

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRES THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday, December 10, 2023</b> <div>9:30am HeBrews, YL</div> <div>10:00am Children’s Choir Rehearsal, SS2</div> <div>10:00am The Wired Word, PR</div> <div>10:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, SB</div> <div>10:30am Childcare, NR</div> <div>11:00am English Worship Service, SC</div> <div>11:00am Korean Worship Service, CH</div> <div>11:15am Sunday School, 208</div> <div>12:15pm Hospitality Time, MH</div> <div>12:15pm KLM Fellowship, FH</div> <div>12:15pm Nominating Committee, SR</div>	<b>Thursday, December 14, 2023</b> <div>6:30pm Choir Social Time, PR</div> <div>7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, MR</div> <b>Saturday, December 16, 2023</b> <div>9:30am Day School Music Class, MR</div> <div>10:00am Men’s Bible Study, ZM</div> <div>1:00pm Women’s Bible Study, ZM</div> <b>Sunday, December 17, 2023</b> <div>9:30am HeBrews, YL</div> <div>10:00am The Wired Word, PR</div> <div>10:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, SB</div> <div>10:30am Childcare, NR</div> <div>11:00am English Worship Service, SC</div> <div>11:00am Korean Worship Service, CH</div> <div>11:15am Sunday School, 208</div> <div>12:15pm Hospitality Time, MH</div> <div>12:15pm KLM Fellowship, FH</div> <div>12:30pm Green Team Meeting, SR</div> <div>3:00pm Open House at the Eplings, OS</div>
<b>Monday, December 11, 2023</b> <div>1:30pm 3B Exercise Class, MH</div> <div>3:00pm Faith, Fibers, and Fellowship, 302</div>	
<b>Tuesday, December 12, 2023</b> <div>10:00am Staff Meeting, SR</div> <div>11:00am Counter Team, FO</div>	
<b>Wednesday, December 13, 2023</b> <div>10:00am Table Talk, ZM</div> <div>1:30pm 3B Exercise Class, MH</div> <div>7:00pm Advent by Candlelight, MH/SC</div>	

Campus Room Abbreviations

CH	Chapel	MF	McKay Foyer	SB	Sanctuary Balcony
CL	Chapel Lounge	MH	McKay Hall	SC	Sanctuary
CN	Chapel Narthex	MR	Music Room	SDR	Small Dining Room
CY	Courtyard	NP	North Parking Lot	SR	Session Room
FH	Fellowship Hall	NX	Narthex	SS2	Sunday School 2
FO	Front Office	NR	Nursery	TH	Theater
GL	Gallery	OS	Offsite	YL	Youth Lounge
KT	Main Kitchen	PR	Parlor	ZM	Zoom

December 10, 2023  
Second Sunday of Advent  
11:00am



“The Annunciation” © 2015, Jessie DeCorsey



## Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

**Thank you for joining us today!** We're grateful for your presence and invite you to take part in our worship, mission, and programs. Please join us after worship for coffee, cookies, and punch in our fellowship hall, called McKay Hall. Just follow the crowd, and you cannot miss it! Then, we hope you return next Sunday. Livestreaming is available to watch via the website or YouTube, but we know this is no substitute for the community built through in-person connections. We're glad you're here!

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Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal Online. CCLI Copyright: 2801108; Streaming: 21661340*

*\*Those who are able, please stand*

***Congregation responds in bold***

## Gathering

<b>Prelude</b>	Voluntary on <i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i>	Charles Callahan
	Bicinium on <i>Comfort, Comfort Now My People</i>	
	Chorale on <i>"Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us</i>	Philipp Nicolai/J. S. Bach

## Call to Worship

Welcome to worship.  
**Welcome to worship.**  
I am glad you're here.  
**I am glad you're here.**  
Surely God is in this space.  
**Surely God is in this space.**  
I see God in your face.  
**I see God in your face.**  
Let us worship together.  
**Let us worship together.**

## Lighting of the Advent Candles

Carol Rhudy & The Palmison Family

**\*Hymn No. 106** Prepare the Way, O Zion

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

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## Assisting with Worship this Morning

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**Pastors:** Rev. Dr. Anne Epling, Rev. Carrie Winebrenner

