

FARRAGUT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FROM
GENERATION
TO GENERATION...

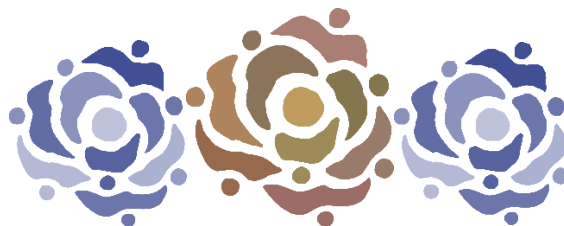
We can choose a better way

3rd Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2022 ~ 9:00 am

*indicates standing, if able.

This service is being recorded by video and audio means.

~ We Gather ~



Welcome

Rev. Matt Nieman

Prelude

Thank You, Lord
Music Ensemble

Traditional

Voices of Advent

The Candle of Love
Tamar, The Innkeeper's Wife ~ played by Mary Ellen Haig

Voices of Advent by Jeri L. Shumate. Produced by special arrangement with Contemporary Drama Service

*Call to Worship

Into the dry and desolate places of our lives, God brings salvation.
The desert rejoices and blossoms, the wilderness teems with life.
Sorrow and sighing will flee:
let us come into God's presence with singing!

*Opening Songs

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
and
Something Happens

(see music and lyrics on next page)

*Song

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, Hal-le, Hal - le - lu - ja! Hal-le, Hal-le, Hal -
le - lu - ja! Hal-le, Hal-le, Hal - le -
lu - ja! Hal-le - lu - ja! Hal - le - lu - ja!

Words and Music: Traditional Caribbean. From "Sing the Faith Pew Edition" © 2003 Geneva Press, Louisville, KY. CCLI License # 21071291

*Song

Something Happens

Kurt Carr

Je - sus! Some-thing spe - cial, sup - er - na - tural ab-out your name.
5
Je - sus. Some-thing hap - pens when I men - tion your name.

CCLI Song # 4414285 by Kurt Carr © 2004 KCartunes Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). Lilly Mack Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com. CCLI License # 21071291

*Prayer of Confession

**God of mercy, a million times a day we have the opportunity to be gracious,
to assume the best in others, to give the benefit of the doubt.
A million times a day we could choose the better way, but so often we don't.
Fear and greed kick in. Assumptions and insecurities take the wheel.
Comparison and critique lead the charge.**

**Forgive us for forgetting that we are descendants of Joseph.
Forgive us for forgetting that grace and mercy are in our blood.
Forgive us for forgetting that all belong to you.
Give us the courage to love even bigger than before,
and the wisdom to choose a better way.**

(please continue in silent prayer)

*Declaration of Forgiveness

*The Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

~We Proclaim~

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT ~ featuring our FPC Children and Friends
Directors: Sarah Mashue and LisaKay Matchen

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing

We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar;
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Away in a Manger

Away in a Manger, No crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright Sky look down where he lay. The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Special thanks to all who helped with this production including:

Mary: Madelyn Schult
Joseph: Tim Schult
Innkeeper: Brian Davison
Angel: Mason Warren
Shepherds, Wisemen, Angels: FPC children
Narrators: LisaKay Matchen and Savannah Mashue
Author: LisaKay Matchen
Costumes by: LisaKay Matchen, Mary Ellen Haig, Helen Nalley, Nancy Pevey
Guitar: Joanie Scheuer
Flute: MaryAnne Walls
Piano: Tami Newsom
Set Design and Construction: Denise and Clay Griffin

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

“We Can Choose a Better Way”

Rev. Matt Nieman

~The Response~

Song of Affirmation – *A Better Way* from the series “From Generation to Generation...”
sung to the tune “God Rest You Merry”

**When Joseph learned of Mary’s state he pondered her disgrace
He calculated all the shame scandal would create
But not content to see her stoned he offered her some grace**

Refrain

**Oh there is a better way, God’s better way
Oh we can choose the better way**

**He planned to leave her quietly and not create a scene
But Mary still would grow with child; what then would her fate be?
When Joseph went to sleep that night an angel intervened (*Refrain*)**

**Said Gabriel, “Joseph, do not fear to make Mary your wife
She bears inside her womb the hope of everlasting life
The son that she will bear to you is Jesus the Messiah” (*Refrain*)**

**Like Joseph woke from sleep to find his pathway had been changed
Still here today God calls us all to choose the better way
Beyond our wildest dreams is still a calling that remains (*Refrain*)**

Text © Anna Strickland, 2021. Commissioned by A Sanctified Art, LLC. Free for congregational use.
Music: Traditional English Carol (18th century)

Musical Reflection

Better
Musical Ensemble

Chris Tomlin

CCLI Song # 7108556 by Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Pat Barrett © 2018 Capitol CMG Genesis (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Housefires Sounds (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), S. D. G. Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com. CCLI License # 21071291

Call for the Offering

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.**

~We Go Out Into the World~

*Hymn #29

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go Tell It

Congregation to sing verses 1 and 2
FPC Kids will sing the Refrain

*Charge and Benediction



Special thanks to our Music Ensemble:

Dr. Khyle Wooten, piano ~ Tim Mashue, bass guitar ~ Joey Nieman, guitar



If you would like the church office to record your attendance today, you can:

- Scan this QR code and click on the generated google doc link, or
- Go to <https://tinyurl.com/record-FPC-attendance>, or
- Email the office at office@fpctn.org



FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION... ADVENT STUDY 2022

The stories, scriptures, and traditions of the Christmas season have been passed down to us throughout the generations. Many of us enter this season with a swell of memories and emotions as vast as the cultural and religious rituals this holiday holds. Like a tapestry

woven throughout time, the Christmas story weaves us in—to remember how God has shown up in the past, to continue the work of collective liberation, to behold the presence of God in flesh and bone.

