

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

In grateful response to all that God has done for us in Jesus Christ, we continue our worship as we present our tithes and offerings.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

God has shown us the meaning of generosity in the beautiful diversity of creation, in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ, in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit. God has abundantly blessed us and called us to be a community that honors each other, to serve others with joy, to share our love and material possessions. Let us rejoice in what we have been given and in what is ours to give. We will now receive the morning offering.

OFFERTORY

JOEL RANEY

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

* DOXOLOGY (to the tune of O Tannenbaum)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
in every generation.**

**Praise God, all creatures here below,
the source of our salvation.**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,**

Let all creation praise the Lord with love and adoration!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Lord God Almighty, you have done and are doing great things for us, and holy is your name. Bless all we offer you – ourselves, our time, and our possessions – that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE

* DEPARTING HYMN 153

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION

ANNA LAURA PAGE

Come, Lord Jesus

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PRAYS FOR:

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

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS : 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.

Calendar of Events

Monday, 12/9

1:00 pm Canasta Group—DH

Wednesday, 12/11

7:00 pm Choir—CR

8:15 pm Handbell Practice—

Sunday, 12/15

Lessons & Carols

8:30 am United Methodist

Worship Service —S

8:45 am Choir Rehearsal—CR

9:30 am Morning Bible Study

10:30 am Worship—S

11:30 am Christmas Potluck

1:00 pm –3:00 pm pm Nunn

Recital—S

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY:

Minister of Word and Sacrament: Rev. Jonathan Scanlon

Liturgist: Gary Grau

Pianist: Dr. Spencer Hartman

Cantor: Yiru Chen

Director of Music: Alexa Brown

Violinist: Marian Herrero

Handbells: Briana Brady & Madison Hanson

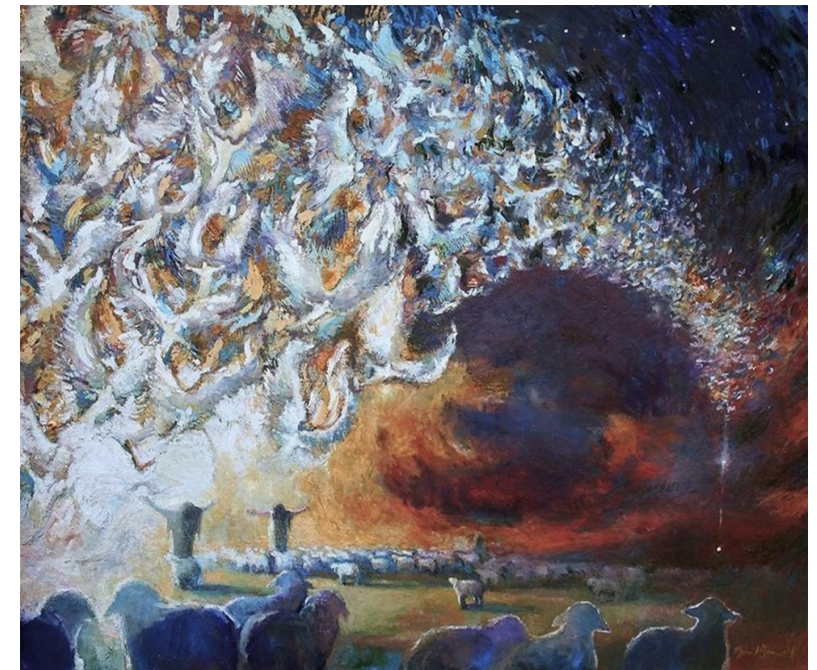


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN LUBBOCK

ORDER OF WORSHIP

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 8, 2024 10:30 AM

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



SEEING SHEPHERDS, BY DANIEL BONNELL (BORN 1955),
CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN

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GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL PRELUDE DAVID LANTZ III
Come Flood This Heart of Mine

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES DAVID & ANNA DANIEL

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 two candles, 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 first candle.)*
We call this candle Peace. *(Light the second candle.)*
Choir: O Key of Knowledge, guide us in our
pilgrimage, we ever seek, yet unfulfilled remain,
open to us the pathway of your peace.

Eternal Source, amid life's turmoil, we find our way
by turning to you. When courage fades and trust feels
fragile, your promises remain steady and true.
You are the unfailing light on our path, You, O God,
are our hope and our peace, the quiet strength in our
deepest longing.

*At times our souls are disquieted
weary from our own expectations.
The anxiousness of life can pull us away
from the promise of your peace.
Yet, you offer us peace, a gift, not as the world gives,
but a peace unencumbered by life's demands
or the chaos of our souls.
We say "yes" to the peace you give,
and all that comes with it.*

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

* HYMN OF PRAISE 155
Comfort, Comfort Now My People

CALL TO CONFESSION GARRY GRAU
When we see God's beautiful holiness, we recognize
our own lack of holiness. God is light and truth, yet
we live among shadows and lies. People of God, let us
acknowledge who and whose we are; let us ask our
powerful God to illumine us with grace and truth in
Jesus, our Lord. Let us confess our sins as we pray
together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*
**Merciful God,
always with us, and always coming:
We confess that we do not know
how to prepare for your Advent.
We have forgotten how to hope in miracles;
we have ignored the promise of your kingdom;
we get distracted by all the busyness of this season.
Forgive us, God.
Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds,
the intelligent courage of the Magi,
and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph,
that we may journey with them to Bethlehem
and find the good news of a child born for us.
Now, in the quiet of our hearts,
We ask you to make us ready for his coming.**
(Please continue in silent prayer.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON REV. JONATHAN SCANLON
Jesus, the long-expected Savior, was born to set us
free. He released us from our fears and sins and helps
us find our rest in him. Jesus delivers us from the way
of sin and death. Yet he remains the desire of people
in every nation, and he will direct us into the ways of
his kingdom. And so, with hopeful hearts, we call to
him: Come now, long-expected Jesus, come again to
rule in our hearts. My friends, hear this good news: In
Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
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)*
**God of love and power, you revealed to us in your
Word, in accounts of prophecy and fulfillment that
direct our attention to Jesus Christ. Illumine us
now as we hear your Word proclaimed, that we
may open our hearts to him, yearn for his coming
in glory, and serve him with joy. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON LUKE 3: 1-6
SECOND LESSON MALACHI 2: 17-3: 4
SERMON "*Courageous Waiting*" REV. JONATHAN SCANLON
CHORAL MEDIATION GILBERT M. MARTIN
How Shall We Know Him?

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(unison)*
**The only mediator of the covenant of grace is the
Lord Jesus Christ, who being the eternal Son of God,
of one substance and equal with the Father, in the
fullness of time became man, and so was, and
continues to be, God and man, in two entire distinct
natures, and one person, forever. Christ, the Son of
God, became man by taking to himself a true body,
and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power
of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, of
her substance, and born of her, yet without sin.
Christ humbled himself in his conception and birth,
in that, being from all eternity the Son of God in the
bosom of the Father, he was pleased in the fullness of
time to become the Son of man, made of a woman of
low estate, and to be born to her, with divers
circumstances of more than ordinary abasement.**
from THE WESTMINSTER CATECHISM

* CALL TO PRAYER 156
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

PASTORAL PRAYER