

# First Presbyterian Church



FIRST SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*

**December 2, 2018**

**8:30 & 10:45 a.m.**

*Communion*

525 North Broadway • Wichita, Kansas 67214 • (316) 263-0248  
[www.firstchurchwichita.org](http://www.firstchurchwichita.org)

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**1st Sunday of Advent**

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Prelude *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Hal Hopson

\*\*Processional Iain Cline & Aidan Schulte

Greetings

\*Call to Worship

Leader: The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill my promise to my people.

**People: Justice and righteousness will fill the land, and all will live in peace and safety. Come Lord Jesus, Come.**

Leader: Let us worship God.

\*Hymn *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* No. 2  
(Nativity Figurines Procession by the Children and Youth)

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent means coming. With our Jewish brothers and sisters we wait for the coming of the Messiah. As Christians we know this will be his Second Coming not his first. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, he grew up in Nazareth, he preached the Good News, he performed miracles, and he was crucified on a cross in Jerusalem. He died, was buried, and was raised from the dead. He told his followers that he would come again. We believe that day will come when Jesus returns to fully establish the kingdom of God on earth. But until that day as Christians we wait as we celebrate his first coming in anticipation of his second coming.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace.**

**Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation as foretold by the prophets and fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Silence

Choral Response

Assurance of Pardon

\*Song of Thanksgiving *Gloria Patri* No. 579



## Welcome, Visitors!

We extend a special welcome to those who are visiting First Presbyterian Church this morning. We are glad you are here!

**Large print bulletins and hymnals are available from an usher. Transistor hearing aids are also available for your use.** Please ask any usher for one and feel free to sit wherever you wish in the Sanctuary while using one.

All persons are encouraged to sign the Ritual of Friendship Pads as they are passed to you in the pews. Please include your address, email address, and telephone number. **Please remember to turn off your cell phone before worship this morning.**

**Children's Information**—Children are welcome in worship. We do not mind a little fidgeting and fussing in the pew. We offer children's worship bags with various quiet activities in cloth bags located just outside the Sanctuary doors. But if you feel that your child is having a difficult time sitting through church, you are welcome to worship in *The Well*. Remember, quiet play in *The Well* is appropriate so as not to disturb others who are trying to worship. Also, the McComb room is available as a Cry room. And, finally, we encourage you to consider the Nursery, which is located in the South end of the Case Building, where we have trained Staff to look after and engage your child from Birth to Kindergarten. If we need to contact you during worship, just give us your cell number and we will text you. You and your child's (spiritual, emotional, and social) needs are important to us. (Liz Norris—Director of Children's Ministry)

**A quick reminder:** Under the Child Protection Policy **children are not allowed to leave the Sanctuary or *The Well* without an adult escort.** Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

**Sympathy**-The white rose this morning on the baptismal font is in memory of James Chitty. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers. We also extend our Christian sympathies to David Decker and his family over the death of his mother Francis on November 26.

**Praying for the Church Family**—As a congregation we weekly focus our personal and corporate prayers upon a selection of church members and friends. Let us remember in prayer this week the following: Chris Fox & SheaKang Hew and family, Esther Harrington, Terri Hawkins, Liz Lang and Carol Seek.

**If you need a Stephen Minister**, or would like more information about the Stephen Ministry, please contact Dr. Brent Johnston at 263-0248 or Louise Farmer at lfarmer4164@gmail.com.

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## Activities & Announcements

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### Advent Workshop

Celebrate the Advent season with crafts, friends, family, and a pot-luck dinner today in the East Dining Room. CE will cook up the turkeys; you provide the side dishes. The fun will begin at 12 p.m. with a turkey dinner and your favorite side dish. Then, the festivity of Advent will begin with music, wassail, and diverse craft stations from decorating cookies to creating your own fresh greenery wreath. Join your church family for the coming of Baby Jesus! Assistance will be available for those who need an extra hand.

### Prophetic Hope: Study of the Prophets for Advent

For the three Wednesday nights in December, Pastor Brent will be teaching a class on “Prophetic Hope” for God to do what only God can do. . . . bring deliverance to Israel, bring deliverance to creation through the sending of the Messiah and ushering in the Messianic Age. We will look at those verses used in the Lectionary Texts from the Prophets during Advent and see them in their larger context. So, make plans to get reacquainted with Isaiah, Hosea, and Malachi.

### Nativity Figurines

The Nativity figurines are a handcrafted gift, given many years ago by John and Emma Huff. The nativity scene has been displayed under the Communion Table since 1980.

### PW Annual Bake Sale

Coming Sunday, December 9, the PW Annual Bake Sale will take place in *The Well* from 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Proceeds go to the Kansas Food Bank to help feed children with weekend backpacks. Anyone in the congregation is invited to bring and share favorite holiday baked goods, candy or other homemade treat.

### Journeys Class in December

#### A FRESH LOOK AT THE PARABLES OF JESUS

In the West Dining Room 9:30 a.m. each Sunday

For December 9, please read :

The Vineyard Owner, Matthew 20:1-16

Facilitated by Pat Welker with video of Amy Jill Levine, author of *Short Stories by Jesus*.

