November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent

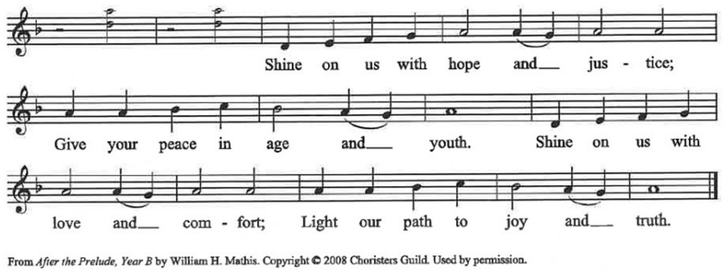
Prelude *"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"* IN DULCI JUBILO

Welcome and Announcements

Two-Cents-a-Meal Hunger Offering

Opening Sentences
Awake from your sleep: salvation is near! *Rom. 13:11-12*
The night is far gone; the day is at hand.
Jesus says: I am coming soon. *Rev. 22:20*
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Lighting of the Advent Candles Sheri Miller and Pattie Yanz
We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
As the Lord has promised, in days to come
The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, *Isa. 2:4*
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
Let us walk in the light of the Lord. **Amen.**



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Prayer of the Day

+ **Hymn: GTG #88** *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* VENI EMMANUEL

Call to Confession

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.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness
… In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response: GTG #88 VENI EMMANUEL
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (refrain only)
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Prayers of Intercession
… God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: GTG #102 NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND
"Savior of the Nations, Come"

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

Message from the Mission Committee Greg Lang
Christmas Joy Offering

Invitation to Offering

Offertory *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* MENDELSSOHN

+ **Response: GTG #133** ADESTE FIDELES
"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (refrain only)
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

+ **Affirmation of Faith** from *The Second Helvetic Confession* (1561)
We believe and teach that the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, was predestined or foreordained from eternity by the Father to be the Savior of the world. And we believe that he was born, not only when he assumed flesh of the Virgin Mary, and not only before the foundation of the world was laid, but by the Father before all eternity in an inexpressible manner. For Isaiah said: "Who can tell his generation?" And Micah says: "His origin is from of old, from ancient days." And John said in the Gospel: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." in testimony of our desire and assurance to be heard, we say, "Amen."

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 9:6-7 O.T. page 486
A child is born for us

Psalm Psalm 122
Gladness in God's house
I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;

to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.
For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.
For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.
Because of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good."

New Testament Lesson Romans 13:11-14 N.T. page 124
Salvation is near; wake from sleep

Gospel Lesson Luke 1:26-38 N.T. page 43
The angel appears to Mary

Response to Scripture *Matt. 3:2*
Repent and return to God; the realm of heaven is at hand.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem *"The World Awaits Your Coming"* Choplin

Sermon Rev. Charlie Herrick
"All God's Children – and This One"

+ **Hymn: GTG #384** *"Soon and Very Soon"* SOON AND VERY SOON

+ **Blessing**
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Alleluia!

+ **Charge**
Prepare the way of the Lord! **Amen.**

Choral Benediction *"We Want To Be Ready"* Besig / Price

Postlude *"Joy to the World"* ANTIOCH

You are invited to join us for fellowship and refreshments after worship in the Memorial Room.
It is not necessary to remain seated during the postlude.

Serving Us Today
Liturgist: Suzanne Lang • **Youth Acolyte:** Sam Pinches
Greeters: Sam Pinches and Katharine Wise
Next Week's Greeters: Rick Cote and Lucinda Davenport
Sound: Tami Chapman • **Livestream:** Tami Chapman
Security: Doreen Chapman and Mike Buchman
Today's flowers are given by John and Sally Hughes
in memory of Darlene Martin

Church History in Miniature

#56: Rome

In Rome and under house arrest while awaiting trial,
Paul spreads the Gospel for two years, talking about the faith
with both Jews and Gentiles. *(Acts 28:17-17-31) (AD 60-62)*

The Study Catechism

Question 86. Does resurrection hope mean that we don't have to take action to relieve the suffering of this world?

No. When the great hope is truly alive, small hopes arise even now for alleviating the sufferings of the present time. Reconciliation — with God, with one another, and with oneself — is the great hope God has given to the world. While we commit to God the needs of the whole world in our prayers, we also know that we are commissioned to be instruments of God's peace. When hostility, injustice and suffering are overcome here and now, we anticipate the end of all things — the life that God brings out of death, which is the meaning of resurrection hope.

Credits

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The Study Catechism (Full Version): Approved by the 210th General Assembly (1998) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

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Mason First Presbyterian Church

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MINISTERS
All Members

STAFF
Pastor: Rev. Bill Pinches
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Charlie Herrick
Spiritual Growth Director: Lori Filka
Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director: Deb Melse
Office Manager: Jessica Tessman
Financial Secretary: Becky Moots
Choral Music Accompanist: Yinzhe Li
Sexton: Eric VanDyke
Adult Spiritual Growth Coordinator: Michelle Mackey
Child Care: Jill Castle, Jasmine Leffew,
Violet Mackey, Sam Pinches, Keren Tayong

ELDERS
Class of 2025: Doreen Chapman, Mary Garland Jackson,
Greg Lang, Monte Shuck *(Recording Clerk)*
Class of 2026: Bruce Archer *(Clerk)*, Ginnie Gibson,
Jane Hamelink, Tim Hammond
Class of 2027: Travis Archer, Dan Baker, Evelyn Tayong, Steve Sowles
Elders-Elect: Mary Garland Jackson, Greg Lang, Suzanne Lang, Monte Shuck

DEACONS
Class of 2025: Marge Clarke, Julie Dart, Tom Seely *(Moderator)*.
Class of 2026: Ron Dlouhy *(Treasurer)*, Bill Leutscher, Sandy Leutscher,
Nancy Sue MacDonald *(Secretary)*, Laurie McGonigal
Class of 2027: Donna Archer, Rick Cote,
Sally Hughes, Debbie Johnson, Issie Nielsen
Deacons-Elect: Sandy Diehl, Pattie Yanz, Torrie Yanz

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tuesday	Mission Committee	3:00 pm
Wednesday	Lunch Packing for Advent House	10:15 am
	Midweek Prayer	12:00 pm
	Wonderful Wednesday (K-12)	4:00 pm
	Wednesday Night Dinner	6:00 pm
	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:10 pm
Thursday	Administration Committee	7:00 pm
	Board of Deacons	7:00 pm
Friday	Visitation for Ethan Lockwood	10:00 am
	Memorial Service for Ethan Lockwood	11:00 am
	Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath	
Saturday	Hanging of the Greens	10:00 am
	Yarners	10:00 am

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK
Dec. 1: Le Ji (Claire)
Dec. 5: Gerald Woolston

Mason
First Presbyterian Church

November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent

Annunciation to Mary
by Father George Saget, 1963
Keur Moussa Abbey, Senegal

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David." (Luke 1:32)