



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENID

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 24, 2023 | 10:50AM

Welcome & Announcements

Sentences of Scripture & Opening Prayer

Lesson One: The World Awaits a Savior

[Sheep, Donkeys & Other Animals]

♪ O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Lesson Two: A Baby is Coming! But Joseph forgot to book that room...

[Mary and Joseph look for a room]

♪ O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.





Lesson Three: Born in a Barn

[Mary has a baby, places him in a manger]

♪ Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Lesson Four: It's a Boy! Shepherds get the birth announcement – from Angels!

[Angels Appear to Shepherds]

♪ The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)

This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. (Refrain)

DON'T BE AFRAID! I HAVE good news!



Lesson Five: Wise men go to find Him

[Kings bring gifts to the baby Jesus]

♪ We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign. (Refrain)

Lesson Six: Remembering the Story

Children's Message: Lighting the Advent Candle

We give thanks for the light of Christ, shining in the lives of all God's people.

With the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah, we watch and wait for the coming of Christ who will bring light and peace to all the world.

With John the Baptist, we cry out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord! Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

With Mary, the mother of Jesus, we rejoice, for the Mighty One has done great things for us. How holy is God's name!

With Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, we tell the story of Jesus, the child of Bethlehem, who came to save us, and is coming again in glory.

♪ Joy to the Word—Verse 1



Call to Confession

God of grace, ever faithful to your promises, the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes, for he is Lord forever and ever. **Amen.**

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.

Assurance of Pardon

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

[Optional: Reading of the Word & Homily]

Affirmation of Faith—Apostle's 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Special Music: “Jesus is Born, Prince of Peace” by Lloyd Larson

Vicki Matthews & Anita Cribley

Call to Give

Offering

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son & Holy Ghost. † Amen.

†or: Praise Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.”

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People & 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. Lead us not into temptation, and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***Hymn: “Go Tell it on the Mountain” #136**

***Blessing & Benediction**

***Passing of the Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday
9:00am—4:00pm

Church Office Contact

info@fpcenid.com
580-237-5413

Pastor's Contact

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Pastor's Office Hours:

Tue-Thurs 10:00-4:00
or by appointment

*The weekly calendar
and information about
programming can be
found on our website at
www.FPCEnid.com*



First Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Alison Burchett	<i>Pastor</i>
Sarah Thompson	<i>Church Secretary</i>
Carol Broughton	<i>Financial Manager</i>
James Cherry	<i>Building Supervisor</i>
Ursula Touhy	<i>Church Assistant</i>
Charlotte Ringwald	<i>Nursery Coordinator</i>
Kelli Lamerton	<i>Nursery Assistant</i>
Eddie Lou Strimple	<i>Choir Director</i>
Chuck Belknap	<i>Musician</i>
Brayan Hernandez	<i>IT/Technology</i>

First Presbyterian Church Session

Leslie Sweat	<i>Worship ('23)</i>
Sam Robinson	<i>Finance ('23)</i>
Virginia Groendyke	<i>Building & Grounds ('23)</i>
Kay Lamerton	<i>Personnel ('24)</i>
Eddie Lou Strimple	<i>Congregational Care ('24)</i>
David Moore	<i>Fellowship ('24)</i>
Stephanie Ezzell	<i>Christian Education ('24)</i>
Greg Hodgen	<i>B&G, Tech. ('25)</i>
Roslyn Wilken	<i>Personnel ('25)</i>
Marie Pierce	<i>Clerk of Session</i>