

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENID

DECEMBER 17TH, 2023 | 10:50 AM
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Greg Hodgen, Liturgist
Rev. Alison Burchett, Preaching

*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.*

CHRISTMAS MEDLEY

FPC CHOIR

CONGREGATION JOINS FOR "O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels,
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH —

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
Advent means coming. **We are preparing ourselves for the days.**

With Isaiah and Jeremiah, prophets of Israel, we await the promised salvation of the Lord. **We look for the coming of the one who will bring justice and righteousness to the earth.**

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

With Mary, the mother of Jesus, we magnify the Lord, rejoicing in God our Savior, for the Mighty One has done great things for us, and holy is God's name.

The Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory. **Alleluia!**

***HYMN: "HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING" #119**

CALL TO CONFESSION

We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children.
With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Your love is good news for the oppressed, O Lord,
and you bind up the brokenhearted.**

Forgive us, O God, when we think that your good news is only for us.

**Forgive us, O God, when we twist your gospel into something that fits
comfortably into our lives.**

**By your light, let us see you leading us beyond ourselves and into the
world you love.**

By your grace, forgive us, and free us to try again.

(a time for silent confession) **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

———— THE WORD ————

***PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: “O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL” #88** VERSES 1 & 6

ISAIAH 61: 1-7 (RESPONSIVE)

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives
and release to the prisoners,
to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks;
foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines,
but you shall be called priests of the LORD;
you shall be named ministers of our God;

you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations,
and in their riches you shall glory.
Because their shame was double
and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot,
therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion;
everlasting joy shall be theirs.

LUKE 1:26-38 (NIV)

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called^[a] the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

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.*

MATTHEW 1:18-21

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

SERMON

REV. ALISON BURCHETT

ANTHEM

"SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS"

FPC CHOIR

OFFERING

To make a gift online, visit 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

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.

———— SENDING ————

***HYMN: “ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH” #113**

***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 “Call to Worship” and The Book of Common Worship,
both published by the Presbyterian Church (USA)*

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

12/9—40 served.

Thank You Christy & Deb!

Upcoming Servers:

12/23— Natalie Crispin & Crew

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 PRAY FOR:

Lou Lass & family
Cheryl Meyers
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

If your child wants to participate in the Christmas Children's Pageant, please let Polly Maxwell know!

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

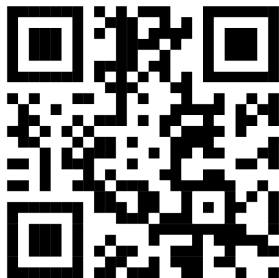
360-388-1006

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*



First Presbyterian Church Staff

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Rev. Alison Burchett | <i>Pastor</i> |
| Sarah Cherry | <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> |