

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Philippians 2:5-11

We believe in Jesus Christ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

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 "Give Now" link on our website:
<https://www.fpcjc.com>*

OFFERTORY

*Christmas Bell Suite...arr. John Behnke
Glory Ringers*

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

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT #136**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

***People stand as they are able**

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.

December 22, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Glory Ringers

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing* Men's Ensemble

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH AND CALL TO WORSHIP
Krista & McKinleigh Blaisdell

Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning, we thank you for the hope, peace, joy, and love you unfailingly offer us. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained but must be shared. Teach us how to love others as you have loved us. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE: *Emmanuel*

***HYMN OF PRAISE #147** *The First Nowell* (Verses 1,2,4,6)

***INVITATION TO, AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Loving and eternal God as Mary praised you so should we, for we have received the greatest blessing through your blessing of her. Help us to sing your praise as Mary did.

With shame we confess our pride which hides the light of your blessings. Forgive us for the lack of regard we have for others, and let us see more clearly how your saving grace was embodied in Jesus Christ. For our lack of response in praise through word and deed under the guidance of the Spirit, we humbly seek your forgiveness O God. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS (Hymn #447)** *We are Forgiven*
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

***THE PEACE**

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

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER

FIRST LESSON *Micah 5:2-5a*
Leader: The Word of the Lord
People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHORAL ANTHEM *Wexford Carol...arr. Helvey*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

***HYMN #146** *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

THE MESSAGE TEXT AND MESSAGE

Luke 1:39-55
"Good News!"



- **Our members and friends who are living in a nursing home, assisted living or are partially or fully "home-bound"**
- **All those battling cancer**
- **The family and friends of Barb Hill**

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

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 may be seen during children's sermons. If you have concerns, please contact the church office

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

Transitional Pastor: Kemper Huber

Worship Leader: Rick Munson

Chancel Choir Director: Joe Markley

Music Coordinator and Handbell Director: Sheila Markley

Organist: August Siefkes

Video Preparer/Operator/Sound: Colleen Smith

Key Deacon for Dec. transportation: Mary Kay Munson
(785-375-3189)

Elder on call the week of December 22: Jim Ray (785-307-5188)

Head Usher for December 22: Elaine Dill

Acolytes for December 22 are: Haiden Edleston & Haisley White

Coffee Fellowship this week is hosted by Chris Heldstab & Margaret Kilpatrick

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

Per Capita for 2025 will be \$38.00.

Reminder: No Sunday School (youth or adult) on December 29 or January 5. We will not meet for JELLY on January 5. Classes will resume on January 12

Reminder: Elementary students participating as candlelighters in the Christmas Eve Service, please plan to stay after worship today for our final practice with Margaret. Participating MS/HS, please plan to stay and go over candle-lighting duties with Pastor Kemper.

The Church Office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25. Merry Christmas Everyone!

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

Join us in the dining room for the **Sunrise Adult Sunday School class** at 8:55 am.

If you have contributions to the church that you would like deposited for 2024, please have them to the church by Sunday, December 29.

Can you host Cookie Fellowship? Dates are open beginning with January 12. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board across from the kitchenette. If you have any questions, contact Annette Ray at 785-210-4490 or Jenna Langvardt at 785-761-5815.

Please join us for hot coffee, breakfast snacks, warm fellowship, and great discussions every Sunday in room 206 at 9:30 am for the **Pathfinders Adult Sunday School class.**

Join us for our Wednesday lunchtime Bible study with Elaine Dill leading a study on Max Lucado’s book *Fearless*. This class meets from 12:30 to 1:30 pm in room 206.

