

First Presbyterian Church



SECOND SUNDAY

OF

Advent

December 5, 2021

9:30 a.m. In-Person & Live Streaming

525 North Broadway • Wichita, Kansas 67214 • (316) 263-0248
www.firstchurchwichita.org

December 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m.

Prelude

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hal Hopson

Greetings

*Call to Worship

Creation, with sighs and groans, longs for the day when: “The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.”

Special Music

Children Go Where I Send Thee

Gretchen Bixler, Steve Bixler, Sarah Gutierrez

Advent Reading

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.

Light the second purple candle

Let us pray: O God of the 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. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.

Silence

Choral Response

*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 592

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?* (vs. 1, 2, 3) No. 11

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude *Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding* Raymond Haan

*signifies congregation standing (for those able)

Worship Leaders

Pastor	Brent O. Johnston
Director of Music	Steve Bixler
Organist	Mark Sweeney

Jesse Tree Readers

Logan Garner, Daniel Cronkleton, Mia Temple and Isaac Cline.

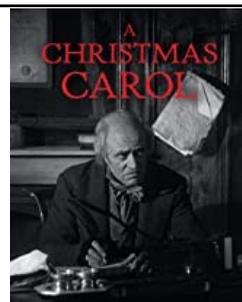
Production Crew

Dave Muehl, Sound; Sailor Sulier, Computer Graphics; Bob Moler, Camera Operator;
Video Editor, Michelle Edwards

News & Events

Advent Wednesday Night Series

In what way must we reckon with our past, present, and future as we listen to what the Holy Spirit would say to us through the spirits who visit Ebenezer Scrooge on Christmas Eve? We will look at segments of *A Christmas Carol* and then enter a lively discussion.



No preparation needed unless one wants to read the book or watch your favorite *A Christmas Carol* movie. **We will meet in *The Well* and on Zoom on December 8, and 15 at 6:30 p.m.**

Church Key Card System Failure

Our access system has failed. Replacement parts are no longer available. Hence, the system must be replaced. Maintaining access to the mail room and the handicap entrance are the focus until the new system has been installed. The new system should be installed in the next 2 or 3 weeks. We will know more once the contractor receives confirmation of when the equipment will be shipped. When we get close to the date of install, we will send out more information about how we will transition from the old system to the new. We apologize for this temporary inconvenience.

~ Roy Yarbrough-Facilities/IT Manager

SESSION NEWS

The Session has approved the call of a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of electing the four at-large members to the PNC. **The Congregational Meeting will follow the 9:30 Worship Service on December 12, 2021.**

The 2021 Nominating Committee will be presenting the following members for the PNC Brian Howard, Dick Wieland, Marilyn Heffner and Sailor Sulier. Please recall that due to the restricted size of the PNC and the need for an in-person and virtual meeting, nominations from the floor will not be received.

SAVE THE DATE!

Shhh! Silent Auction-Epiphany 2022

First Church is looking for folks who would like to submit 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 Saturday, January 8th for program setup at 10 a.m. If by chance you need to turn your donation into the auction earlier, you can bring it to the church office during open hours. Thank you for supporting your church family! **Fill your "spiritual cup" and another's by donating a basket of goodies to be auctioned off!**



Upcoming News & Events

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.**

A WORD FROM THE FINANCE COMMISSION

To save money, we did not mail out the automatic bank withdrawal authorization form with the pledge packets. We have placed the form on the resource table across from the church office. You may also, contact Sherri Miller, preferably via e-mail, at finance@firstchurchwichita.org, and she will send you the form. Thank you for your continued support of the church.

~ Finance and Administration Commission

Buy a FPC 150th Anniversary Cookbooks for Christmas!

The 150th 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.



Poinsettia Orders

Poinsettias will once again adorn the Sanctuary for the Advent season. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a loved one, the suggested donation is \$12. Please place your order by December 10. Envelopes are located outside of the church office.

If you mail your order to the church, please make sure to note that the donation is for a poinsettia and who you would like it to be dedicated to. This year we will not have the poinsettia trees. It will be a scaled down version with fewer poinsettias. You may take your poinsettia home with you after the worship service on Sunday, December 26. **Thank you!**





First
Presbyterian
Church

of Wichita, Kansas

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.

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: Dr. Christopher Fox & SheauKang Hew and family, Liz Lang, Donovan McCall, Terri Hawkins, and Esther Harrington.

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 on the main floor.

Calendar

Sunday, December 5

- 9:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Stream, & Facebook Live-Jesse Tree
- 10:00 WRCC Worship (C204)
- 10:45 Deacon's Mtg (C109)
- 10:45 Kid's Club Advent Workshop (*The Well*)
- 10:45 Journey's Class (Hobbs/Zoom)

Monday, December 6

- 11:30 Experiment in Collaboration & Cooperation Mtg (WDR)

Tuesday, December 7

- 1:00 Staff Mtg (*The Well*/MS Teams)
- 2:30 Pastoral Staff Mtg (*The Well*)
- 4:30 Camp Comm. Mtg (Parlor)
- 5:30 CE Comm. Mtg (Zoom/*The Well*)

Wednesday, December 8

- 9:00 Dorcas (C105)
- 10:00 PW Circle (Zoom)
- 6:00 Youth & Kid's Club (YL)
- 6:30 Adult Advent Study Group (*The Well*/Zoom)
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, December 9

- 9:30 Economy Corner Bd Mtg (EC)

Saturday, December 11

- 9:30 Transportation Mtg (C109)
- 10:30 WRCC Worship Prep Mtg (Parlor)
- 4:00 Young Adult Gathering (Offsite)

Sunday, December 12

- 9:00 Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Stream, & Facebook Live
- 10:00 WRCC Worship (C204)
- 10:45 Congregational Mtg (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 Worship & Music Comm. Mtg (McComb/Zoom)
- 11:00 Journey's Class (Hobbs/Zoom)

EPIPHANY BINGO 2022- JANUARY 9

Epiphany BINGO....and the not so Silent Auction is on Sunday, January 9 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join your church family for a fabulous afternoon of fellowship with soup & bread, 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 **151 years** of being the **First Church of Wichita!**

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