

NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

Sunday, December 4 - 2nd Sunday of Advent - Peace

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed at both services
 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
 9:30 a.m. - Youth Handbell Rehearsal
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
 5:00 p.m. - L.I.F.E. Youth meets with Eastminster Youth group

Monday, December 5

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers Rehearsal

Tuesday, December 6

9:30 a.m. - Presbyterian Women's Morning Circle - Bible Study and Christmas Celebration (bring covered dish & gift cards or toys to donate)
 7:00 p.m. - Presbyterian Women's Evening Circle will gather at the home of Meg GarverHamilton (bring covered dish & Walmart gift cards to donate)

Wednesday, December 7

7:00 p.m. - Budget and Property Committees of the Deacons meet
 7:30 p.m. - Joint Officers meeting (Deacons and Session)

Thursday, December 8

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 11 - 3rd Sunday of Advent - Love

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
 9:30 a.m. - Youth Handbell Rehearsal
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School (Costumes for Program distributed at S.S.)
 5:00 p.m. - Children's Christmas Program (Rehearsal @ 4:45 p.m.)
 6:00 p.m. - Refreshments and a visit from Santa

Monday, December 12

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 14

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 17

8:30 a.m. - L.I.F.E. Youth and Faith Builders (meet at church) will lay wreaths with Wreaths Across America at DFW National Cemetery.

Sunday, December 18 - 4th Sunday of Advent - Joy

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service - Cantata by Chancel Choir
 No Youth Bells Rehearsal
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

Monday, December 19

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers Rehearsal

Friday, December 23

Church Office is Closed

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

7:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

11:00 a.m. - Only one Worship Service

Monday, December 26

Church Office is Closed

Tuesday - Friday Dec 27 to 30

Church Office will have abbreviated hours. If you need to make a year end contribution, please call for an appointment.

Sunday, January 1 - New Years Day

11:00 a.m. - Only one Worship Service

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA(S)

(Deadline for ordering is this Sunday, December 4)



Join us for the **Children's Christmas Program** Sunday, December 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

The children and youth will receive their costume during the Sunday School hour. They will also rehearse the program.

The participants should arrive at 4:45 p.m. dressed and ready to go, reporting to the Narthex.

Thank you, Sheila Hammer and Erin Edling

The Women's Retreat Committee is selling pecans.

A table is set up in the main hallway and a committee member will be there to assist you. Please make your purchase this Sunday.

1 lb. bag of halves \$13

Only limited quantities available.



SHARING
LIFE
ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS FAIRE
Demonstrating compassion

FPC Mesquite will be making a monetary donation, if you would like to donate as well, please do so by Sunday, December 11.

This year we will be providing gifts for 1,000 children on **December 16th and 17th**. During this event, our parents will shop through our toys and pick the gifts of their choosing. We will also provide wrapping paper so our parents are able to wrap the gifts themselves.

All children will receive: Family board game, A Hoodie, and a Toy (donated from our donors and through our partnerships with WFAA's Santa's Helpers, the Marine Corps Toys for Tots, Santa Cops, and other amazing partners like you!)