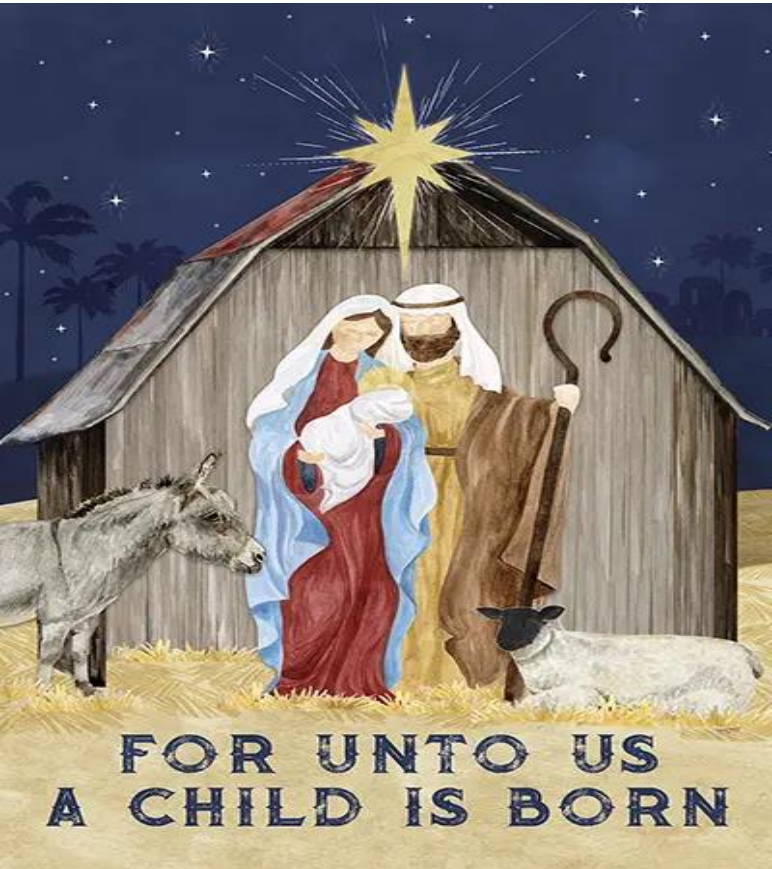
Church services are streamed at: <https://www.fpcjc.com>. You will find our worship bulletin and links to our Facebook page and YouTube on this webpage.

If you have any information you would like in the **bulletin**, please let the church office know by **noon on Wednesday** for that week. You may call 785-238-1191 or email your info to office.fpcjc@gmail.com

If you want to put anything into the **February** newsletter, please email the information to the church office no later than **January 20, 2025**. Our email address is office.fpcjc@gmail.com.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Wednesday	
All Day	Church Closed
8:00 pm	AA Meeting
Sunday	
8:30 am	Glory Ringers Rehearsal
10:45 am	Worship, child care available
	Coffee Fellowship



**Join your First Presbyterian Church Family
As we celebrate Christmas Eve
Special Christmas music begins at 5:00 pm.
Worship service including Carols, a Christmas
Message, Communion, and Candle Lighting
begins at 5:30 pm.**



2024 Christmas Poinsettias

Pearl Barnicle	In Memory of Bill Barnicle In Memory of Nina Gill In Memory of Don Helleman In Memory of Irene Jeffries In Memory of Madge Kennedy In Memory of Margaret Shane
Hugh & Elaine Dill	In Memory of Mark & Flo Dill In Memory of Bill & Nadine Edie
Harold & Susan Erichsen	In Memory of Albert & Ruth Erichsen In Memory of Carl Ehlers
Bob & Rhoda Frasier	In Memory of our parents and grandson In Honor of our children, grand & great-grandchildren
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
Margaret Kilpatrick	In Memory of our parents Steadman & Emma Canady In Memory of Lucy Kilpatrick

Andrew & Ashley King	In Memory of Rodney King
Ann Langvardt	In Memory of Howard Langvardt In Honor of Vern & Marie Langvardt and Lawrence & Hazel Kamm
Mitch & Jenna Langvardt	In Memory of our father Howard Langvardt and of our grandparents In Honor of our 3 grandchildren-Brynlee, Landry and Brooke who God blessed us with
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
Gene & Janet Parrish	In Memory of those who have passed before us
Bill & Carol Powers	In Memory of Walter & Tina Powers and Richard & Thelma Maxwell
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
The White Family	In Honor of All First Responders and Healthcare Workers away from families on Christmas