## December Mission Memos

### \*Prayer of Dedication

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

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.**

Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Communion Music

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

Gilbert Martin

Prayer after Communion

\*Hymn

*Angels, From the Realms of Glory*

No. 22

\*\*Recessional

\*Charge and Benediction

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

\*Postlude

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

Raymond Haan

\*signifies congregation standing (for those able)

\*\*signifies 10:45 service only

### Worship Leaders

Senior Pastor

Brent O. Johnston

Parish Associate

Judy Connors

Director of Music

Steve Bixler

Organist

Mark Sweeney

### It's time to support InterFaith Ministries' Operation Holiday

In its 58th year in 2018, Operation Holiday served 13,553 low income Wichitans last year with non-perishable food items, coats, blankets and a grocery gift card. The US Marine Corps Reserves' Toys for Tots provides toys for children and the IFM Teen2Teen program provides gifts for those 15 to 17 years old. Pet food is distributed through a partnership with Skaer Veterinary Clinic. Here's how we at First Presbyterian can help:

1. Bring **FOOD** items and place them in the Operation Holiday container outside the church office by Sunday, December 9. Distribution takes place December 13, 14, and 15. Items especially needed include peanut butter, canned meats, cereal and canned fruit. Our children and youth will be helping provide canned fruit.
2. Write a **CHECK** ASAP to FPC with the memo "Operation Holiday" and place it in the offering plate. This is the primary need since cash can be used to make bulk purchases of food.
3. **VOLUNTEER** at the distribution site in the old Sears building at Towne West Square. Volunteers are vital to the success of Operation Holiday for pre-distribution sorting and during distribution as escorts, food stockers, toy runners and more. To volunteer contact IFM at 316-264-9303 or email volunteer@interfaithwichita.org.

To experience the real meaning of Christmas you can participate with hands on at Operation Holiday. Let's help make our neighbors' tummies full and their hearts happy by helping provide them with a generous Christmas Blessing!

### Christmas JOY Offering

The PC(USA) has a historic commitment to higher education through the establishment and support of Presbyterian related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Our future church leaders receive much needed assistance while they pursue their professional goals. Your gift to the Christmas JOY Offering will support these institutions:

1. Menaul School in Albuquerque, NM, a Christian high school. See [www.menaulschool.com](http://www.menaulschool.com) for more information.
  2. Presbyterian Pan American School, Kingsville TX, has a diverse international student body with 26 countries represented. See [www.ppas.org](http://www.ppas.org) for more information.
  3. Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, AL. See [www.stillman.edu](http://www.stillman.edu) for more information.
- The JOY offering will be received and dedicated on Sunday, December 23. As we read in James 1:17, "Every generous act of giving...is from above."

## Calendar

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday, December 2</b> <i>Communion</i></p> <p>8:30 Worship (Chapel)            9:15 Coffee Fellowship (The Well)            9:30 Youth Sunday School (YL)            9:30 Journeys Class (WDR)            9:30 Luccock Class (Parlor)            10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)            10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)            10:45 Refugee Worship (C201 &amp; C204)            12:00 Advent Workshop (EDR)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday, December 3</b></p> <p>5:30 INK (<i>The Well</i>)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday, December 4</b></p> <p>10:00 Pastoral Staff Mtg (Hobbs)            11:00 Staff Meeting (<i>The Well</i>)            4:30 Camp Committee Mtg (WDR)            5:30 Facilities/Stewardship Mtg (WDR)            5:30 NAMI Board Mtg (McComb)            6:00 Deacons Mtg (C109)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday, December 5</b></p> <p>9:00 Dorcas Circle (C105)            2:00 PW Board Mtg (RR)            5:30 Wednesday Clubs            5:30 Wednesday Worship (Sanctuary)            6:15 James Ringers (Sanctuary)            6:30 Brent's Bible Study (The Parlor)            7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday, December 6</b></p> <p>5:00 Mission Comm. Mtg (Hobbs)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday, December 7</b></p> <p>11:00 Church Women United            Christmas Lunch (WDR)            12:00 Lectionary Bible Study (WDR)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday, December 8</b></p> <p>9:00 Gardens &amp; Grounds            9:30 Transportation Mtg (C109)            11:00 Brent's Bible Study w/WRCC (Hobbs)            4:00 Rehearsal Children &amp; Youth (Sanctuary)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday, December 9</b></p> <p>8:30 Worship (Chapel)            9:00 PW Bake Sale (<i>The Well</i>)            9:15 Coffee Fellowship (<i>The Well</i>)            9:30 Youth Sunday School (YL)            9:30 Journeys Class (WDR)            9:30 Luccock Class (Parlor)            9:30 Stephen Ministry Supervision (C103)            10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)            10:45 Worship-Children &amp; Youth            Christmas Program (Sanctuary)            10:45 Refugee Worship (C201 &amp; C204)            11:45 Worship &amp; Music Comm. Mtg (McComb)</p>
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\*The Peace

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

First Reading Jeremiah 33:14-16

Second Reading Luke 21:25-36

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Stand up Straight to Get What's Coming to You"  
The Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston

\*Affirmation of Faith Excerpt from Brief Statement of Faith

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Call to Stewardship

Offertory Anthem *In the Stillness of This Moment* Joseph M. Martin

*In the stillness of this moment, in the quiet of this place,  
 We pause in silent wonder at the miracle of grace.  
 As our hearts reach out in mercy, heaven's arms reach from above,  
 And we touch the hope of glory and we hold the gift of love.*

Chorus: *How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be:  
 How marvelous, how wonderful is my Savior's love for me!*

*In the stillness of this moment, as we calm our hearts and minds,  
 We feel Your tender mercy and the gift of peace divine.  
 Let us gather at the table. Let us find our place of rest  
 Where the bread and wine of mercy feed our souls with heaven's best.*

(Chorus)

\*Doxology

No. 592