

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

BLESSING, SERVING, AND RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP AT THE OPEN TABLE

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION JJ NILES, ARR. GARY LANIER  
*I Wonder as I Wander*

PRAYER AFTER ALL HAVE COMMUNED *(unison)*

God of all hope, we bless and thank you for nourishing us with Christ, the bread of life. Help us to live free from all desires for anything else that promises to satisfy. Strengthen us now to offer this bread to all who hunger. Through Christ, the living bread. Amen.

SENDING FORTH TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE

- \* HYMN OF COMMITMENT 161 *People Look East*
- \* CHARGE & BENEDICTION
- \* CHORAL BENEDICTION *(all sing)*  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PRAYS FOR:

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS: Tom Copple Family, Garry & Roberta Grau, Peggy Burger, Brenda & Robert Long.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS: Jonathan Roberson's sister, Chrisse. Mavis Whitten's great niece, Kacie McDaniel. FPC friend, John Marks. Tina Zarate friend of Pam Davidson. Friends of Vicki Ball, Tom & Jenny Hines. FPC Nursery teacher, Lupe Yanez. Friends of Aislinn King, Carol Scarborough. FPC Scholar Singer Gaby Jaime's grandparent, Joe Garcia. Paul Vega, a friend of Yolanda Garcia's son. Laura Nurse, daughter of Mary Massingill. Stephanie, a friend of Karen Copple.

Prayers for this church in transition.

Many thanks to the congregational care team for their ministries of care, including updating prayer concerns.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN LUBBOCK

ORDER OF WORSHIP

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 1, 2024 10:30 AM

*As a church family, we strive to connect people to God and to one another as we follow Christ.*

Calendar of Events

<p><u>Today, after worship</u> 11:30 am Christmas Tree Decorating Cookies &amp; Punch—DH</p> <p><u>Wednesday, 12/4</u> 7:00 pm Choir—CR 8:15 pm Handbell Practice—</p> <p><b>Second Sunday of Advent</b> <u>Sunday 12/8</u> 8:30 am United Methodist Worship Service —S 9:50 am Choir Rehearsal—S 9:30 am Morning Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Guest Preacher—S</p>	<p><u>Monday, 12/9</u> 1:00 pm Canasta Group—DH</p> <p><u>Wednesday, 12/11</u> 7:00 pm Choir—CR 8:15 pm Handbell Practice</p> <p><b>Third Sunday of Advent</b> <u>Lessons &amp; Carols</u> <u>Sunday 12/15</u> 8:30 am United Methodist Worship Service —S 9:50 am Choir Rehearsal—S 9:30 am Morning Bible Study 10:30 am Worship—S 11:30 am Christmas Potluck 1:00-3:30 pm Nunn Recital—S</p>
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*The Annunciation of Mary, by Henry Ossawa Tanner, 1898, Philadelphia Museum of Art*



WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY:

Minister of Word and Sacrament: **Rev. Dr. Robert P. Reno, MDiv, Ph.D.**  
Liturgist: **Chris Crawford**  
Pianist: **Dr. Spencer Hartman**  
Director of Music: **Alexa Brown**  
Oboist: **Dr. Jordan Hasting**

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## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

\* *Please Stand in the body or in spirit*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS THE REV. ROBERT RENO

CHORAL INTROIT ANNA LAURA PAGE  
*Prepare the Way of the Lord*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES RICK & KATHY MCDOWELL

CANTOR: *For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits,  
truly my hope is in you.*

Children of God, we come, tired of waiting, burdened by the weight of watching. We surrender to God's holy "not yet," embracing the stillness. We come, and God-with-us is present in our longing.

*As we gather today,  
we remember the promised gifts of the Messiah.  
In the lighting of one candle,  
we set our gaze upon beacons  
that sustain us through sleepless nights and restless days.  
We bear this light together.*

We call this candle Hope. *(Light the candle.)*

CHOIR: *O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory, your radiance shines in all who look to you, come light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.*

Holy Creator, we tremble under the weight of suffering, its presence heavy in our midst. It is the mess of our own making that pierces our hearts. Our fears, our need for control, our dismissal of the other, leave us — and all of creation — groaning for justice, aching for peace. You, O God, are our hope, the quiet strength in our deepest longing.

*We stand in awe of a light that endures,  
a steady glow through the dimmest days.  
We draw near to the God who waits with grace,  
filling us with hope in every season.  
With hearts ignited, we work and wait for justice,  
trusting that it shines beyond even the deepest shadows.  
Though our flames may falter, we press on,  
for God-is-with-us — Emmanuel is near.*

CHOIR: *For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits,  
truly my hope is in you.*

\* HYMN OF PRAISE 154 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

CALL TO CONFESSION CHRIS CRAWFORD  
Prepare the way of the Lord! Get ready for the day of salvation!  
Let us make our confession to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

**O promised Christ:  
We are a world at war.  
Our peace depends on your coming.  
We are a sinful people.  
Our pardon depends on your coming.  
We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises;  
our only hope of doing God's will  
is that you should come and help us do it.  
Lord Christ, Word made flesh,  
our world waits for your peace,  
for your pardon, and for your grace.  
Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

*(Please continue to pray in silence.)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON THE REV. ROBERT RENO

My friends, as we hear the ancient prophecies of the coming of the Messiah, we long for the day when death will be swallowed up and every tear will be wiped away. As we wait expectantly for Christ's promised return, we live in the assurance of God's gracious forgiveness.

**Thanks be to God.**  
The peace of God be with you all.

**And also with you!**  
Let us offer signs of peace and reconciliation.

\* PASS THE PEACE

\* GLORIA 195 *Gloria, Gloria, Gloria*

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

**O God, on earth's first day you caused light to shine out of darkness. Now flood our hearts with light from your Word.  
O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, you are the light of the world. As we read and speak and listen, shine the light of Jesus in us and through us. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON JEREMIAH 33: 14-16

SECOND LESSON LUKE 21: 25-36

SERMON "Last House on the Left" REV. ROBERT RENO

CHORAL ANTHEM HAL H. HOPSON

*Sing a Song of Advent*

*(Congregation joins as indicated, Please remain seated)*

Choir and Congregation:

*Refrain*

Sing a song of Ad - vent, sing a song of joy.

God soon comes to live a-mong us - God, Em-man - u - el.

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended to heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he will come to judge the quick 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

CHORAL RESPONSE SUSAN NAYLOR CALLAWAY  
*Advent Communion Song*

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Come to the table as an offering of yourself, a re-commitment to faith. You may also bring your tithes and offerings. Take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and consume both at once. Gluten free option available. All are welcome.*

CALL TO COMMUNION

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from east and west, from north and south, and sit at the table in the kingdom of God. When our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invited those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you have created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us — even when we fell into sin. We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose coming opened to us the way of salvation and whose triumphant return we eagerly await. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

738 *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (all sing)*

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. You sent him into this world to satisfy the longings of your people for a Savior, to bring freedom to the captives of sin, and to establish justice for the oppressed. He came among us as one of us, taking the lot of the poor, sharing human suffering. We rejoice that in his death and rising again, you set before us the sure promise of new life, the certain hope of a heavenly home where we will sit at table with Christ, our host. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.