

NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

Sunday, November 21 - Thanksgiving Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. - Alleluia Chimes Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
- 6:00 p.m. - Men's Council Thanksgiving Dinner

Wednesday through Friday, November 24 - 26

Church Office is Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 28 - 1st Sunday of Advent HOPE

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. - Alleluia Chimes Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
- 4:00 p.m. - Decorate for Christmas (All hands on deck)

Saturday, December 4

TBD - L.I.F.E. Youth - Christmas Village at PCHAS

Sunday, December 5, Communion-2nd Sunday of Advent PEACE

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. - Alleluia Chimes Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

Monday, December 6

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers Rehearsal

Tuesday, December 7

- 9:30 a.m. - Presbyterian Women Morning Circle
- 7:00 p.m. - Presbyterian Women Night Circle

Wednesday, December 8

- 6:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. - Joint Officer's Meeting in the sanctuary

Sunday, December 12 - 3rd Sunday of Advent - LOVE

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. - Alleluia Chimes Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
- 5:00 p.m. - Children's Christmas Pageant followed by refreshments and a visit from Santa

Monday, December 13

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 15

6:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsal

Saturday, December 18

TBD - L.I.F.E. Youth and Faith Builders - Wreaths Across America

Sunday, December 19 - 4th Sunday of Advent - JOY

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service and Cantata
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

Wednesday, December 22

6:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsal

Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight service

5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. - Worship Service

Sunday, December 26 - 1st Sunday after Christmas

- 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service (only one service)
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

Monday thru Friday, December 27 through 31

Church Office will have abbreviated hours, if you need to make a year end contribution, please call first.

The Session approved a recommendation from the Back to Church Task Force on Wednesday, November 10 at the Joint Officer meeting. They recommend *setting aside* the following protocols (barring any drastic spikes in COVID cases):

- 1) Disinfecting the sanctuary following each worship service
- 2) Taking temperatures of those who attend church
- 3) Requiring reservations
- 4) Assigned seats

Out of consideration for those who prefer social distancing, we consider the back 5 rows and the balcony to be "distance zones." Those are places where people self-select to sit apart.



Help the FPC Mesquite L.I.F.E. Youth Group honor local heroes! Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at the Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery.

Just scan the QR code to your left with your smartphone camera to make a donation online or visit www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/TX00524P

The Wreaths are \$15 each. November 30 is the last day to submit your donation.

Thank You!

Alleluia Chimes

All Youth and Children over the age of 5 are invited to participate in a Young People's Chime Choir for a special presentation. This will take place on Sunday, January 9 at both services. Practices will take place at 9:30 and end at 10:00 AM on each Sunday until we present. You will be dismissed in time for Sunday School. Masks to be worn during rehearsals and performance.

It's not too late to participate.

BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY IN THE WELCOME CENTER

Men's Council - 96th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
Sunday, November 21 at 6:00 p.m.
Let us give thanks together.

The Women's Retreat Committee is selling pecans.

A table is set up in the narthex and a committee member will be there to assist you. Please make your purchase after the worship service concludes.

1 lb. bag of halves \$12

1 lb. bag of pieces \$12



THE CHALLENGE

The 100 Can Challenge continues as we go forward in 2021. Let us carry on THE CHALLENGE to collect can goods and other non-perishable items. The donated items will be given to Sharing Life, as they feed those in need in our community. Our current total for November is **132 items. Thank you to all for your continued support.**

GUIDE TO WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 21, 2021



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. Let us worship God!*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1028 SOUTH BELT LINE RD

MESQUITE, TEXAS 75149

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www.fpcmesquite.org

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

STRIKING OF THE HOUR FOR WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY *Give Thanks, People of God* arr. Kevin Keil

INTROIT *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* Catherine Winkworth
(11:00) Chancel Choir (vs 1)

Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.

CALL TO WORSHIP *Philippians 1:2; Romans 5:5, John 4:24*
Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And also to you.

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us. Those who worship God must worship God in spirit and in truth. Let us worship God.

*HYMN 41 *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty, Gracious, and Merciful God; You pardon all who truly repent and turn to You. We humbly confess our sins and ask Your mercy. We have not loved You with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with You, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in Your lovingkindness. In Your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of our salvation and sustain us with Your bountiful Spirit. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE (Hymn 581)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. A—men. A—men.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS #

ANTHEM *Hymn of Promise* Natalie Sleeth
(11:00) Chancel Choir

In the bulb, there is a flower In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise, Butterflies will soon be free.

In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness bringing hope to you and me.

From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

(continued)

In our end is our beginning; In our time, infinity.
In our doubt, there is believing In our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory.

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #

All knowing God, as we hear Your Word today may it heal us where we need mending, may it strengthen us for the journey ahead, and may it enlarge our vision for Your will and purpose. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON # *Matthew 16:13-18*

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON # *Revelation 22:1-7*

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His servants will worship Him; they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. And He said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true, for the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent His angel to show His servants what must soon take place." "See, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 367 *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

CHILDREN'S SERMON Rev. Doughton
Children are asked to remain seated at this time.

SERMON *The Glory of the New Jerusalem* Rev. Doughton

*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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*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.**

*HYMN 336 *We Gather Together*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE *God, We Honor You* James E Clemens
Chancel Choir
God, we honor you. God, we trust in You.
God, we worship and adore You.
Take what we bring, offered to You.
Teach us to show Your abundant blessings.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, amen.

*VOLUNTARY *Now Thank We All Our God* arr. R. Kevin Boesiger

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder # - Brian Neece (8:45); Charles Hammer (11:00)

Deacon/Ushers - Gina Villafana,

Madison Villafana, Brittany Hammer and Taylor Hammer

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary were given by Hope Sheppard in honor of Aaron and Hope Elizabeth Sheppard-Mahaffey's birthdays.

THOSE WHO SERVE

Rev. Dr. E. Jones Doughton, Pastor
Ben Clifton, Director of Music Ministries
Ryoji Shimpo, Organist
Renee Stormer, Administrative Assistant
Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Wilbanks, Pastor Emeritus