: John 1:1-5; Matthew 2:1-9

Scripture Response: Psalm 119:12,16

Leader: This is the Word of God

All: “Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your Word.”

Sermon: “CHRIST IS ... The Light”

***Hymn of Commitment:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (vv. 3,4) No. 123

***Benediction**

***The Choral Benediction:** “Amen, Joy to the World, Amen”

***Postlude**

Malechi Doren

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# Announcements

**PLEASE LET US KNOW YOU’VE JOINED US** today by signing the Attendance Pad located in each pew. A “Connect Card” is available on the back of each pew if you have a prayer request, need to speak with our pastor, or need to change your contact information. Please place the card in the offering plate. *If you’d like to receive our weekly email, please put your email address on a “Connect Card”, and place in the offering plate.*

**CHILDREN’S CHURCH** is being held in the Fellowship Hall for children ages 4 years - 5th grade. The Fellowship Hall is located in the back of the church campus on the northeast corner. Nursery and toddler rooms for infants - 3 years are located in the Education Wing. The entrance is behind the playground on the west side of the church campus.

**SESSION MEETING TODAY AT 5 P.M.**

**WE WILL HAVE A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** next Sunday, December 8, after the Worship Service, to elect church officers. Each member was emailed a letter last week listing those nominated for the positions of Elder and Deacon. Copies of this letter are available at each entrance.

**REMINDER!** Please turn in your Every Member Canvass booklet and pledge card. You may place them in the offering plate or bring to the church office. Additional booklets are available at each entrance.

**IT’S ALMOST TIME TO BUILD A GINGERBREAD HOUSE!!!** Our annual Family Gingerbread House Decorating Party will be Sunday, December 8th, 4-6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Parents, grandparents and of course the kiddos are all invited. Everything will be provided, as well as refreshments. [Please use the insert to sign up your family.](#)

**OUR STUDENT MINISTRY WILL HAVE A BAKED GOODS AUCTION,** to benefit the Lighthouse Toy Store, during the Sunday School hour, Sunday, December 22. We need lots of baked goods! [Please sign-up today and let us know you’ll bring a baked good for a good cause.](#) Don’t worry, we will send you a reminder!

**POINSETTIA! YES, IT’S THAT TIME!** We will be ordering ONLY 50 poinsettia this year to decorate the front of the sanctuary for our December 22 and Christmas Eve Services. They will be \$20 each. You may take them home after the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. [Please use the insert to order and dedicate.](#)

**OUR STUDENT MINISTRY IS IN DIRE NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:**

1.) We need babysitters for our Leaders (at their home). If we could have at least five volunteers for each shift, we would have an easy rotation.

Wednesdays 5:15 p.m.- 6:40 p.m. or 6:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

2.) We also need drivers willing to pick up and/or take home students, that do not have a way to and/or from the YouthHouse, on Wednesday evenings.

Please remember this is a COMMUNITY STUDENT MINISTRY, not just an FPC ministry. We must be disciples to make disciples. Please call or text Jennifer Shipp if you are able to help, 601-209-5072.

sign-ups