

NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

The **flowers in the sanctuary** are given by George Venner to the glory of God and in memory of Pat Venner, on what would have been their 64th Wedding Anniversary.

Today, December 3

- 8:45 a.m. - Early Service
- 9:30 a.m. - Youth Choir
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
- 12:15 p.m. - Youth Bells
- 5:00 p.m. - Officer/Staff Christmas Party

Monday

- 7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers

Wednesday—Wednesday Night Live

- 4:45 p.m. - Alleluia Chimes
- 5:45 p.m. - Dinner in Wilbanks Hall
- 6:30 p.m. - Classes and Activities
- 7:15 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. - Deacons Meeting

Next Sunday, December 10

- 8:45 a.m. - Early Service
- 9:30 a.m. - Youth Choir
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
- 12:15 p.m. - Youth Bells
- 5:00 p.m. - Children's Program
- 6:00 p.m. - Church Night Soup Supper with Santa and Caroling

The **Angel Tree** is located in the main hallway between the choir room and the children's classes. Under the Angel Tree there is a box for gift cards. The gift cards will be given to Sharing Life Community Outreach for their Christmas Fare. Deadline to place your gift card in the box is Wednesday, December 13.

This is the next-to-the-last day that you can order **Christmas Poinsettias** to beautify the Sanctuary on December 17th and 24th. They are \$10 each. Use the form in the bulletin to order. Deadline to order will be December 10th. But why wait for the deadline?

A few more new **Church Directories** are available in the Welcome Center. Please take only one-per-family. If you discover inaccuracies, please notify the church office.

There are **Food Pantries** near the *north* entrance (in the Welcome Center), near the *south* door (near the choir room), and near the *(west)* entrance to the Wilbanks Hall building. We are grateful to those who regularly support the pantry, which helps enable the ministry of Mesquite Social Services.

An **audio copy** of most recent sermons may be found on the church website fpcmesquite.org. From the home page menu, select the *worship* tab, then *sermon audio*, and then choose the sermon you wish.

THOSE WHO SERVE

E. Jones Doughton, Pastor-elect
Harry C. Meissner, Interim Pastor
Casey McCollough, Director of Music Ministries
B.J. Mauldin, Organist
Renee Stormer, Administrative Assistant
Thomas G. Wilbanks, Pastor Emeritus

ADVENT 2017 AT FPC

from longing to rejoicing...

Advent is the season of preparation for welcoming the coming of God into our midst in Jesus the Christ.

Advent moves us from longing for God to come help us, to rejoicing in the birth of that presence. There are four Sundays of preparation, and then...Christmas!



December 3 -The First Sunday of Advent—hope
Worship Services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Youth Choir and Bells at 11:00
Holy Communion at both services
Sermon—*Are You Expecting Anything?*

December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent—peace
Worship Services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Sermon—*Light in the Darkness*
5:00 p. m. - Children's Program
6:00 p.m. - Soup Supper and a visit from Santa, Christmas Caroling

December 17 - Third Sunday of Advent—joy
Worship Services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Choir Cantata—*Sing Joy to All the World*

December 24 - Fourth Sunday of Advent—love
One Combined Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.

December 24 - Christmas Eve—rejoicing begins
Candlelight Service at 6:00 p.m.
Sermon—*What I Learned from a Dog Named Max*

December 31 - First Sunday after Christmas Day
One Combined Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.
Ordination and/or Installation of Elders and Deacons
Sermon—*Ready to Go*



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1028 South Belt Line • Mesquite Texas 75149

GUIDE TO WORSHIP

December 3, 2017

1st Sunday of Advent

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.



First Sunday of Advent

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1028 SOUTH BELT LINE
MESQUITE, TEXAS 75149

972-285-5602
www.fpcmesquite.org

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! We hope you find a welcome here worthy of the gracious God we serve. Conventions in this bulletin include: an asterisk () invites you to stand, as health allows, material printed in bold is for the congregation to sing or say, and material printed in italics may provide some helpful information. Large print hymnals or hymn sheets are available from an usher. Let us worship God!*

STRIKING OF THE HOUR FOR WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* Taylor
(8:45) B.J. Mauldin, organist
Joy Scott
(11:00) Youth Bells

INTROIT *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending* Olivers
Soloist (8:45), Chancel Choir (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP *Philippians 1:2, Romans 13:11*
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And also with you.

Salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is near.

*HYMN 106 *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES
(8:45) Sue Bohmer, Carol Stephenson
(11:00) Doris and Ursula Villarreal

The light of one candle points to the way of salvation.

Lead us to you, O Light of the world.

All nations are drawn to the brightness of the Lord.

Lead us to you, O Light of the world.

All believers step into the brightness before them.

Lead us to you, O Light of the world.

The path to paradise shines with God's glory.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

(All singing as the candle is lit:)

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the King.

Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths. Renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love, as Lord of lords, and King of kings, to whom be glory always.

Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please find and sign the Registration of Attendance pad and pass it to others on the same pew, so that we may have a record of your attendance at this service. If you are visiting today, we hope you will provide contact information, especially your email address, so that we may share more about the program and activities of this congregation.

ANTHEM (11:00) *Christmas Offering* Baloché
Youth Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE FIRST READING # (p. 694, OT) Isaiah 64:1-9

THE SECOND READING # (p. 234, NT) I Peter 3:8-15a
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM (11:00) *Tidings of Comfort and Joy* arr. Lloyd Larson
Chancel Choir

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Renee Stormer
At 11:00 a.m., when this time is concluded, children in pre-school through 2nd Grade may go to Children's Church. The rest may return to sit with their family in the sanctuary.

*HYMN 88 (v 1,5,6,7) *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

SERMON *Are You Expecting Anything?* Harry C. Meissner

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *There's a New Kid in Town* Cook/Putnam/Whitley
Ursula Villarreal & Doris Villarreal; Stephen Leake, guitar

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Words of Institution

Reception of the Sacrament

Prayer after Communion

*HYMN 82 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*RESPONSE (11:00) *People, Look East* French folk melody
Chancel Choir

VOLUNTARY *Ding Dong Merrily on High* Hayes

OUR INVITATION

Every service of worship invites us to consider our relationship to Jesus Christ and to his church. If you are not vitally involved in some community of faith and would like to discuss this important matter, please indicate your interest on the registration of attendance pad or speak to the minister following the service.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder - Paula Kusewitt (8:45), Andy Leake (11:00)
** Deacon - Jerry McBain (8:45), Brandon Hall (11:00)
Acolyte - Bailey Romine (11:00)