



# First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF PORTLAND

## Service for the Lord's Day

December 26, 2021

*First Sunday of Christmas*

*Please remember to silence your cell phone.* 

*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** Two settings of *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*  
Fred Bock & David Clark Isele

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**INTROIT** On This Day Earth Shall Ring  
Piae Cantiones (1582) (arr. Gustav Holst)

On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing to the Lord, Christ our King,  
born on earth to save us; him the Father gave us.

Ideo [o o], ideo [o o], ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!

*(Therefore, glory to God in the highest!)*

On this day angels sing; with their song earth shall ring, praising Christ, heaven's King,  
born on earth to save us; peace and love he gave us.

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Today we worship the One who sent us Jesus,

**The One who calls us,**

The One who equips us,

**The One who loves us without end.**

With joyful hearts, let us worship God.



*\* Please stand as you are able.*



**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY** (*Unison*)

Light of life, you came in flesh,  
born into human pain and joy,  
and gave us power to be your children.  
Grant us faith, O Christ, to see your presence among us,  
so that all of creation may sing new songs of gladness  
and walk in the way of peace. Amen.

**\* HYMN #143**

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

**\* INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

**\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Unison*)

God of Mercy,  
when we allow darkness to overcome the light,  
when hardness of heart  
keeps us from seeing  
and hearing the needs of others,  
when our caring is not extended to action,  
forgive our selfish ways  
and help us to clothe ourselves with  
compassion, humility, and gentleness.

*Our prayers continue in silence.*



**\* LORD, HAVE MERCY**



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

John Merbecke, 1550 (arr. Healey Willan, 1930)

**\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Rejoice and be glad!  
Our God is full of mercy, slow to anger,  
and abounding in steadfast love.  
Hear the good news,  
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
Thanks be to God!

**\* RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

GLORIA

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Traditional French carol

**\*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**      Psalm 148      Pew Bible, pg. 582 (OT)  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

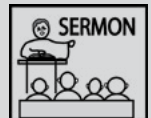


**ANTHEM**                              My Lord Has Come                              Will Todd

Shepherds, called by angels, called by love and angels;  
no place for them but a stable. My Lord has come.  
Sages, searching for stars, searching for love in heaven;  
no place but a stable. My Lord has come.  
His love will hold me, his love will cherish me, love will cradle me.  
Lead me, lead me to see him, sages and shepherds and angels;  
no place for me but a stable. My Lord has come.  
*(Alex Trull, tenor)*

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**      Colossians 3:12-17      Pew Bible, pg. 201 (NT)  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**                              “Post-Christmas Posturing”                              Rev. Brenna Dykman



**\*HYMN #139**                              That Boy-Child of Mary                              BLANTYRE  
*– Please join in singing the refrain –*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Laudamus te *from* Gloria

Antonio Vivaldi

Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.

*We praise you. We bless you. We adore you. We glorify you.*

*(Madeline Ross, soprano; Sarah Beaty, mezzo-soprano)*

*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

THE FIRST NOWELL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Text: © 1990 by Neil Weatherhogg Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, LM with refrain; English carol



\*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 #134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Carillon on *Antioch*

Mary Beth Bennett

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

## WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Brenna Dykman, Interim Associate Pastor  
Rev. David Dornack, Parish Associate  
Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Parish Associate  
Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries  
Jon Bates, 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 poinsettia flowers in the sanctuary this morning are in memory and in honor of family and friends everywhere.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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.

### Honoring Our Past, Securing Our Future

Every year the Christmas Joy Offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA) looks to both our past and our future by giving needed help to retired church workers and supporting the education of prospective church leaders currently enrolled in Presbyterian schools for students of color. Please mail your donation to the church or give online through the church website.

### 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.

### Rev. Schindler on Sabbatical in January

Session has approved for Rev. Schindler to take sabbatical leave (deferred during the pandemic) in January, and then a second block in May-June. (A three-month sabbatical every six years is now part of all pastoral calls in our Presbytery to help renew pastors for their ministry, and this will be taken in two parts to help in providing continuity for the church). During the sabbatical, through the end of January, Rev. Brenna Dykman will be our Acting Head of Staff, and will cover all the parts of this role. Audrey is thankful to the congregation and Session for this time of renewal, especially valued after these months of helping guide the church through the season of the pandemic. We join in wishing her well for this leave!

### Scripture Readings

Next week’s scripture readings will be: Wisdom 10:15-21 (*Apocrypha*) and John 1:1-4, 10-18. 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.

### 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 21, we are at \$756,778, or 101% of our budgeted goal. With the church’s parking garage not yet contributing near its usual amount to the church’s budget, additional pledges will help us offset this shortfall, and continue to keep the church’s life and work strong through this season. 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.



Heavenly Window at  
Chapelle Notre Dame de Grâce



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)

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[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