

The Gathering

Silent Meditation

Prelude

Lovelace

Pastorale on "What Is This Lovely Fragrance"

Words of Welcome

Hugo Sandoval

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Introit

* Call to Worship

(Luke 1: 47-55)

Leader: My spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

People: Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

Leader: His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

People: He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

Leader: He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

People: He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

* Hymn 20

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

ABERYSTWYTH

* Prayer of Confession

Nick Reed

Holy God, Righteous Judge, have mercy upon us. We have been proud in our thoughts of our hearts; you would be right to scatter us. We have grasped at worldly power; you could surely choose to bring us down. We have focused only on our own success and have allowed the poor to suffer. Have mercy on us, Lord! Remind us of your grace in ages past. Humble us, that we may find our strength in you. Kindle in us love for all you love, that we may join you in your work of mercy, redemption, and joy. Amen

* Silent Confession

* Declaration of Pardon

* Gloria Patri

Hymn 579

* The Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

The Word of God

First Lesson

Isaiah 35: 1-10

Second Lesson

James 5: 7-10

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Anthem

Smith

Masters In This Hall

Children's Message

Nick Reed

* Gospel Lesson

Matthew 11: 2-11

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Joy of Suffering”

Dr. Cheetham

Response of the People

* Affirmation of Faith

from the Westminster Confession

Of God, and of the Holy Trinity

There is but one only living and true God, who is infinite in being and perfection, a most pure spirit, invisible, without body, parts, or passions, immutable, immense, eternal, incomprehensible, almighty; most wise, most holy, most free, most absolute, working all things according to the counsel of his own immutable and most righteous will, for his own glory; most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin; the rewarder of them that diligently seek him; and withal most just and terrible in his judgments; hating all sin, and who will by no means clear the guilty.

In the unity of the Godhead there be three Persons of one substance, power, and eternity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. The Father is of none, neither begotten nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Ghost eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son.

* Hymn 40

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

* Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Once He Came In Blessing

Manz

* Doxology

Hymn 592

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Sending Forth

* Hymn 37

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

LEZY

* Charge and Benediction

* Choral Response

Postlude

O Thou of God the Father

Bach

Lay Reader:

Karen Hall

We **welcome** Jerry and Sandra Vance to our congregation this morning by letter of transfer.

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

Today	8:45 am	Contemporary Service
	9:45 am	Church School
	11:00 am	Worship Service
	5:00 pm	Deacon's Meeting
	7:30 pm	Worship Committee
Monday	9:30 am	Morning Sewing Group

Tuesday	9:00 am	Preschool
	4:00 pm	Knitting Group
Wednesday	4:00 pm	New Building Comm. Meeting
	5:00 pm	Handbell Choir Practice
	7:15 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday	9:00 am	Preschool
	6:30 pm	Contemporary Practice

Last Sunday's Record

Contemporary Service	55	Offering	\$ 2,242.00
Sunday School	41	Weekly Need	5,185.00
Sanctuary Service	94	Through Nov.	215,135.68

The Church Session

Pat Climer, Clerk of Session

2007

Suanne Bone
Tom Halbert
David Howell
Hugo Sandoval

2008

Charles Bradshaw
Pat Climer
Ken Hawkins
Gwynn Lanus

2009

Richard Hartwell
Richard Pellerin
Mary E. Hofstetter
Roy Wauford

The Board of Deacons

Lesley Jacobson, Moderator

Loyce Bradshaw
James Herren
Lesley Jacobson
Karen Jump

Doug Bone
Jennifer Breland
Faye Brown
Becky Burris

Judy Denney
David Foutch
Judy Leonard
Justin Taylor

The Church Staff

Dr. John T. Cheetham, Pastor
Nicholas Reed, Associate Pastor
Gary Scott, Organist
Kristy Stevens, Administrative Assistant
Branson Clark, Music Director
Betsy White, Nursery Attendant
Tracey Hay, Treasurer
Lee Anne Warren, Preschool Director

Prayer Concerns

Alba Telez	Jane Martin	Keri Fitts
Jerry Gray	Archie McKinnes	Debbie McClure
Maclynn Crawford	Elizah Patterson	Gloria Goodhouse
Al Johnson	Carey Mathis	Sara Thompson
Ronnie Walsworth	Ricky Lambert	Irene Campbell
Debbie Sharp	Claudine Prowell	Linda Wills
Debbie York	Deborah Sindorf	Sherry Arnold
Ruth Reeves	David Freeman	Kathy Eckler
Peggy Williams	Susan Bowman	Mary H. Averitt
Racheal Dugger	Deborah Dugger	Hazel Williams
Peggy Marion	Marcia Williams	Brenda Barnes (NC)
Marjorie Nabbe	Susan Beeler	Earl Campbell
Max Taylor	Eddie Watters	Phillip Robertson
Mechelle Bass	Nancy Gamble	Arthur Wagner
Thayer & Alice Smith	David Grandstaff	Nita Taylor
Mac McVicker	Joanne McCanles	Nancy Cook
Taylor Holweger	Robert Nabbe	Margaret Rigsby
Francis Lanus	Kendall Higgins	Barbara Greenamyier

Bob Taylor
Gary Wix

Carol Daglish
Doris Newman

Billie Marks
Joe Boren

Military

Chris Bowhannan
Jaymon Bell
Kevin Alseys
Luke Baker
Matthew Ash
Michael O'Neil
Stewart Beaumont

Jason Nolley
David Midgett
Noah Evans
Matthew Humes
Kyle Flanagan
Scott Bass

Lee Smith
Brian Reeve
Jason Redmon
Randy Sandlin
Mike Matthys
Kyle Kaker

First Presbyterian Church

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Lighting of the Advent Candle The Chasse Family

This morning's symbol is the Hand of God, representing Emmanuel, God with Us. Today we light the Second Advent candle as we focus on the way God broke into human history to provide us with a Savior. May we offer praise and thanksgiving to God for love that provides for all our needs – even our need for forgiveness.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 7:14 *Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold a young woman shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Emmanuel.*

Sanctuary Flowers: The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of George Edward Hall by his mother, Jessie Ruth, his sister, Joy, his children, Jim and Suzanne and his grandchildren, Elizabeth, Caleb, Talli and Lexi.

Poinsettias: Poinsettias will once again decorate our Sanctuary for the Christmas Eve worship service. If you would like to give a plant as a memorial, please call the church office. The cost of the poinsettias is \$13.00. The deadline to place an order is Monday, December 17th.

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