



**First  
Presbyterian**  
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

## Service for the Lord's Day

*Please remember to silence your cell phone.* 

December 19, 2021

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

*Welcome to worship! In response to virus numbers and recent guidance, our church is requiring that all those attending worship and any other events inside the church keep masked at all times to help keep vulnerable members safe. Weather permitting, there will be a coffee hour on the plaza following the service. When weather is inclement, you are invited to remain in the sanctuary or chapel and chapel narthex for a time of greeting following worship.*

### The Gathering

**PRELUDE**                      O Come, O Come, Emmanuel                      arr. Thad Fiscella

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**INTROIT**                                      Magnificat                                      Jacques Berthier / Taizé  
Magnificat anima mea Dominum.      *My soul magnifies the Lord.*

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**                                      The Coles Family

We light this candle with love, as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

The Lord will give you a sign.

Look, the young woman is with child.

**She shall bear a son,**

**and name him Emmanuel: "God is with us."**

*Isa. 7:14*

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

**Amen.**

#### \* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Out of the tiny town of Bethlehem comes the one who is to rule in Israel and our hearts.

**He shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord.**

We rejoice because we will live in security.

**He shall be the one of peace.**



*\*Please stand as you are able.*



\* PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Unison*)

God of grace,  
your eternal Word took flesh among us  
when Mary placed her life  
at the service of your will.  
Prepare our hearts for his coming again;  
keep us steadfast in hope  
and faithful in service,  
that we may receive the coming of his kingdom  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, the ruler of all,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

\* HYMN #83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTT GART

\* INVITATION TO CONFESSION

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

God our Savior,  
we ask for your mercy.  
Though we have heard Mary's song,  
we still seek security in pride, power and possessions.  
Though we know your story,  
we resist the costs of following you.  
We pass by those considered lowly in this world.  
We turn away from hungry people, both physically and spiritually,  
who still wait to be filled.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Help us to work for the justice you intend.  
Make us messengers of the peace you bring.  
As we wait for you,  
turn our apathy into acts of love and service.  
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.

*Our prayers continue in silence.*

### \*LORD, HAVE MERCY

Musical score for 'LORD, HAVE MERCY' in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Chri - ste e - lei - son. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Text: Trad. liturgical text Music: Russian Orthodox chant

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

With joy, let us draw water from the springs of salvation.  
Give thanks to the Lord! Call on God's name.  
Friends, I declare to you in the name of Christ that we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God!**

### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Musical score for 'RESPONSE OF PRAISE' in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow: To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One, all things on earth with one ac - cord, like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord. praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851  
Music: Sarum plainsong, Mode IV, 9th cent.

### \*SHARING THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we are also to forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you!**

*Please take a moment to be thankful for God's peace.*

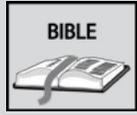


# The Word

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING** Micah 5:2-5a Pew Bible, pg. 865 (OT)  
The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

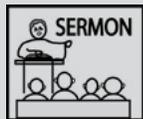


**ANTHEM** In the Stillness Arlen Clarke

In the stillness of our darkness, in the shadows of the night;  
earth is waiting for the promise, longing for the coming light.  
Once before he came in blessing, still he comes, our hearts to win;  
come, Lord Jesus, come in glory, let your heav'n on earth begin.

Come, Almighty to deliver; let us all thy grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never, nevermore our presence leave.  
Light of Light shine through our darkness, turn our night to radiant day;  
come, Lord Jesus, come in glory, open all our hearts to praise. Amen.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING** Luke 1:39-55 Pew Bible, pg. 57 (NT)  
The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, O Christ.



**SERMON** "How to Change the World" Rev. Dr. Spencer Parks

\***HYMN #100** Canticle of the Turning STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

\***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Unison*) *from* the United Church of Canada

We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:  
 to celebrate God's presence,  
 to live with respect in Creation,  
 to love and serve others,  
 to seek justice and resist evil,  
 to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
 our judge and our hope.  
 In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
 God is with us.  
 We are not alone.  
 Thanks be to God.

OFFERTORY

Magnificat

Norah Duncan IV

My soul gives glory to my God who reaches down with loving grace  
 to lift me from my low estate and set me in the highest place.  
 Magnificat, magnificat! With all my heart, I answer Yes  
 when God announces wondrous news. And every age shall call me blest.

God's mercy comforts all who fear, embracing with a steadfast arm  
 that casts the mighty from their thrones, but keeps the humble safe from harm.  
 Magnificat, magnificat! The weak find strength; the weary rest.  
 God's promise sounds from age to age: the needy of the world are blest.

