December 22, 2019  4th Sunday after Advent  10:45 a.m.

Prelude  In the Bleak Mid-Winter  Raymond Haan

*Processional  Carter Bowles

Bell Introit  Three French Carols  arr. Wagner

   Noel Nouvelet
   What is This Lovely Fragrance
   Bring a Torch Jeannette Isabella

*Call to Worship
   Leader:  Our help is in the name of the Lord
   People: who made heaven and earth.
   Leader:  Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall
   name him Immanuel.
   People: Let us worship God.

*Hymn  Watchman, Tell Us of the Night  No. 20

Lighting of the Advent Candle
   Today is the fourth Sunday in Advent.... (Light the fourth purple candle)

   Let us pray: God of Advent, we confess that it is easier to make preparations
   for Christmas than for Christ’s Second Coming. Help us to heed the message
   of John the Baptist this season of Advent so we are prepared to celebrate
   the birth of Christ and the rebirth of hope because righteousness has a
   home in our heart. Amen.

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. Amen.
   Silence
   Choral Response

Assurance of Pardon
*Song of Thanksgiving

*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.

Time with Children

A Visit from the Inn Keeper’s Wife

First Reading
Isaiah 7:10-16

Anthem
Sing We Now of Christmas
arr. Prentice

Second Reading
Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon:
“Joseph and His Dream”
The 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 ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Call to Stewardship

Offertory
How Far is it to Bethlehem
arr. Shaw

*Doxology
No. 592

*Prayer of Dedication

Hymn
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
No. 38
*Charge and Benediction
   Leader: The Lord be with you.
   People: And also with you.

*Recessional

*Postlude

Joy to the World

Gilbert Martin

*signifies congregation standing (for those able)

Worship Leaders

Pastor
Liturgist
The Inn Keeper's Wife
Director of Music
Organist

Brent Johnston
Brian Howard
Joanna Ediger
Steve Bixler
Mark Sweeney
PLEDGE CAMPAIGN!

Our “Grace and Gratitude” campaign continues. The Stewardship Committee thanks you and wants to remind you that if you are still planning to pledge it is not too late. You can find pledge cards on the table outside of the office. Thank you.

UPCOMING YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

- **Sunday, December 22** - FPC Youth Event @ Chicken N Pickle from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Friday, December 27** - Youth Christmas Party and Lock-In at FPC. The party and lock-in will be from 6 p.m. on Friday through 10 a.m. on Saturday. If you are able, please bring an appetizer or a snack to share. We will also have an optional gift exchange for those who want to participate. The limit for the gift exchange is $7.

Upcoming Adult Education Classes

Please join me beginning January 8, 2020 on Wednesday nights from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to discuss what those in academia and those in the pew are talking about, John Robinson’s book *Honest to God*. Bishop Robinson sensed that Christianity needed to be made relevant to the modern world. And he found inspiration in that task in two twentieth century theologians—Paul Tillich and Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

This book spawned in the academy the "Death of God" movement. It spawned in laity, a lay renewal, liturgical renewal, and what we now know as progressive Christianity.

This class promises to generate stimulating discussion as we seek to do in the words of Anselm, “faith seeking understanding.” The book may be bought at the Church Office for $20 dollars or on Amazon. I hope to see you in class in *The Well* January 8 at 6 p.m.

~ Pastor Brent

## News & Upcoming Events!

### Services for Advent and Christmas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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| **December 22, 2019** | Fourth Sunday of Advent  
No 8:30 a.m. service  
10:45 a.m. Sanctuary, Lighting of Advent Candles, Special Guest Visitor |
| **December 24, 2019** | Christmas Eve  
6:30 p.m. extended Prelude  
7:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant and Candlelight service |
| **December 29, 2019** | First Sunday after Christmas  
No 8:30 a.m. service  
10:45 a.m. Sanctuary-Lessons and Carols |
| **January 5, 2020**  | Second Sunday after Christmas  
8:30 a.m. Chapel, Communion  
10:45 a.m. Sanctuary, Communion  
12:00 p.m. Epiphany Luncheon and Big Bang Bingo |

### Journeys Class to Re-Convence on January 5

*For the first event of our 150th Anniversary Celebration*

Join us in the *Journeys* class as we celebrate the New Year and the 150th anniversary of First Presbyterian Church. Starting on Sunday, January 5, 2020, Gary Huffman, church archivist, will lead a four-week session on the history of our church. The schedule is as follows:

- **January 5**  
  Early Wichita, Dugout, Frame Church

- **January 12**  
  Red Brick Church & The Stone Church

- **January 19**  
  3 Men—3 Windows

- **January 26**  
  13 Charter Members (live presentation)

The Journeys Class meets in the Parlor at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. All are welcome! Please join us!

### 2020 Calendars Needed for Refugees

The Mission Commission is collecting 2020 calendars for the members of the Wichita Refugee Congolese Church. As you start receiving complimentary calendars that you cannot use, please bring them to the church and place them in the basket outside the office marked "items for refugees."
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. 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.

Flowers—The beautiful poinsettias this morning are donated by the congregation in honor of or in memory of friends and relatives.

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: Brian & Stephanie Howard and family, Margarethe Van Zandt, Jeanean Wood, Brad & Michelle Cline and family, Judy & Phil Michel, and Tom & Helen Veatch.

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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**Calendar**

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<th>Sunday, December 22</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 Coffee Fellowship (The Well)</td>
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<td>10:15 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</td>
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<td>10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)</td>
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<td>10:45 Refugee Worship (C204)</td>
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<td>5:00 Sr. High Youth Event (Offsite)</td>
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<th>Tuesday, December 24</th>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas Eve Service</td>
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<td>7:00 Pageant &amp; Candlelight Service</td>
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<th>Wednesday, December 25</th>
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<td>Christmas Day-CLOSED</td>
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<td>Youth Lock-in</td>
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<th>Saturday, December 28</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30 Young Adults (Offsite)</td>
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**Epiphany BINGO!**

...and the not so Silent Auction

Sunday, January 5
12 Noon – 3 P.M.

FREE Soup Dinner with a Bingo Card
Small charge for a dauber and extra Bingo Cards

Camels are on the RUN to get to the celebration of the Christ Child on January 5th at FPC. Join your church family for a fabulous afternoon of fellowship with soup & salad, playing Bingo for prizes, and making bids on Silent Auction baskets. BRING FRIENDS!!

All proceeds of the Silent Auction will go to support spiritual growth and renewal of our congregation as we approach FPC's 150th Anniversary!!

Contact Cynthia Rekoske at 992-9595 if you have any concerns or would love to assist!