

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We strive to be a loving family of faith nurturing the spiritual growth of one another as we serve, worship, and reach out in celebration of Christ's Love.

(A) Ordinary 33

November 19, 2023

PRELUDE

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sheila Markley

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (please remain seated)

Leader: Our help is in the name of God who made heaven and earth.

People: God is at work in our lives. We present ourselves to God to discern what is the will of God.

Leader: Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

People: We seek what is good and acceptable in God's sight.

All: Our help is in the name of God who made heaven and earth.

***HYMN OF PRAISE #367**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come!
(Verses 1, 2, & 4)

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Forgiving God, we confess that we are conformed to this world. We conform to this world's frantic pace, too hectic to notice all the blessings you provide. We conform to this world's reckless waste, exploiting what you entrust to our care. We conform to this world's shallow values, oblivious to the giftedness of people different from us. We conform to this world's impatient attitudes, preferring the latest instead of the lasting. Forgive our conformity and transform us, O God. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS** (Hymn #581) *Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

***THE PEACE**

Leader: As those who have been forgiven, let us forgive our brothers and sisters. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

(Please greet one another and exchange signs of peace and reconciliation)

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Eternal God, all week long we are reminded that we are creatures of time and space, getting and spending, living our days as part of a material universe. We gather now to be reminded that we are not only creatures of matter, but Children of the Spirit, created to live and move and have our being in you. Remind us of our true nature. Teach us what is truly good and lasting. Speak to us your word of hope and challenge, that we may respond with our whole Being, through the life of this, your church. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Thessalonians 5:1-11

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

CHORAL ANTHEM

Down in the River to Pray...by Mennicke

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Christian Education Committee

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 25:14-30

SERMON

“Ready or Not”

Louise Jahnke

RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***HYMN #321**

The Church’s One Foundation

(Verses 1 & 4)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Offering plates will be passed to persons seated in pews. Gifts/pledges may also be sent to First Presbyterian Church by mail or through the “Giving” link on our website: <https://www.fpcjc.com/giving>

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY** (Offertory Response, Hymn #606)

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

GO IN GOD’S NAME

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT #336** *We Gather Together* (Verses 1 & 3)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #748**

**Go with us, Lord and guide the way
Through this and every coming day,
That in Your Spirit strong and true
Our lives may be our gift to You.**

POSTLUDE

***People stand as they are able.**

Notice of Filming: Worship services are filmed and recorded to be included on our Church website, Facebook, YouTube, etc. While most footage will feature worship leaders, video of the congregation may also appear. Children during children’s sermons may be seen. If you have concerns, please contact the church office.



- **Our members and friends who are living in nursing home, assisted living or are partially or fully "home-bound"**
- **Roger Lawson**
- **Tim Sullivan (Danette Story's brother) and all those battling cancer**
- **Anessa Locke and family**
- **The family and friends of Doris McClaird-Nelson**

We encourage you to pray for these friends – send them a note, call or visit them. Addresses and phone numbers can be obtained from the church office. Send your prayer requests, concerns and updates to office.fpcjc@gmail.com

Thanks to those who have assisted in this morning's worship:

Pastor: Position Vacant

Worship Leader: Gary Miles

Chancel Choir Director: Joe Markley

Music Coordinator and Handbell Director: Sheila Markley

Organist: Matthew Pickering

Video Preparer/Operator/Sound: Colleen Smith

Key Deacon for Nov. transportation: Lisa Nabus (785-761-4895)

Elder on call for the week of Nov. 19th: Jenna Langvardt (785-761-5815)

Head Usher for November 19th: Sheila Markley

Acolytes for November 19th: Mallory and Rory King

Children are welcome in worship. We welcome all children and youth to stay during the worship service and experience God. If you need your young child to go to the nursery, our caretakers are ready to receive them.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are provided by Bob & Pam Haynes to the glory of God and in memory of Joseph, Robert and Donna Mae Haynes.