God's justice sends the rich away, but feeds the poor with lavish things.  
 Each hungry soul now fills with joy and joins the song that Mary sings:  
 Magnificat, magnificat! To God, Creator, Christ, the Son;  
 and Holy Spirit— triune God: All praises to the Three-in-One.

— Mary Louise Bringle, 2003 (based on Luke 1:46-55)

*Thank you for your faithful support of the church and Christ's ongoing ministry. You may give through the church website at this link: [firstpresportland.ccbchurch.com/goto/giving](http://firstpresportland.ccbchurch.com/goto/giving) or mail your check to the church office: 1200 SW Alder St., Portland, OR 97205. Those attending worship are invited to leave gifts in the offering plates as they leave the sanctuary.*

\*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all  
 peo-ple here be - low; praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev - er - more;  
 praise Tri-une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

Text: © 1990 by Neil Weatherhogg Music: © 2008 by Hal H. Hopson



**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*Unison*)

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;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**The Sending**

**\*HYMN #88** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*verses 1, 4, 7*) VENI EMMANUEL

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** Toccata on *Veni Emmanuel* Adolphus Hailstork

*Music reprinted under [OneLicense.net](http://OneLicense.net) #A-706706.*

**WORSHIP  
LEADERS**

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Spencer Parks, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Brenna Dykman, Interim Associate Pastor  
Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Parish Associate  
Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries  
Anna Wells, Lector

**PRAYERS OF  
THE PEOPLE**

*We join in holding in prayer:*  
Liz Dean, Ed & Janice Gehrig, Herb Grose, Bob Hastings, Fran Hermanson,  
Myra Rounsavell, Tom Showalter, Pete Taylor, and others facing illness and loss.  
If you would like your name added to the prayer section of the weekly bulletin, or confidential prayers,  
please contact the church office at [office@firstpresportland.org](mailto:office@firstpresportland.org) or by phone at (503) 228-7331.

**SANCTUARY  
FLOWERS**

*The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are in honor of our friends and neighbors who make their homes on the streets and sidewalks of our city and our neighborhood.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Youth Christmas Party

Youth 5th to 12th grade are invited to a Christmas Party at the church today following the service until 1pm. Games, treats, and lots of fun will be had! Come in your best Christmas costume or ugly sweater and friends are always welcome at FPC!

## Call for Coat Donation with “Karen’s Coats”

Open Circle will collect new and clean, like-new coats for people of all ages and sizes. This annual tradition is called “Karen’s Coats” in memory of Karen and Harry Keefer, who used to lead this effort. Collection will begin Sunday, January 2, and end Sunday, January 23, 2022. This collection is for coats only – no hats, gloves, boots, etc. will be accepted. Donations can be placed in the marked barrel in Geneva Hall.

## An Update to Reopening Protocols

Beginning with services on Christmas Eve, the church will resume its usual practice of passing offering plates during worship and asking people to sign and pass fellowship booklets. Our Reopening group has consulted medical advice, and there is assurance that these practices are safe to resume. We will also be discontinuing asking visitors to sign in at the door. Thanks so much for your help in continued masking to help keep those attending safe!

## Fair Trade Holiday Gifts

Order your gifts online for our first virtual (and weekly) Fair Trade Holiday Market! For top quality handmade blankets provided by formerly trafficked and vulnerable women in Bangladesh, shop [www.bashaboutique.com](http://www.bashaboutique.com). To obtain an amazing variety of unique, high quality crafts from Guatemala crafted by poor indigenous women, shop at UPAVIM and Mayan Hands: [www.upavimcrafts.org](http://www.upavimcrafts.org), and [www.mayanhands.org](http://www.mayanhands.org). Thank you for spreading the blessings and joy this holy holiday season.

## Stewardship 2022



*“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind...and love your neighbor as yourself.”*  
- Matthew 22:37-39

“Love God, love our Neighbors” is the focus of First Presbyterian Church’s 2022 stewardship campaign.

While we have much to be thankful for, we are also facing a time of great need and our stewardship pledges allow us to plan for outreach and programs in the year ahead. We set a 2022 pledge goal of \$750,000, and as of December 13, we are at \$695,253, or 92.7% of our goal. We thank all of you who have submitted pledges so far, and for those who have not - it’s not too late! If you have not already done so, we ask you to prayerfully consider a pledge for 2022 for FPC to strengthen the church’s work and witness for the coming year. You can mail your pledge card to the church, or pledge online by going to the church website and clicking on the “Donate” button. Thank you so much for your ongoing support of First Presbyterian Church in Portland. Questions? Please contact the FPC office by email at [office@firstpresportland.org](mailto:office@firstpresportland.org) or call 503-228-7331.

