



# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENID

DECEMBER 3RD, 2023 | 10:50 AM  
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Zoe Robinson, Liturgist  
Daphne Dougherty, Cellist

*Special thanks to Kay Lamerton for contributing today's Hanging of the Greens liturgy!*

*Childcare is available in our nursery for infants and young children.*

*Children's church is offered for grades K-5 after the children's sermon.*

*Children who prefer to stay in the sanctuary during worship are always welcome!*

***Texts in bold*** indicate places where the congregation reads together.

\*Asterisks (stars) indicate places where the congregation is invited to rise in body or spirit.

———— GATHERING ————

RINGING OF THE BELLS

**\*OPENING HYMN: "I HEARD THE BELLS ON ADVENT DAY"**

I heard the bells one Advent day  
Their old familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet the words repeat  
Of peace of earth, good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,  
The belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along th'unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head:  
"There is no peace on earth," I said,

"For hate is strong, and mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:  
"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;  
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,  
With peace on earth, good will to men."

Till, ringing, singing on its way,  
The world revolved from night to day  
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,  
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

#### OPENING PRAYER & WELCOME TO ADVENT

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

The Word of the Lord is sure:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
**those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shined.** *Isaiah 9:2*

**Christ has come into the world as a light,  
so that no one who believes in him should stay in darkness.** *John 12:46*

This is the message we have heard and proclaim to all:  
**God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.** *1 John 1:5*

Let us get ready with hope for this light.

**Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord**

#### LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREES

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH - HOPE

ROBINSON FAMILY

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Advent means coming.

We are preparing ourselves for the days

**when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares,** *Isaiah. 2:4*

**and their spears into pruning hooks;**

**nation shall not lift up sword against nation,**

**neither shall they learn war any more.**

We light this candle as a sign of our hope.

Hope for a new life. Hope for new relationships.

Hope for a world made new in Christ.

**Let us walk in the light of the Lord. Amen.**

ANTHEM

“BRING US HOPE”

FPC CHOIR

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

*Children grades K-5 are invited to attend Children’s Church after the Children’s message. Those who prefer to stay with their families are always welcome to stay in the sanctuary for regular worship.*

———— THE WORD ————

**\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: “O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL” #88**

GOSPEL READING: MARK 13:24-37

‘But in those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he\* is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert;\* for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

SERMON

REV. ALISON BURCHETT

ANTHEM

“PEOPLE LOOK EAST”

FPC CHOIR

———— THE EUCHARIST ————

OFFERING

*To make a gift online, visit [www.FPCEnid.com](http://www.FPCEnid.com)*

*The December Special Mission gifts will support the Salvation Army. Donations made to Special Mission projects are matched up to \$1000 by the Mission Committee.*

**\*THE DOXOLOGY #606**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

**Praise God all creatures here below;**

**praise God above ye heavenly host!**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## 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.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise,  
O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

We give thanks, O Lord, that the days are surely coming when all the world will see the fulfillment of your promise of salvation. You alone are our righteousness, our only hope for justice and peace. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest...**

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

...

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All people are invited to take communion at FPC.  
Certified gluten-free communion is available at all serving stations.  
If you are not able to come forward or would like to receive communion from your seat,  
please raise a hand and a server will bring the elements to you.*

\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love  
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

———— SENDING ————

\*BENEDICTION & BLESSING

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

*Words and Music reprinted under ONE LICENSE A-736526 and CCLI Acct: 1634924  
Today's liturgy adapted from "Hanging of the Greens" service written by Kay Lamerton,  
and from resources put out by the Presbyterian Mission Agency.*

## **WELCOME TO FIRST PRES!**

Whether this is your first time in a church, or you've been here forever, we are glad to have you with us here today.

I pray that while you're here, you'll find a joyful and inclusive community where we lift each other up, wrestle with big questions, and seek to share the Love of Christ with one another and our community.

After church, I hope you'll stick around for a minute and say hello. If you have questions about our church, what we believe, or how to get involved, come find me or an usher after the service, or shoot me a text or email and we'll get together for coffee!

- Alison Burchett, Pastor

## **MANNA MEAL UPDATES**

11/25—60 served.

Thank You Lamerton Crew!!!

## **Upcoming Servers:**

12/09— Christy & Deborah

## **CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP TIMES:**

SUNDAY MORNING: 10:50AM

CHRISTMAS EVE[NING]: 8:00PM

## **2024 PLEDGE CARDS**

Pledge cards for 2024 are now available. If you or your family would like to make a financial pledge to support the work of FPC, please fill out a pledge card and return it in the offering plate, or to the church office.

## **This Week We Remember in our Prayers:**

Gay Cocheres

Ashley Hughes

Larry Everitt

Stephanie Ezzell

Kathi Miller

Suzy Traynor

Luke Harrison

Lacinda Harrison

Meredith (Meara) Duke

Tracy and Sean Strimple Family

Max and Carolyn Moore

Beth Young

Margaret Ball

Marylyn Branson-Keck

Marilyn Pearce

Tricia Pruitt

Cards for Gay Cocheres may be sent to:  
Jim Thorpe Rehabilitation Room 370  
5300 N Independence  
Oklahoma City, Ok 73112

### ***Church Office Hours***

Monday—Friday  
9:00am—4:00pm

### ***Church Office Contact***

info@fpcenid.com  
580-237-5413

### ***Pastor's Contact***

Rev. Alison Burchett  
revburchett@fpcenid.com  
360-388-1006

### ***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](http://www.FPCEnid.com)*



### ***First Presbyterian Church Staff***

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

### ***First Presbyterian Church Session***

Leslie Sweat	<i>Worship ('23)</i>
Sam Robinson	<i>Finance ('23)</i>
Virginia Groendyke	<i>Building &amp; 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&amp;G, Tech. ('25)</i>
Roslyn Wilken	<i>Personnel ('25)</i>
Marie Pierce	<i>Clerk of Session</i>