

***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#119**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***The Congregational Response #88** (verse 7)

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

POSTLUDE

The Snow Lay on the Ground...by James Denton

***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 2

December 10, 2023

PRELUDE

Christmas Gratitude...by Alex Guebert

Glory Ringers

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chris Heldstab

CHORAL INTROIT

O Come, O Come Emanuel

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Oentrich Family-Brad, Heather, Ava, Eliot & Grady

***HYMN OF PRAISE #116** *The Snow Lay on the Ground* (Verses 1-2)

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy One, Christ is coming; your kingdom is drawing near. We cannot remain unchanged. As we prepare the way for the Prince of Peace, help us abandon wayward wanderings and return to faithful paths. We have neglected to plead the case of the poor, and ignored the needs of the afflicted. We have denied our part in systems that oppress, and turned a blind eye toward injustice.

Renew our minds and transform our hearts, that our lives might bear the fruit of compassion and care. Baptize us with your Spirit, and claim us again for your holy work, until you come in glory. (silent prayers of confession)

***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* Hymn No. 113 (refrain)

**Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

***THE PEACE**

Leader: 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

O Root of Jesse, O Peace, stir up your power within us, that in this time we may await with abundant expectation the fulfillment of your eternal presence in creation, for you live and reign among us, Maker, Savior, and Giver of Life, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

The Little Drummer Boy . . . arr. Simeone

A CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN Christian Education Committee

THE SERMON TEXT

Mark 1:1-8

SERMON “Prepare the Way of the Lord”

Elder, Gary Miles

RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***HYMN #108** *Of the Father’s Love Begotten* (Verses 1 & 5)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**In Christ we are given a glimpse of the new creation
God has already begun and will surely finish.**

We do not know when the final day will come.

**In our time we see only broken and scattered signs that
the renewal of all things is under way.**

**We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering in the world,
the church, or our own lives.**

But we see Jesus as Lord.

**As he stands at the center of our history,
we are confident he will stand at its end.**

He will judge all people and nations.

Evil will be condemned

and rooted out of God’s good creation.

There will be no more tears of pain.

All things will be made new.

**The fellowship of human beings with God and each other
will be perfected. Amen.**

from, A Declaration of Faith
(P.C.U.S. – 1977)

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

*Repeat the Sounding Joy...arr. Sandra Eithun
Glory Ringers*

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



- **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**
- **Brianna Talley and family**

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: Susan Erichsen

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 10th: Jenna Langvardt (785-761-5815)

Head Usher for December 10th: Bob Haynes

Coffee Fellowship this week is hosted by Jenna Langvardt

Acolytes this week are: Haiden Edleston and Ally Lankas

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 today are provided by the Langvardt Family to the glory of God and in honor of the blessings the Lord has given the Langvardt Family through family, friends, and our church!

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.

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.

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.

All Church Caroling-everyone is invited to join our youth as they go caroling on Wednesday, December 20th at Brookdale Senior Living Center, then following at Valley View Estates. We will meet at Brookdale at 6:30 pm and arrive back at the church at approximately 7:15 pm.



Next Sunday December 17th is "Bell Sunday". If you have a special bell of your own you would like to ring during the Hymn "Angels We Have Heard on High" be sure and bring it with you. There will be bells available for everyone.

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 **January** newsletter, please email the information to the church office no later than **December 23rd, 2023**. Our email address is 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

7:00 pm Cub Scouts

Tuesday

5:30 pm Mission, Evangelism & Fellowship Committee

Wednesday

12:30 pm Bible Study
5:45 pm JAM
5:45 pm MS/HS Youth Group
6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
8:00 pm AA Meeting

Thursday

11:00 am Ram Exterminators

Friday

11:00 am Thanksgiving Committee Meeting

Sunday

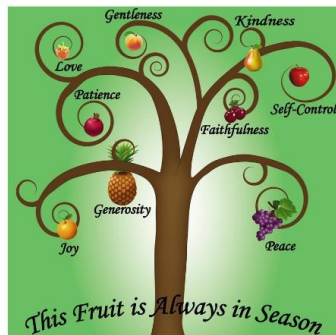
8:30 am Glory Ringers Handbell Rehearsal
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship, child care available
Coffee Fellowship
12:00 pm Candle Lighting Practice
After Service Cookie Exchange



NEW NEWS ABOUT OUR YOUTH!!

Upcoming Dates for Parents:

- **Wednesday, December 13th** - JAM will be from 5:45pm-7:00pm. We will be practicing for the Christmas Pageant.
- **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