We want to extend a warm welcome to Louise Jahnke who is our Pulpit Supply for this week. She has stood at our pulpit several times about 5-8 years ago. She taught at Junction City High School, retiring 8 years ago. She is an Authorized Lay Pastor and now is working in several churches that do not have a minister as well as those whose minister has a commitment elsewhere. Her days are spent volunteering, reading, and raising both vegetable and flower gardens.

Hanging of the Greens. We need volunteers to stay following worship **today** to decorate the church for the holidays. Pizza and nursery care will be available.

The Church will be closed on Thursday, November 23rd and Friday, November 24th in observance of Thanksgiving. We will re-open at 9:00 am on Monday, November 27th.

Christmas is coming! Poinsettias are available for purchase for \$10 a plant. Forms can be found in the bulletin and in the narthex on the table.

Junction City Community Blood Drive:

Monday Nov. 20, 11:30am-6:00pm or Tues. Nov. 21, 8:00am-1:00pm at the Municipal Building. Walk-ins welcome. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and schedule an appointment.

If you have information you would like in the **bulletin**, please let the church office know by **noon on Wednesday** for that week. You may call 238-1191 or email your info to office.fpcjc@gmail.com

If you have anything you would like to put into the **December** newsletter, please email the information to the church office no later than **November 23rd, 2023**. Our email address is office.fpcjc@gmail.com.

When inclement weather is forecast there are three ways you can find out if the church worship service has been cancelled: WIBW (website or T.V.), our First Presbyterian Church-Junction City Facebook page, and-if we have your email address-email from the church.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Monday

11:00 am Doris MacLaird-Nelson Funeral

Tuesday

7:00 pm Session

Wednesday

8:00 pm AA Meeting

Thursday

All Day Church Closed for Thanksgiving

Friday

All Day Church Closed for Thanksgiving

Sunday

8:30 am Glory Ringers Rehearsal

9:30 am Sunday School (adults)

10:45 am Worship, childcare available

Coffee Fellowship



Poinsettias

The church office will begin taking orders for Poinsettias to be used in the sanctuary during the Christmas season.

Cost is \$10.00 each (which includes tax).

If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia, please complete the form below and return it to the church office by Monday, **December 4th**. Checks should be made out to: First Presbyterian Church and noted "Poinsettias"

Poinsettias will be in the sanctuary on Sunday December 17th for the 10:45 service, and for both of the Christmas Eve service, Sunday, December 24th.

Memorials and other expressions will be printed in the bulletin on Sunday, December 17th.

Please pick up your Poinsettia following the **evening** worship service Christmas Eve.

Any Poinsettias not picked up will be distributed as the church deems best.

Name: _____

Number of Poinsettia(s) ordering: _____

Bulletin Inscription: (name(s) Given in memory of or in honor of)

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____



NEW NEWS ABOUT OUR YOUTH!!

Upcoming Dates for Parents:

- **Wednesday, November 22nd** - NO JAM or MS/HS Youth Group
- **Sunday, November 26th** - NO Sunday School
- **Sunday, December 3rd** - PJ & Movie Day (all ages)
- **Sunday, December 10th** - During Sunday School, we will practice candle lighting for Christmas Eve Service with Margaret (K-5)
- **Sunday, December 17th** - Christmas Pageant during worship service. Practice candle lighting for Christmas Eve Service with Margaret *after* worship service (K-5)
- **Wednesday, December 20th** - Christmas Caroling & Hot Cocoa (JAM & MS/HS)
- **Sunday, December 24th** - NO Sunday School
- **Wednesday, December 27th** - NO JAM or MS/HS Youth Group
- **Sunday, December 31st** - NO Sunday School
- **Wednesday, January 3rd** - No JAM or MS/HS Youth Group



Save the Date!

Fruit of the Spirit VBS
July 29 - August 1, 2024

***WE ARE CURRENTLY
 LOOKING FOR YOUTH
 VOLUNTEERS**



Join us to celebrate

CHRISTMAS

With a Christmas Cookie Exchange! Bring 3 dozen of your favorite homemade goodies to the parlor before church. After Church, there will be a container for you to fill with 3 dozen assorted goodies to enjoy this holiday season!

17 December

