



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENID

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

Marie Pierce, 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.*

———— GATHERING ————

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH — PEACE

MATT, MARY & PIPER

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, and 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."

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

***HYMN: "LOVE HAS COME" #110**

CALL TO CONFESSION

We have all sinned, not one of us is clean; but there is mercy for those who call on the name of the Lord. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

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 our 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.**

Forgive us for making this season about us, and not you.

And hear now our those hurts and wrongs we confess to you
(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.

***“GLORIA PATRIA” (“GLORY BE TO THE FATHER”) #581**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

———— THE WORD ————

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 40:1–11 (RESPONSIVE)

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her:

that she has served her term,

that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, "Cry out!"
And I said, "**What shall I cry?**"

All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

**The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;**

surely the people are grass.

**The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.**

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

ANTHEM

"CREATION WILL BE AT PEACE"

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.

GOSPEL READING: MARK 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

SERMON

REV. ALISON BURCHETT

***HYMN: “COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS” #82**

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: "HE CAME DOWN" #137**

***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

12/2—50 served.

Thank You Roz & Joan!!!

Upcoming Servers:

12/16— Leslie Sweat & David Craig

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

Sherrel Meyers (cousin of Aulda Long)

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

Please call/email the church office if your child wants to participate in the Christmas Children's Pageant!

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 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> |