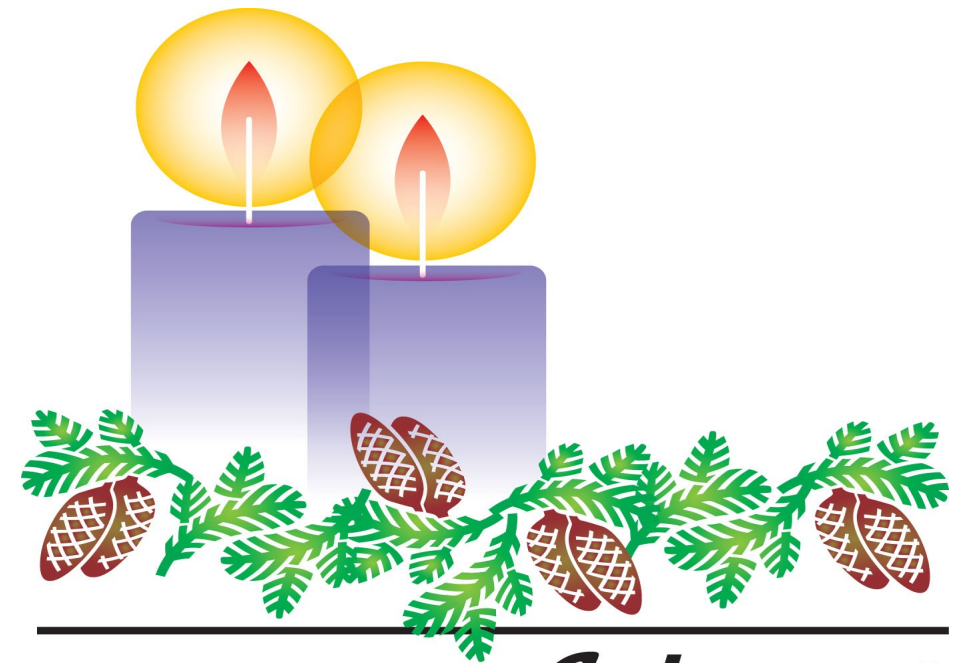


# First Presbyterian Church



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SECOND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

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**December 9, 2018**

**8:30 a.m.**

**525 North Broadway • Wichita, Kansas 67214 • (316) 263-0248**

**[www.firstchurchwichita.org](http://www.firstchurchwichita.org)**

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**December 9, 2018**

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

**8:30 a.m.**

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Prelude *Divinum Mysterium* arr. Fred Bock

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 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* No. 9

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Advent means coming. We remember John the Baptist who called for people of faith to prepare for the coming of Christ. There is much to prepare for in being ready for the coming of Christ. Besides the usual preparations for this time of year like having our tree up and presents wrapped, John reminds us to prepare the heart for Christ's coming. Heart preparations involve repentance, starting over again in our relationship with God, being baptized, giving the hungry bread to eat, the homeless a place to sleep, and those who are in need of love a warm embrace.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.**

Silence

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 Joyce Greene. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers. Also, we extend our sympathies to Janice Savute and family as they grieve the recent loss of her sister.

**Flowers**-The flowers for our services last Sunday were given to the glory of God and in loving memory of wife and mother, Carina, by Phil and Kip Michel. The flowers for our services this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harry, our son Brian, and sisters Jinny Olson and Rita Jones, by Mary Ellen Williford and family.

**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: Dylan Warner, Laci Haas and family, Alexandra and Steve Washburn, Tom and Gerry Winters, Georgia Boone, and Warren and Harriet Lewis.

**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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### ***The Well* Great Coffee Sale**

Need stocking stuffers or coffee for your holiday entertaining? Stop by *The Well* any Sunday this month to get Snickerdoodle, Amaretto and Mocha coffee for just \$5 per pound. We also have our ceramic cups for just \$2 each. Drop by and stock up now!

### **Archives Christmas Open House**

The congregation is invited to attend the annual Archives Christmas Open House, Thursday, December 13, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. This is a good opportunity to browse in the Archives and to enjoy some Christmas season fellowship with other church members. The Archives is located on the Third Floor of the Case Building.

### **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.

### **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 16, please read :** Lazarus and the Rich Man- Luke 16:19-31

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

### **Record Number of Breakfast Guests in December**

The December 1st community breakfast served an all-time high number of guests with a total of 237 which included 11 children! The previous high was in November with 158 guests. The hot breakfast served provided 35 dozen scrambled eggs, biscuits with sausage gravy, hash brown patties, clementines, 7.5 gallons of orange juice, 9 gallons of milk, hot coffee and cocoa (too much to track), and bagels and breads donated by Panera Bread. Warm hats, gloves and socks were donated by you (the congregation) with supplemental help from the Mission Commission. The Economy Corner provided four big tubs of warm scarves. Nurses from the Guadeloupe Clinic checked in guests, provided hygiene items and over the counter medicines for colds and coughs. Thank you to the 42 volunteers who helped shop, cook, serve and clean up. Volunteers included our FPC youth group along with the regular teams from FPC and the Korean congregation. New volunteers are always welcomed and needed to help with this project, just show up for duty at 7:00 a.m. the first Saturday of any month!

