

What’s available Sundays@10?

Nursery for K3 and under

Children (K3 (if completely potty-trained)-5th): Basement Root Cellar art room

Youth (6th – 12th): 3rd floor Loft

Adult Classes:

FISH: room 205 across from kitchen

Sojourners: room 110 across from library

Kaleidoscope in January!

Adult classes are invited to Alexander Hall at 10:00 am each Sunday morning in January. Jeff Newlin will lead us in “Surprised by the Biblical Hope After Death.”

Check the January Spire for more information.

Advent Fellowship Opportunities

December 24 – 5:30 – Family Nativity & Candlelight Service

7:00 – Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols

Calling all Children K3 – 5th!

Would you like to participate in our Christmas Eve nativity service?

Typically, our K5 do the big parts, but we have angels and shepherds

and wise men and sheep and a camel and a donkey and even a cow!!!

It’s not too late to join! Come at 10:30 Wednesday morning for rehearsal.

Book Club

Join us for our December Family Book club featuring Arnold Ytreeide’s *Jotham’s Journey*. We have 10 copies available at the church for participating families.

We recommend you read a chapter each evening with your family during Advent.

We will meet Sunday, 12/28 at noon at Panera for discussion. Sign up with Elise to get your book and reading companion material.

Youth

Sunday, December 28th – **Sunday school** from 10:00 – 10:45.

Christmas Joy Offering

This morning we will receive this special offering. God has blessed the church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. The Joy Offering provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Please use the brown special offering envelopes located in the pew racks and mark for Christmas.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

to be held on Sunday, January 4, 2026

immediately following the conclusion of the service

for the purpose of: Electing the 2026 Nominating Committee

Sunday, December 21

10:00 a.m. - Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Birthday Party for

Jesus (AH)

11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

6:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Reh.

Monday, December 22

5:00 p.m. - PGS Social (AH)

Tuesday, December 23

10:00 a.m. - Staff Mtg.

Wednesday, December 24

7:00 a.m. - Men’s Bible Study
(Conf. Rm)

10:00 a.m. - Nativity Service

Adults Rehearsal

10:30 a.m. - Nativity Service

Children Rehearsal

5:30 p.m. - Nativity Service (Sanc)

7:00 p.m. - Lessons & Carols Ser-
vice (Sanc)

Thursday, December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Friday, December 26

Office closed

Saturday, December 27

9:30 a.m. - 7th Day Adventist (HR/
Lib)

THE POINSETTIAS placed in the sanctuary
are in memory of and in honor of loved ones.

CHURCH SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24th

Nativity Service Rehearsals

10:00/Adults and 10:30/Children

Offices close at noon

Nativity Service

5:30 pm

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

7:00 pm

Thursday-Friday, December 25-26

Offices closed

Wednesday, December 31st

Offices close at noon

Thursday-Friday, January 1-2

Offices closed

***Through Advent and Christmas,
from November 30 through January 4,
we will not have a 9:00 service.***

2026 FLOWER CALENDAR

We have a couple of open spots on the flower calendar for next year.

Please reach out to the front office or Janice Elliott (elliott29646@gmail.com,
864-993-6979, or 864-330-1357 if you would like to put flowers in the sanctuary
one Sunday morning.

End of the Year Giving

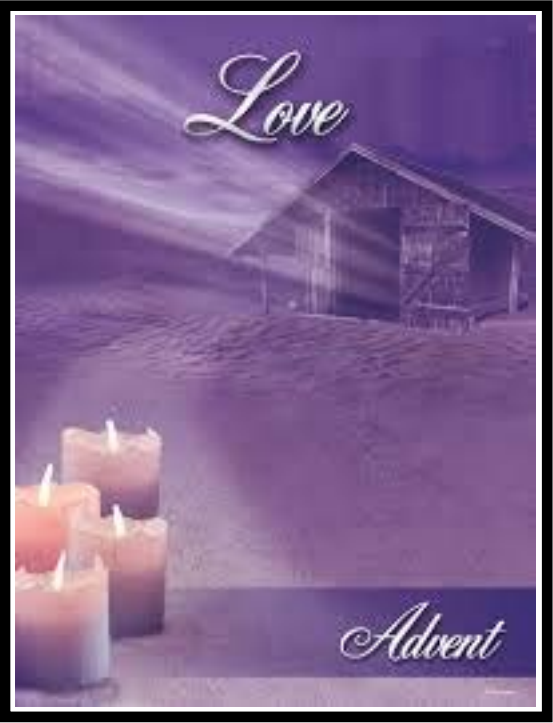
Several things from the financial office:

1.) If you have a balance of your offering for this year, please have it in the church
office by Wednesday, December 31st, by noon. If you’re mailing it, it must be post-
marked by December 31st.

