

# First Presbyterian Church



FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*

**December 19, 2021**  
**9:30 a.m. In-Person & Live Streaming**

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

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**December 19, 2021**

***Fourth Sunday of Advent***

**9:30 a.m.**

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Prelude

*In the Bleak Mid-Winter*

Raymond Haan

Greetings

Introit

*Personent Hodie*

Lara Hoggard

*Let youthful voices resound today, joyfully praising Him who is born for us,  
Who is given unto us by the most high God, and brought forth from a virgin.*

*He is born in the world, is wrapped in swaddling cloths, and placed in a manger  
in a stable of beasts. He is ruler over all things. (The prince of darkness has lost  
his prey!)*

*Three wise men come, bearing gifts. They have found the Child by following a  
little star. Adoring the Lord, they offer Him gold, incense, and myrrh.*

*Let all young choristers now sing as did the angels, praising Him who has come  
into all the world: "Glory to God in the highest!"*

\*Call to Worship

Leader: Salvation is closer now than when we first believed.

**People: Let us worship God.**

\*Hymn

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory* (vs. 1, 2, 4)

No. 22

Advent Reading

This is the fourth Sunday of Advent. Advent means coming. We remember how Mary, the mother of Jesus, broke out in praise for what God had done and will do for her and for her people. Mary's speech is known as the Magnificat which is Latin for "My soul magnifies." Indeed, Mary's soul did magnify the Lord with praise for God's salvation as a reversal of fortunes for the humble and poor of the world. So, with Mary, we light this candle remembering the importance of praise for what God has done and will do in our lives... especially this time of year as we wait for the coming of Christ.

*Light the pink candle*

Let us pray: O God of Advent, we praise you for your election and exaltation of Mary to be the bearer and bringer of Good News for the poor and humble of the world. May we follow the example of Mary in being the bearer and bringer of Good News. Help us to remember the poor this time of year so we may use our riches to enrich their lives. In this way may rich and poor have a merry Christmas because Christ has been born and born again in our hearts. Amen.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. Though we have heard Mary's song, we still seek security in pride and power and possessions. Though we know your story, we resist the costs of following you. We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you intend. Make us messengers of the peace you bring. As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.**

Silence

Choral Response

Assurance of Pardon

\*Song of Joy                      *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* (vs. 1)                      No. 8

\*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.**

Kids Connection

Liz Norris

First Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

Anthem

*He Came Here for Me*

Ron Nelson

Second Reading

Luke 1:39-45

Sermon

*"A Greeting that Changes Everything"*

Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston

\*Affirmation of Faith - Apostles Creed

Leader: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say:

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he**



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## News & Events

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### Church Key Card System Update

We have installed a new access system and the old key cards will no longer allow you access into the building or copy room. If you have an immediate need for accessing the church, please send an e-mail to Roy ASAP. There are two options with the new system. The first (and preferred) option utilizes a smart phone app. We do understand that not everyone will utilize the app-based entry option. Hence there is a second option that uses a key card (similar to our previous system). If you wish to use option two, there is a \$5 fee for the card. We are doing everything possible to make this a smooth transition.

**If you have a need for access to the church, please email me with the information below:**

- Full name
- Email address
- Group you are with (if applicable)
- How quickly do you need access?
- If you want the phone app (which is free) or the card (\$5.00 fee)

**Thank you for your patience and understanding. ~ Roy Yarborough**

### CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING ENDS TODAY

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, 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 God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Thank you for your gift!  
~ Patrice Cummings



### STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION THANKS YOU!

The Stewardship Commission thanks you for your pledge for the 2022 Stewardship campaign. You have demonstrated your faith in our future and the future God has for our church. Through your financial support you will be an integral part of the ongoing program of your Church for the year 2022. Your personal participation through contributions of your time and talents to all these Church activities is encouraged and appreciated. Thank you very much.

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## Upcoming News & Events

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### USHERS NEEDED

Now that the number of members and guests attending worship is increasing, the need for ushers is also growing. This includes greeting members and guests at Sunday services, serving at weddings and funerals as well as assisting handicapped individuals. If you would be willing to consider serving our church in this activity, please let us know. Training will be provided, and schedules are flexible.  
**Please call Phil Michel at 316-213-5515 to learn more.**

### Buy a FPC 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbook for Christmas!

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbooks are here. These make a perfect Christmas gift. Contact Geri Doll or come by the office on Monday through Thursday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. to buy a cookbook. You may also purchase a cookbook on Sundays after worship. They are only \$15.