**Advent Candle Lighters:** Andrew, Meredith, Eleanor and Evan Palmison and Carol Rhudy (proud Grandma!)

**Elders of the Month/Greeters:** Carolyn Krebs and Carole Slater

**Ushers:** Dan Serban, Jack Patton, David Beer, Anne Barnett

**Director of Music Ministries & Organist:** Brent Neuenschwander

**Assistant Organist:** Kathryn Miller

**Chancel Choir**

**Live Stream Operator:** Dick Florea

**Sound Board Operator:** Jeff Slater

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## MINISTRIES FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

### SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY! K-5TH GRADE RIGHT AFTER THE TIME WITH CHILDREN

Join us for Sunday School with Miss Rachel and Friends! We'll all start in worship together, and then head to our SS room as a group. We hope you'll join us for a lesson, craft, and, of course...Bible Bucks! YAY! Grown-ups, please pick your children up after worship.

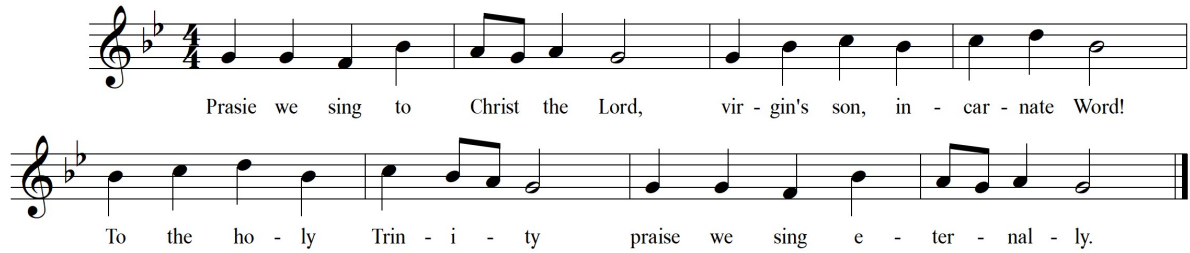
### NURSERY AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN 6MO - 5YEARS

Jesus loves the little children, and we do, too! But should you decide that today would be a good time to explore the nursery, your child is always invited to drop in. Ask an usher for assistance.

### BUSY BAGS FOR CURIOUS MINDS

Worship isn't always easy for little hands and minds to focus, so you are invited to "check out" a fidget toy-filled Busy Bag or a book from our Littles' Library! Please return after church, so it's there next week!

**\*Responsive Hymn No. 102** Praise We Sing to Christ the Lord



### \*Prayer of Dedication

**God of peace, thank you for the ways you break into our weary world with a joy that reaches far beyond anything the world can offer. We ask your blessing upon these gifts that they may help us to share your peace with the world. Bless each of us, that we may be vessels of your joy-filled light in our weary world. Amen.**

## Sending

**\*Hymn No. 93**    Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude** Chorale Prelude on *On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry*

Malcolm Archer

## Chancel Flowers

*The Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Jerry Winters  
by Mary Winters and family.*

### \*Call to Confession

Family of faith, one of the ways we find joy in a weary world is through connection. The prayer of confession is a place of connection with God. In the prayer of confession we get to come before God with our full, messy, honest selves.

And in the midst of that mess, God tells us that we are loved, claimed, and forgiven. There is no greater joy than that. So join me in the prayer of confession, not because you have to, but because you can. Let us connect with our merciful God.

**\*Prayer of Confession**

God of laughter, God of open front doors and family reunions, we confess that we often doubt good news.

**We move through this world waiting for the other shoe to drop, waiting for life to fall apart, waiting for our humanity to get the best of us.**

Instead of leaning into joy, we lean into scarcity.

**We lean into fear. We lean into isolation.**

Forgive us for forgetting that joy is amplified when shared.

**Heal the wounds we have from past hurts, and teach us how to throw open our doors like Elizabeth. Show us how to find joy in connection. Amen.**

### \*Words of Forgiveness

Faith family, I imagine that when we come before God with the truth of our lives, God meets us like Elizabeth meets Mary in our scripture today. The door is thrown open. There is laughter. There is joy. There is embracing—and it is holy.

So trust this; *believe this*: You are claimed. You are loved. You are forgiven. And you are sent to serve. Find joy in that. Amen!

### \*Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*As you are comfortable, we invite you to take a moment to share the Peace of Christ with those around you with a smile, wave, or other signs of connection.*