THE CHALLENGE



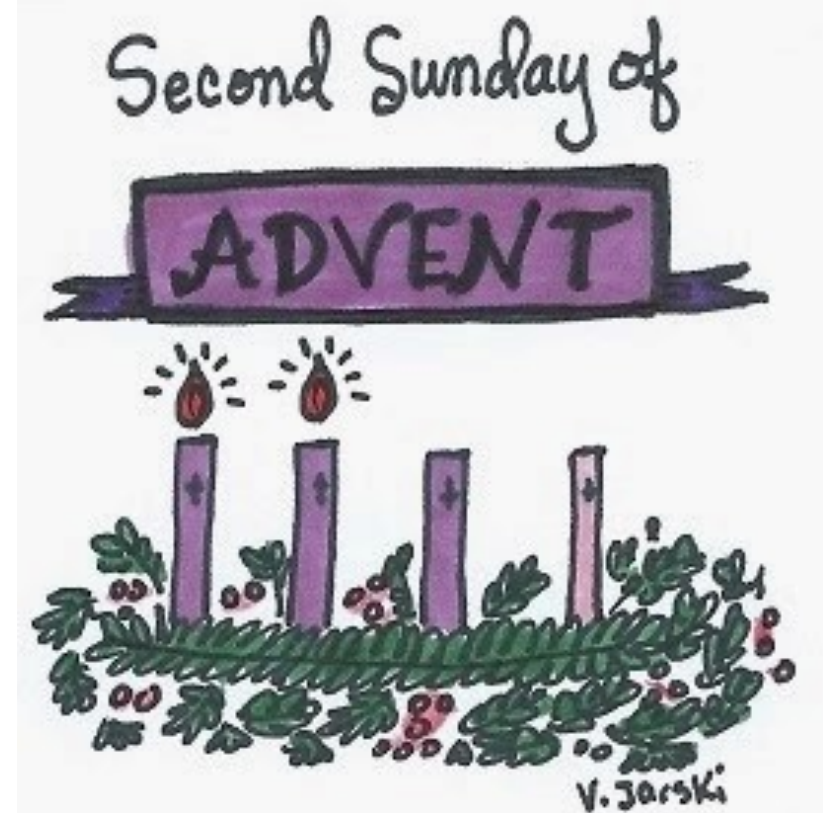
Feeding the Community

The 100 Can Challenge continues . . . 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 collected for November was **162 items**.

GUIDE TO WORSHIP

December 4, 2022

8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



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

972-285-5602

www.fpcmesquite.org

THOSE WHO SERVE

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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

STRIKING OF THE HOUR FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

INTROIT 106 (v.1) *Prepare the Way, O Zion* Augustus Nelson
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*
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 - PEACE

(8:45) Susan Farmer and Kirk Dixon
(11:00) The Leavitt Family

*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, 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 *Sing Gloria, Sing Noel!* Joel Raney
Chancel Choir

Tiny baby was born this day o. Sing gloria, Sing noel!
See him lying there in the hay o. Sing gloria sing noel!
Stars are shining up in the sky o, Mary's singing a lullaby o.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Sing gloria sing noel! Sing, sing, sing,
sing. Sing, sing, gloria, sing gloria, sing noel!
Late at night when the world's a sleep o.
Sing gloria, sing noel! Shepherds tend to their flocks of sheep o.
Sing gloria, sing noel!

(continued)

Saw an angel and heard his voice o went to Bethlehem to rejoice o.
Gloria in excelsis De o! Sing gloria, sing noel!
Gloria in excelsis De o! Gloria in excelsis De o!
Sing gloria, sing gloria, sing gloria, noel!
See the wise men on their way o.
To the manger now, don't delay o.
Choirs of angels join to sing o, hear the bells of heaven ring o.
Sing gloria, sing noel! Sing, sing, sing, sing.
Sing gloria, sing noel!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON # *Micah 5:2*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON # *Matthew 2:1-8*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the Child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed His star in the east and have come to pay Him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay Him homage."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MOMENT FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES *Mary McBain*

The children and youth are asked to come forward at this time.

*HYMN 128 *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

SERMON *The World of Jesus: Herod's World* Rev. Doughton

*HYMN 124 *Still, Still, Still*

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 114 *Away in a Manger*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE 136 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* arr. John W. Work, II

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

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout 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!

*POSTLUDE

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder # - John Futrell (8:45); Charles Hammer (11:00)

Deacon/Ushers - Gina Villafana, Brittany Hammer,
and David Howard (8:45);
Gina Villafana, Brittany Hammer,
David Howard and Larry Thomas (11:00)

Budget and Stewardship

Our 2022 budget is \$360,155

Your contributions to the church are so important. Please don't forget your pledge.

NOVEMBER 2022

	BUDGET Y-T-D	ACTUAL Y-T-D
Income	330,142.11	306,671.65
Expenses	330,142.11	319,481.04

As of November 30, 2022, our expenses exceed our income by \$12,809.39 Also remember that your pledge to the church includes your time and talents, as well as, your treasures. Pledge for 2023 now!