### SAVE THE DATE!

#### Shhh! Silent Auction-Epiphany 2022

First Church is looking for folks who would like to give a themed basket or items for a Silent Auction on January 9th. Silent Auction items can be a "themed" basket, artwork, a service, or even a gift certificate from your business. **All items for the auction need to be delivered to the church by Sunday, January 2nd** to catalogue the baskets for the auction. If by chance you need to turn your donation to the auction earlier or later, you can contact Michelle Murray-Cline. When you deliver your item, you will need to fill out some information about your donation. Thank you for supporting your church family!

***Fill your "spiritual cup" and another's by donating a basket of goodies to be auctioned off!***

### Soup Needed for Epiphany 2022

We are serving soup and bread during the Epiphany Silent Bingo event on January 9. We need volunteers to donate soup for this event. Please contact Alice Price at 841-7942 for details.

**Thank you!**





**Welcome, Visitors!**

We extend a special welcome to those who are visiting First Presbyterian Church this morning. We are glad you are here! If you recently had a change in address, e-mail, or phone number, please feel free to contact the office on Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. so that we may update your information.

**Please remember to turn off your cell phone before worship this morning. Please sign in at the front**

**entrance prior to entering the Sanctuary for Sunday worship service. Thank you.**

**Children’s Information**-Children are welcome in worship. We do not mind a little fidgeting and fussing in the pew. 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 supervise 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, if needed. You and your child’s (spiritual, emotional, and social) needs are important to us.

*A quick reminder: Under the Child Protection Policy children are not allowed to leave the Sanctuary without an adult escort. In addition, all children and youth group activities including children in the Nursery must be supervised by a minimum of 2 authorized staff or volunteers.* -Liz Norris, Director of Children’s Ministry

***Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.***

**Sympathy**

The white rose on the baptismal font today is in honor of Dolores Johnson who passed away December 11, 2021. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers as they grieve their loss. A Celebration of Life service was held on Saturday, December 18 at 10:30 a.m. followed by a reception in *The Well*.

**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: Kristin Caradine, Silvia Landers, J.D. Page, and Stephen & Nancy Perry.

**Worship in the McComb Room**

If you would appreciate being able to Worship in a quiet, peaceful setting, consider the McComb Room. The live streaming video of the 9:30 service is now available in the McComb Room in the northwest corner of the main floor.

**Calendar**

**Sunday, December 19**

- 9:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Stream, & Facebook Live
- 10:00 WRCC Worship (C204)
- 10:45 Journey’s Class (Hobbs/Zoom)
- 10:45 Worship & Music Comm. Mtg (McComb/Zoom)

**Tuesday, December 21**

- 12:00 Staff Christmas Party(*The Well/MS Teams*)
- 6:30 KLC Bridge to the Future Mtg (Zoom)

**Wednesday, December 22**

- 9:00 Dorcas (C105)
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

**Friday, December 24**

- 7:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Sunday, December 26**

- 9:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Stream, & Facebook Live
- 10:00 WRCC Worship (C204)

**POINSETTIAS**

Beautiful poinsettias adorn the Sanctuary for the Advent season. You may take your poinsettia home with you after the worship service on Sunday, December 26.

**SAVE THE DATE!!**

**EPIPHANY BINGO 2022- JANUARY 9** Epiphany BINGO....and the not so Silent Auction are on Sunday, January 9 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join your church family for a fabulous afternoon of fellowship with soup, salad, bread, and playing Bingo for prizes, and making bids on Silent Auction baskets.

- FREE Soup Dinner with a Bingo Card
- Folks will sit in Family/Friend Groups
- Small charge for a dauber and extra Bingo Cards

**BRING FRIENDS!!**

Donations are always appreciated! All proceeds of the Silent Auction will go to support spiritual growth and renewal of our congregation as we celebrate over **150 years** of being the **First Church of Wichita!**

**Contact Michelle Murray-Cline at 734-0243 for details or if you would love to assist!**