## Zoom Coffee Hour Today After Worship!

Those who are worshipping with us from home are invited to a Zoom coffee hour following the service today beginning just after worship at 11:35 am. You’ll be invited to share a favorite Christmas tradition. The Zoom link is: <https://bit.ly/FPCFellowship>  
Hope you can join in this time of renewing connections with the congregation!

## FPC Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who participated in FPC’s Giving Tree by purchasing, receiving and/or delivering gifts. We delivered over 150 gifts to five different organizations: With Love Foster Care, New Avenues for Youth, Friendly House Senior Citizens, EMO Day Center for Men, and Life Change for Women and their Children. The organizations are incredibly grateful and very appreciative of FPC. Christmas Blessings to all!

## Gifts to the Church

Please note: To make a gift to First Presbyterian Church, including qualified charitable distributions from an IRA and gifts of securities, that counts for the 2021 tax year, the gift must be received by December 31, 2021.

## Lay Readers Needed for the New Year!

Willing and able to lend your voice to a Sunday reading? Lay readers are needed for all Sundays starting January 2022! Send a note to Jennifer in the office: [communications@firstpresportland.org](mailto:communications@firstpresportland.org).

## Scripture Readings

Next week’s scripture readings will be: Psalm 148 and Colossians 3:12-17. The church library has copies of a good study Bible if you’d like more background: *The New Oxford Annotated Bible: New Revised Standard Version*. It is also available on Kindle.



“Visitation,” Mariotto Albertinelli, 1503



LOVE GOD.  
LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS.

***Vision Statement:***

At First Presbyterian Church, we commit to building faithfully on our legacy as a Christ-centered community, serving the spiritual needs of a multi-generational congregation, welcoming and accepting all, honoring all voices. Through engaging worship, thoughtful education, warm fellowship and caring outreach, we will develop and sustain disciples for Christ, serving our neighbors near and far.

## PRINCIPAL CHURCH STAFF

### Pastoral

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Pastor

[aschindler@firstpresportland.org](mailto:aschindler@firstpresportland.org)

Rev. Dr. Spencer Parks, Menucha Director, Associate Pastor

[spencer@menucha.org](mailto:spencer@menucha.org)

Rev. Brenna Dykman, Interim Associate Pastor

[bdykman@firstpresportland.org](mailto:bdykman@firstpresportland.org)

Rev. David Dornack, Parish Associate

[ddornack@firstpresportland.org](mailto:ddornack@firstpresportland.org)

Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Parish Associate

[cgoetschius@firstpresportland.org](mailto:cgoetschius@firstpresportland.org)

### Music

Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries

[ghomza@firstpresportland.org](mailto:ghomza@firstpresportland.org)

### Administration

Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator

[cba@firstpresportland.org](mailto:cba@firstpresportland.org)

First Presbyterian Church  
1200 SW Alder Street Portland, OR 97205



[www.firstpresportland.org](http://www.firstpresportland.org)

Sunday Services online at <https://www.firstpresportland.org/church-life/worship-services/>

Church Office (503) 228-7331

Menucha (503) 695-2243



The Christmas Joy Offering reflects that God is with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us, retired, present and future, who have pointed us to God. Even as we support our current and former church leaders through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, God is calling new leaders for our Church and world, through the ministry of Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color — offering students the means for a brighter future and enhanced opportunities to use their talents and skills to serve God, the Church and the world for years to come.



The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the 21st century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Special Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and they profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

A gift opens doors.

