

OFFERTORY

*Love Came Down at Christmas...*by Benton Price

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

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT #118**

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (Verses 1, 3, & 5)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #88 (last line of verse 7)**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

POSTLUDE

*Gloria in Excelsis Deo...*by Roger C. Wilson

***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.

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.

(B) Advent 4

December 24, 2023

Our Favorite Hymn(s)-Sing Sunday

PRELUDE

*The Joy of Christmas...*by Lani Smith

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENT

Sheila Markley

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Bill & Carol Powers

***HYMN OF PRAISE #143**

Angels, From the Realms of Glory (Verses 1-2 & 4)

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Sometimes, O God, we are no better than Joseph. Sometimes we want to dismiss you quietly, embarrassed by our own trust in you. Forgive us those times when we have denied you, when we have looked the other way in the face of another's need for us. Emmanuel, God with us, forgive us for not recognizing the signs of You among us. Forgive us our unfaithfulness, for the times it was easier to do something other than follow you. Increase our love for one another and our love for you.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

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

People: In the grace and love of God, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS** *Gloria* (#113 refrain)
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

***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 of power and grace, who comes to us in surprising ways—in angel appearances, in defeat of enemies, and in resurrection from the dead—show us the face of Immanuel in our time. Bring us from fear to awe, we pray; in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

THE WORD IN MUSIC – OUR FAVORITE HYMNS Joe & Sheila Markley

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light:
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.**

**for a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.**

**He will establish and uphold it with justice and with
righteousness**

from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: For all people in their daily life and work;

**People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those
who are alone.**

Leader: For this community, the nation, and world;

People: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader: For the just and proper use of your creation;

**People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and
oppression.**

Leader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**People: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and
the needy.**

Leader: For the peace and unity of this church

**People: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the
Truth.**

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>



- **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**

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: Rick Munson

Chancel Choir Director: Joe Markley

Music Coordinator and Handbell Director: Sheila Markley

Organist: Rhoda Frasier

Video Preparer/Operator/Sound: Colleen Smith

Key Deacon for December transportation: Janet Parrish (785-226-0239)

Elder on call for the week of December 24th: Jim Ray (785-307-5188)

Head Usher for December 24th: Margaret Kilpatrick

Acolytes this week are: McKinleigh Blaisdell and Delilah Standlee

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 Church Office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, December 25th. Merry Christmas Everyone!

If your term of service as an Elder or Deacon is ending, please turn your notebooks in to your chairperson or the Church Office. Thank You.

Christmas Eve Service will start at **5:00 pm** with a pre-service Christmas Recital, followed by service at **5:30 pm**. We encourage parents and grandparents to bring children of all ages to this worship service.

Reminder-there will be no coffee fellowship after service today.

Parents - Just a reminder that there is no JAM, MS/HS Youth Group, or Youth Sunday School from December 25th-January 6th. Sunday School will resume on January 7th. JAM and MS/HS Youth Group will resume on January 10th.

Per Capita for 2024 will be \$37.00.

If you have contributions to the church that you would like deposited for 2023, please have them to the church by Thursday, December 28, 2023.

Can you host Cookie Fellowship? Dates are open beginning with January 7th. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board across from the kitchenette. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Annette Ray at 785-210-4490 or Jenna Langvardt at 785-761-5815.

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

Church services are streamed at: <https://www.fpcjc.com>. You will also find links to our Facebook page and YouTube on this webpage. The worship bulletin can be found at <https://www.fpcjc.com/publications>.

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

All Day Church Closed for Christmas Day

Wednesday

8:00 pm AA Meeting

Saturday

8:35 am Men's Breakfast

Sunday

8:30 am Glory Ringers Rehearsal
9:30 am Sunday School (adults only)
10:45 am Worship, childcare available
After Service Coffee Fellowship



2023 Christmas Poinsettias

Pearl Barnicle

In Memory of Bill Barnicle
In Memory of Nina Gill
In Memory of Don Helleman
In Memory of Madge Kennedy
In Memory of Irene Jeffries
In Memory of Margaret Shane

Barbara Craft

In Honor of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior

Hugh & Elaine Dill

In Memory of J. Mark & Flo Dill
In Memory of Wm. M & Nadine Edie

Harold & Susan Erichsen

In Memory of Albert & Ruth Erichsen
In Memory of Carl Ehlers

Bob & Rhoda Frasier

In Honor and Memory of our loved ones

Lonny & Melissa Goble

In Memory of Chris Reeser
In Memory of Robert (Bobby) Taylor

Bob & Pam Haynes

In Memory of Joseph Haynes
In Memory of Robert & Donna Mae Haynes

Clyde & Barb Hill

In Memory of our moms, Katherine Cleveland and Jennie Hill Thornton

Ann Langvardt

In Memory of Howard Langvardt
In Honor of Vern & Marie Langvardt and Lawrence & Hazel Kamm

Mitch & Jenna Langvardt

In Memory of Howard Langvardt
In Memory of our loving grandparents and family members who have passed
In Honor of our grandchildren

Robert & Chris Munson

In Memory of Chuck Munson
In Memory of Ed J. Rolfs
In Memory of Ralph & Bernice Munson
In Memory of Vaudene Field
In Memory of Rev. Ted Lester

Jorja L. Poppe

In Memory of Clint Poppe

Nancy Stemhagen

In Memory of my parents Harvey & Opal Wenger
In Memory of my husband Robert Stemhagen and my son Robert Heaney

Scott & Alice Stuckey

In Memory of Leroy & Pat Stuckey
In Memory of John & Margaret Wheat