\*Hymn *Go Tell It on the Mountain* No. 29

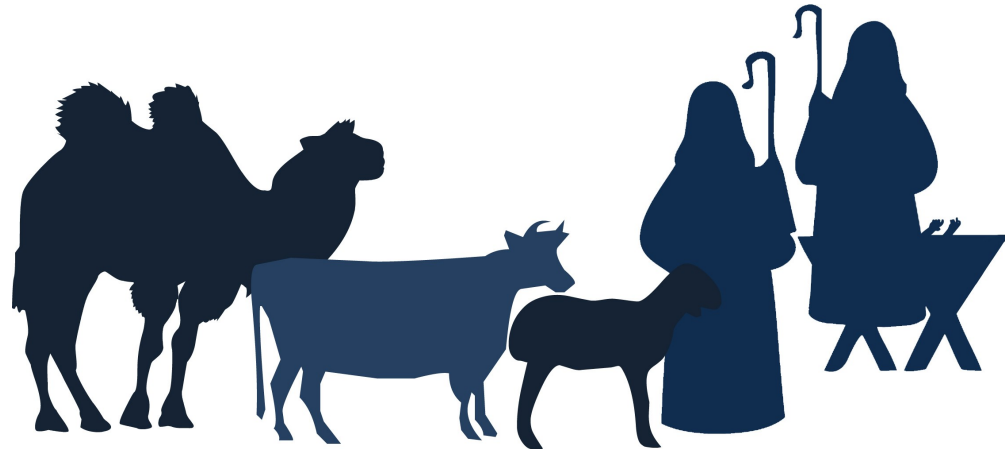
\*Charge and Benediction  
 Leader: The Lord be with you.  
 People: **And also with you.**

\*Postlude *Gloria* French Carol

\*signifies congregation standing (for those able)

**Madonna Prints on Exhibit in *The Gallery***

The current exhibit in *The Gallery* includes the Archives Collection of Madonna prints. The subject of Mother and Child has been a popular one for 17 centuries. Please stop by and look at the prints on display. This annual display is a Christmas greeting from the Archives Staff.



**Worship Leaders**

Senior Pastor  
 Parish Associate  
 Director of Music  
 Organist

Brent O. Johnston  
 Judy Conners  
 Steve Bixler  
 Gary Huffman

**December Mission Memos**

**PW Annual Bake Sale Today**

The PW Annual Bake Sale will take place in *The Well* today 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.

**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](mailto: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 9</b></p> <p>8:30 Worship (Chapel)</p> <p>9:00 PW Bake Sale <i>(The Well)</i></p> <p>9:15 Coffee Fellowship <i>(The Well)</i></p> <p>9:30 Youth Sunday School (YL)</p> <p>9:30 Journeys &amp; Luccock Class (WDR)</p> <p>9:30 Stephen Ministry Supervision (C103)</p> <p>10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</p> <p>10:45 Worship-Children &amp; Youth Christmas Program (Sanctuary)</p> <p>10:45 Refugee Worship (C201 &amp; C204)</p> <p>11:45 Worship &amp; Music Comm. Mtg (McComb)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday, December 10</b></p> <p>10:00 Personnel Mtg (Hobbs)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday, December 11</b></p> <p>10:00 Pastoral Staff Mtg (Hobbs)</p> <p>11:00 Staff Meeting <i>(The Well)</i></p> <p>5:30 Finance Mtg (Hobbs)</p> <p>6:00 Deacons Mtg (C109)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday, December 12</b></p> <p>9:00 Dorcas Circle (C105)</p> <p>10:00 PW Study Circle (Parlor)</p> <p>6:00 Parent's Night Out <i>(The Well)</i></p> <p>6:15 James Ringers (Sanctuary)</p> <p>6:30 Brent's Bible Study (The Parlor)</p> <p>7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday, December 13</b></p> <p>9:00 Economy Corner Bd Mtg (EC)</p> <p>10:00 Archives Christmas Open House (Archives)</p> <p>4:30 Promote the Growth <i>(The Well)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday, December 14</b></p> <p>12:00 Lectionary Bible Study (WDR)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday, December 15</b></p> <p>11:00 Brent's Bible Study w/WRCC (Hobbs)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday, December 16</b></p> <p>9:15 Coffee Fellowship <i>(The Well)</i></p> <p>9:30 Blood Pressure Check <i>(The Well)</i></p> <p>9:30 Journeys &amp; Luccock Class (WDR)</p> <p>9:30 Youth Sunday School (YL)</p> <p>10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</p> <p>10:45 Worship-Sermon &amp; Cantata Christmas Program (Sanctuary)</p> <p>10:45 Refugee Worship (C201 &amp; C204)</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 Malachi 3:1-4

Anthem Alfred Burt  
*Some Children See Him*  
 (Gretchen Bixler, Soprano; Steve Bixler, Guitar)

Second Reading Luke 3:1-6

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Preparation as Purification"  
 The Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston

**\*Affirmation of Faith excerpt from *Shorter Catechism of Westminster Confession of Faith***

Q. 23. What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?

**A. Christ, as our Redeemer, executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.**

Q. 24. How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

**A. Christ executeth the office of a prophet in revealing to us, by his Word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.**

Q. 25. How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

**A. Christ executeth the office of a priest in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God, and in making continual intercession for us.**

Q. 26. How doth Christ execute the office of a king?

**A. Christ executeth the office of a king in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.**

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Call to Stewardship

Offertory R. W. Thygerson  
*Infant Holy*

\*Doxology No. 592

\*Prayer of Dedication