

FAYETTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Alex Moses, Senior Pastor
Jacob Winslett, Director of Music
Jasmine Anthony, Children & Family Ministries
Chris Whitley, Accompanist

770-461-7147
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December 11, 2022

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn #92

While We Are Waiting, Come

WAITING

*Blessing



* Please stand as you are able

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us. Children ages 4 ~ 5th grade are invited to Children's Church after the Children's Time. Nursery is available for infants ~ age 3, down Heritage Hall off the main lobby. Assistive hearing devices and large-print bulletins are available from an usher. As we enter a holy space and time this morning, please silence your electronic devices.

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude **Carol of the Bells** *Braeden Winslett, Saxophone*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*Call to Worship

Leader: During Advent there is good news for us to behold!

People: The things we hope for, and the one we wait for, are coming close.

Leader: Even those who are worried that things cannot change find unexpected good news in the mercy and love of God.

People: Jesus said the very reason people should recognize him is because the blind will see again, the lame will walk, the deaf will hear, the poor will be cared for, and the ways of death will come to an end.

Leader: Clearly there are big changes when Jesus goes to work.

People: Let us worship the Lord who came, who comes, and is to come.

***Hymn #106** **Prepare the Way, O Zion** *BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, there are so many ways in which you are at work in our lives and in the world around us. But we confess that more often than not we do not see and do not hear. We fail to notice the signs of your life giving presence. We remain focused on ourselves, or pessimistic about the situation. We assume that what we see on the surface is simply the way things are. We are always waiting for another day, another way, or another place where maybe you will show up. Give us your Spirit to help us pay attention and to know that you are truly at work right here and right now.

[moment for silent prayer of confession]

Assurance of Pardon (II Corinthians 5:15-17)

Leader: Christ comes to all, and Christ dies for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who dies for them and was raised again.

People: Therefore, anyone who is in Christ is a new creation; the old life has gone, a new life has begun.

***Gloria Patri** **Glory Be to the Father** GREATOREX
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, amen.

Prayer of the Day

Scripture Reading: Matthew 11:2-11

Children's Time

Children Sing **Away in a Manger**

Sermon

***Hymn #145** **What Child is This** GREENSLEEVES

*Affirmation of Faith (the Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Special Music **Canon in D** *Caroline Moses, Violin*

ADVENT HAPPENINGS AT FPC

Combined Sunday School.

Join us each Sunday of Advent! We'll enjoy light breakfast, coffee, and juice and discuss "Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes", an Advent study by Cynthia Campbell about how each of the gospels approaches the idea of God coming in Christ.

Christmas Extravaganza and Potluck, TONIGHT AT 5:00pm!

Come enjoy a joyful night of jazzy Christmas music, from traditional carols to radio favorites you'll have to sing along to. Vocals and instrumentation will be performed by various local artists and our own talented FPC folks! We will have a **SOUP POTLUCK at 5:00pm** followed by the Christmas Extravaganza. Please bring a crock pot of your favorite soup or chili and join us!

Christmas Cantata, December 18 at 10:30am.

Join us for our annual musical advent worship. This year, we will hear *Emmanuel*, a musical celebrating the advent and birth of Christ. You'll enjoy our joyful chancel choir and always-talented musicians. Please plan to join us for this special worship service at 10:30am.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service, December 24 at 7:00pm.

Friends and family are all invited to our annual candlelight Christmas Eve service with communion. Kid-friendly and featuring a children's story and carol-singing by the soft light of hundreds of candles.

Christmas Day Worship, 9:30am

What a privilege to be able to worship Jesus Christ the newborn King ON Christmas Day! We will be enjoying a brunch potluck at 9:30am followed by a short service with lots of beloved carols in the Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to wear your Christmas pajamas, festive sweaters or whatever you'd like.

FOCUS ON FAYETTE SAMARITANS. This is a difficult time of year for our neighbors in Fayette County who are food insecure and who struggle even more with the high cost of food. On Sunday, December 18th, we are focusing on Fayette Samaritans, our local food pantry. In the past few weeks the demand has been high. Please bring in food items such as canned soups and stews, instant potatoes, cereals, canned vegetables, tea, coffee, canned juice, mac and cheese, rice, beans, toiletries, feminine products, etc. The grocery cart will be in the narthex. Let's fill it up and even OVERFLOW it. The gift of food is a wonderful Christmas gift to our community.

Today's children's church leader is Ann Johnston; next week is Susan Gilbert.

Thank you to all who donated Poinsettias for our Advent season! They are simply beautiful. Dedications will be inserted in a bulletin later in December. If you purchased a poinsettia, you may take it home to keep after our Christmas Eve Communion Service.

Have a Prayer Request? Submit it to our prayer chain! Please call Sharon's cell phone or email her to submit prayer requests or to receive emailed concerns. Sharon: 404-402-4094 or sharart.ayers@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS

Joy



On December 25, we'll take up the **Christmas Joy Offering** in addition to our regular offerings. Each year during Advent, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and by developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.



Our Christmas Giving Tree is in the Fellowship Hall, decorated with names of less fortunate children here in Fayette County. Again this year, we were able to reach out to the families of our Smart Lunch, Smart Kid program and continue blessing them, as we did at Thanksgiving. What a great opportunity to show God's love to others by providing a gift at Christmas! So take a name from the tree, and buy a gift!

Please note which tag you took on the sheet next to the tree so we can keep track of the tags.