—PROVERBS 18:16



### WAYS TO GIVE



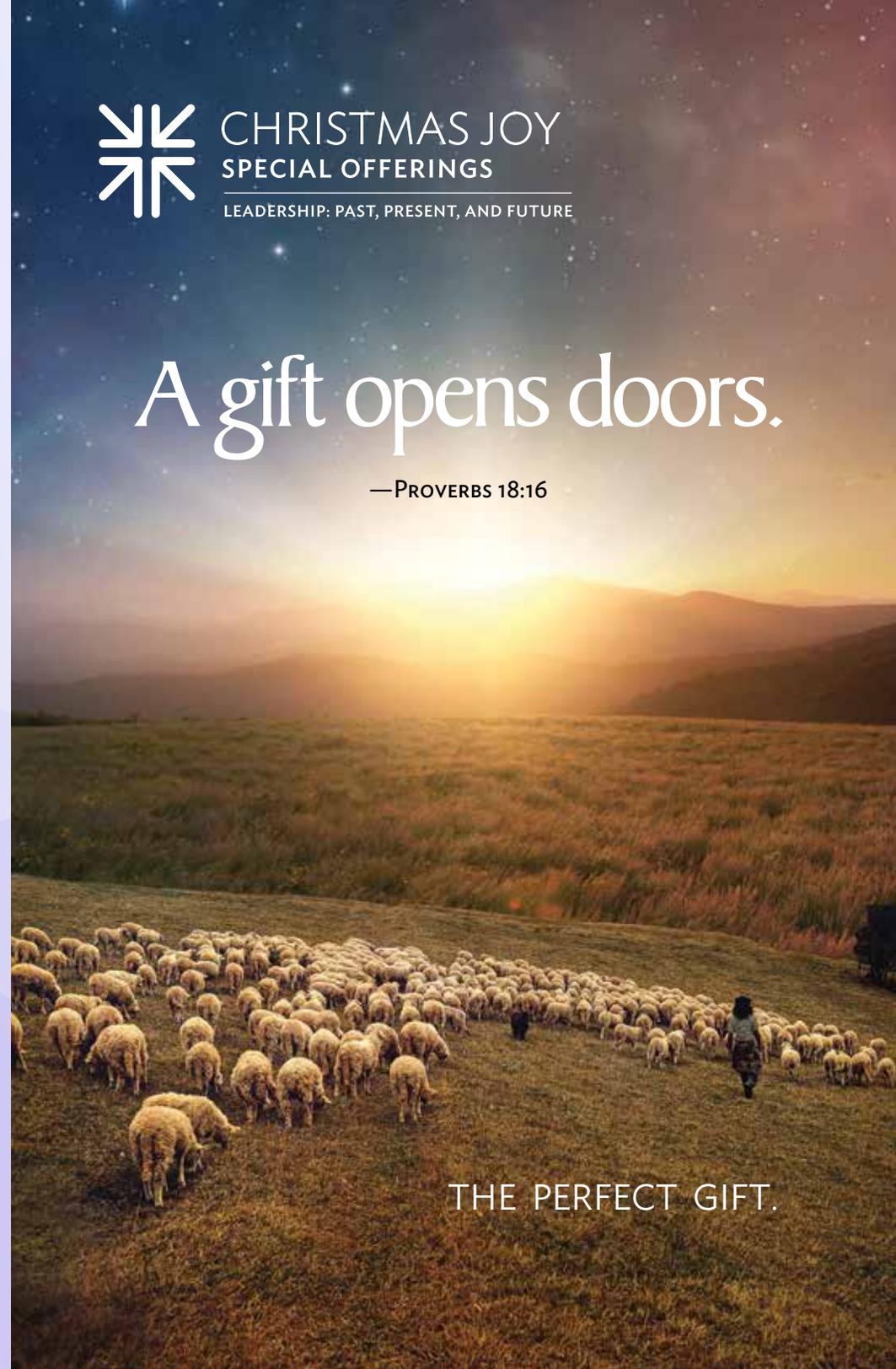
Through your  
congregation



Donate by  
credit card online at  
[pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)



Text  
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to 91999  
to give or visit  
[pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)

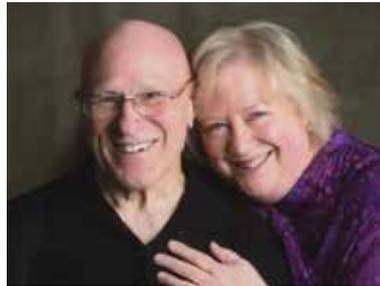


THE PERFECT GIFT.

When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church — past, present and future.

50%

*of your gifts assists current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs.*



Rev. Jack Eisel spent a long career almost entirely in interim ministry. He served 15 interim pastorates over 25 years, in 12 different presbyteries throughout the western U.S. There God used his gifts to help congregations navigate through challenging and often difficult times. Then a time came when Jack and his wife Kate experienced their own difficult times because of circumstances beyond their control. The Income Supplement that the Eisel's receive from the Board of Pensions is making the difference between uncertainty and stability.



*“Stability in retirement can be a weight lifted, and one that allows for retirees like Jack and Kate to live with emotional and financial flexibility.”*

— Lucas McCool, Assistance Program Operations Manager,  
PC(USA) Board of Pensions



50%

*of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.*

Stillman College, situated on a 105-acre campus in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. It was founded in 1876 by a group of Presbyterians led by the Rev. Dr. Charles Allen Stillman, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Tuscaloosa, to become a training school for African-American ministers. Gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering help Stillman provide scholarships to gifted and promising students like Johnykqua Bevens and Rayondre Roberts, both from the Bahamas. Both students' dreams are now more than possible thanks to the gifts of generous Presbyterians.

*“I think a lot of people may not realize how many lives they [Presbyterians] can affect just by their support. It's a simple fact when they give students a scholarship, especially those students who are really in need, it's the best thing that could happen to them. It changes their lives.”*

— Rayondre Roberts



PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY...  
FOR WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!