2.) If you are giving stock, please call Nan Smith in our financial office, and let her
know to expect it.

3.) If you have not turned in your pledge card for 2026, please do so at your earliest
convenience.

***Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2025
11:00 am***



*Interim Pastor -- The Rev. Dr. Brad Christie
Theologian in Residence -- The Rev. Dr. Cliff Cain
Director of Christian Education -- Elise Collins
Director of Music Ministries -- Steve Skinner
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries -- Jade Green
Director of Children’s Music -- Sarah Bowen
Music Associate/Organist -- Tim Walters
Noah’s Ark Director -- Lauren Trantham*

First Presbyterian Church

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P.O. Box 426

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Phone: (864) 229-5814 Fax: (864) 229-3489

Office hours: M-Th: 8:00 - 4:00 and Fri: 8:00 - 12:00

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader:Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
People:the whole earth is full of God’s glory.

Rev. ChristieIsa. 6:3

(Please sign and pass the Member/Guest Registry. If you are a guest, your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address will be most helpful.)

PRELUDE“Creator of the Stars of Night”
Chancel Choir

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING & RESPONSEWill & Nicole Munnerlyn
and Aubrey Kate, Max, Margaret, & Harlan

Leader:An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,
“Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home
as your wife, because what is conceived in her
is from the Holy Spirit.
She will give birth to a son,
and you are to give him the name Jesus,
because he will save his people
from their sins.” – Matthew 1: 18-21

Leader:John 3:16 reminds us:
For God so loved the world
that he gave his one and only Son,

People:that whoever believes in him
shall not perish but have eternal life.

Leader:Friends in Christ, who do we wait for?
People:We wait for the Lord,
who wants us to love him
with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength,
and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Leader:Today we light the candle of LOVE.

*OPENING HYMN** #143 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”
REGENT SQUARE

CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSIONJade Green

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Through Christ, our Lord.

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader:Friends in Christ, we are forgiven.
People:Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE (On Screens) Hymn #147 “The First Nowell”
Stanza 6THE FIRST NOWELL

GIVING of TITHES and OFFERINGS

Call to OfferingElise Collins

Offertory “Lo, How a Rose e’er Blooming” arr. Jantz Black
Text: Hymn #129

*Advent Doxology (On Screens) PUER NOBIS NASCITUR
To God the Father God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
May ev’ry tongue and nation raise
An endless song of thankful praise!

*Prayer of Dedication

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Children may choose to exit at this time:
K3-K5 -- Room 120; 1st-5th grades -- Children’s Chapel

PROCLAMATION

SCRIPTURE READINGIsaiah 7:10-16 Rev. Christie
Matthew: 1:18-23

Reader:This is the Word of the Lord.
People:Thanks be to God!

SERMON“Signs”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [The Nicene Creed]
This year marks the 1,700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed,
the oldest formal statement of the Christian faith.
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of
the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten,
not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For
us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy
Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was cru-
cified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day
he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is
seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the
Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and ap-
ostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We
look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #121 “O Little Town of Bethlehem” ST. LOUIS

*BENEDICTION (please remain for the Congregational Benediction)
Minister:The peace of the Lord be with you.
People:And also with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION (On Screens)
Hymn #105, Stanza 1 “People, Look East” BESANCON

(At the conclusion of the service, please share the peace with one another.
Be sure to greet those who are unfamiliar to you or those you have not seen in a while.)

POSTLUDE

AIDS FOR WORSHIP - Large print hymnals and wireless hearing devices (instructions are in
the pew racks) are available in the narthex.

*Congregation stands **Late comers may be seated