

## FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary were given by Meg GarverHamilton with great thanks to God.

## NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

### 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

### Friday, December 10

6:00 p.m. - L.I.F.E. Youth and Faith Builders - Bethlehem revisited

### 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.

## 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



We will be sending a check to Sharing Life to help them with their Christmas giving. Sharing Life plans to bless 100 families by helping with not only Christmas food and toy needs, but by providing housing and utility assistance, too! FPC Mesquite will be accepting monetary donations in the offering plate, online or via snail mail to the church. Our **deadline is Sunday, December 12, 2021**. You may also go to their website and purchase gifts via Amazon, if so inclined.

Today, Sunday, December 5, is the last day to order your poinsettias. Please see the insert within your bulletin.



The Christmas Pageant returns on Sunday, December 12 at 5 PM. Light Refreshments will follow in Wilbanks Hall. If your child or youth would like to participate, please contact Sheila Hammer or Erin Edling.



## The Women's Retreat Committee is selling pecans.

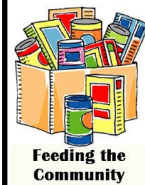
A table is set up in the narthex and a committee member will be there to assist you. Please make your purchase after the worship service concludes.

1 lb. bag of halves \$12

1 lb. bag of pieces \$12



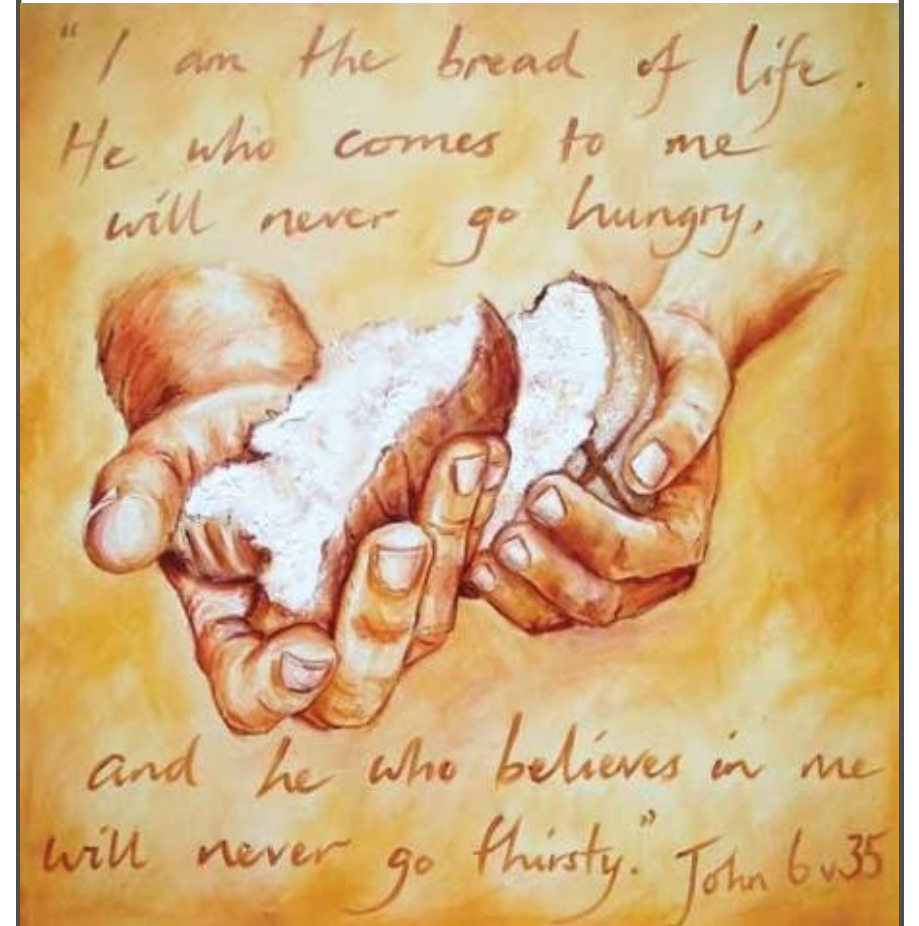
## THE CHALLENGE



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 total for November was **191 items**. **Thank you to all for your continued support.**

# GUIDE TO WORSHIP

DECEMBER 5, 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*

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1028 SOUTH BELT LINE RD

MESQUITE, TEXAS 75149

972-285-5602

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

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

### STRIKING OF THE HOUR FOR WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY *Still, Still, Still* arr. Chip Davis

INTROIT *Prepare the Way, O Zion* Charles P. Price  
(11:00) Chancel Choir (vs 1)

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.  
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

CALL TO WORSHIP *Philippians 1:2; Isaiah 40:3;*  
*Jeremiah 33:14a,15*

Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### And also to you.

A voice cries: In the Wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. For the days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise: I will cause a righteous branch to spring up for David; and He shall execute justice and righteousness.

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

(8:45) The Futrell Family,  
(11:00) Charles and Brittany Hammer

\*HYMN 146 *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, You sent a star to guide the wise men to the child Jesus. We confess that we have not searched for signs of Your love in the world, or trusted Your Good News to be good. We have failed to praise Your Son's birth, and refused His peace on earth. We have expected little, and hoped for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew in us all fine desires so, that we may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. 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 *Come to the Table* Allen Pote  
(11:00) Chancel Choir

Come, come, come to the table and bring your joy,  
bring all your gladness and come, come, come to the table.  
Eat the bread, drink the wine, come rejoice in the Lord.

Bring all your sorrow, bring all your pain,  
bring all the heart-aches you bear.  
Bring who you are and hope to become, come to the table to share.

Come, come, come to the table, remember Christ,  
remember His love when you come, come, come to the table.  
Come in faith, come to serve, come rejoice in the Lord.

Share in the bread, share in the wine, share in the risen Lord.  
Share as a family, one in community, one in the name of the Lord.

Come, come, come to the table to follow Christ forgiven and free,  
you must come, come, come to the table.  
Come in faith, come in love, come rejoice in the Lord.  
Come, rejoice in the Lord, rejoice in the Lord.

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #

Almighty and All Knowing God-as we seek Your light at this time of Advent, open our wills to respond to You so we may find Your Peace as Your Word is read and preached in Jesus Name, Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON # *John 1:6-9*

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON # *John 6:35-40*

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and anyone who comes to Me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that I should lose nothing of all that He has given Me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in Him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

\*HYMN 128 *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

SERMON *I Am the Bread of Life* 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.**

### 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.**

### SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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 124 *Still, Still, Still*

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* John W Work II  
(11:00) Chancel Choir (vs.1)

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds keep their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, through-out the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

\*VOLUNTARY *Good King Wenceslas* arr. Norden Lienhard

### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder # - Beverlee Witty (8:45); Meg GarverHamilton (11:00)

Deacon/Ushers - Nick Scholl,  
Terri Bragg and Bryan Sanders