Our Advent theme is also a call to action: what are we being called to generate or bring forth? What have your ancestors and those who have come before you passed on for you to continue? Considering the many ways we embody, remember, and tell the story of Christ's birth, which rituals hold the most meaning for you? What about this season will you pass on to the next generation?

From Generation to Generation... reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together. The work of God is always unfolding—in and through us. This Advent, may you remember that you belong—to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to generations that have come before and will come after, to a love that won't let you go. Creators of this Advent program at *A Sanctified Art* have provided a special e-reader version of this year's Advent devotional, which you can access on your computer and mobile devices:

<https://online.flippingbook.com/view/261712895/>

All related liturgy and artwork licensed by *A Sanctified Art* © *A Sanctified Art* LLC. All Rights Reserved.



FAMILY PROMISE: Thank you to the FPC volunteers who have donated gas/grocery and dinner cards for guest families this past year. Your generosity and compassion are a blessing to our guest families. Our next support hosting is the week of 1/29 -2/5. The families will be housed in the extended stay motel again, so we will ask for card donations. The signup will be on the Westside UUC website, and we will let you know when it has been posted. Contact Beth Loyless for more information.

The **VMC LUNCHEON** to help feed the homeless is on Tuesday, December 20th and is being coordinated by Carol Kraft. A sign-up sheet is on the narthex table. We need a VMC Meal Coordinator effective January 1st. Gloria Purjet has stepped down after several years of outstanding service and we need to find her replacement. The position involves informing FPC membership of the need for monthly assistance and scheduling volunteer coordinators each month to recruit servers. If you have questions, please contact Kirk Morris or Jean Peretz.



A special thank you to all who donated gifts and helped to sort and deliver presents to **Sunset Gap** this year. Your kindness and generosity will certainly brighten a child's holiday this year. *Thank You!*



REMEMBERING OUR MISSION WORKERS:

Mailing Christmas cards each year shows our mission workers in a small, but very real way, our interest and commitment to them. Cards need to be mailed as soon as possible. 1 USA Global Forever stamp (\$1.40) will cover the postage, or you can use 3 regular first class postage stamps and mark Air Mail on the envelope. Addresses are:

Mark Hare and Jenny Bent (Keila & Annika)
c/o Mauricio Chacon-UBL
APDO 901-1000
San Jose
Costa Rica

Cobbie and Dessa Palm
c/o Divinity House
14 Mack Street, Bantayan
Dumaguete City 6200
Philippines



Christmas Services

Join us on **Christmas Eve, Saturday December 24th**
for Candlelight and Communion Worship Services:

5pm Casual Service or 7pm Traditional Service



We will also celebrate the birth of Christ and worship on
Christmas Day, Sunday December 25 at 10am

Christmas Joy Special Offering

Supporting Past, Present, and Future Leaders

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. The final Special Offering for 2022 is the annual Christmas Joy Offering which will be collected between now and December 18.



To Donate:

Use an envelope provided at the church or
Send a check to FPC with *Christmas Joy Special Offering* on the memo line or
Submit a gift through e-giving at fpcn.org

2022 YEAR-END GIVING REMINDERS

To be counted as a **2022** contribution:

- Checks or cash must be received at FPC or mailed items postmarked **by 12/31/22**.
- Donations by credit card are deductible in the year the donor makes the charge (transaction posting date).
- ACH, EFT, stock transfers or other online donations are deductible in the year the bank transfers the stock or funds to FPC. Please make sure your online giving is initiated by Tuesday, Dec. 27th in time for the transaction to post on Friday, Dec. 30, 2022. The donation confirmation page on our website will confirm the date your account is debited for online giving transactions.

Don't file your 2022 tax return before receiving your FPC 2022 year-end giving statement, so that you have IRS-compliant documentation of any gifts of cash or checks to FPC that are \$250 or more. Year-end donations statements will be mailed by Jan 31st, 2023.



PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

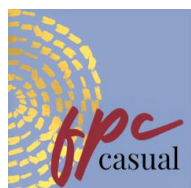
Candice Blake, Patricia Dail, Kathi Damelio, Chuck Foriska, Sandi Keagy, Gloria Lay, Bron Lewis, Mike and Janet Murphy, Tami Newsom, Larry Roberts, Nancy Signer, Steve Tinder, Helen Weaver, George White, Kent Williams

BEREAVED:

The family of Allen Lay, Gloria Purjet's brother

This Week at FPC

Sun, Dec 11	9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship		
	9:00	a.m.	KidZone/Room 10
	10:00	a.m.	Growing Families Small Group/Room 5
	6:00	p.m.	Youth Group/Room 10
Mon, Dec 12	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Narthex
	6:15	p.m.	STEM Scouts/Fellowship Hall
	7:00	p.m.	Christian Education Committee/Trussell home
	7:00	p.m.	Stephen Ministry/Room A
Tues, Dec 13	9:15	a.m.	Big Fish Christmas Program/Sanctuary
	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #1/Room A
	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #2/Library
	7:00	p.m.	Boy Scouts #444/FH, Narthex
	7:00	p.m.	Session/Library
Wed, Dec 14	9:15	a.m.	Big Fish Christmas Program/Sanctuary
	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #3/Library
	7:30	p.m.	Chancel Choir/Sanctuary
Thur, Dec 15	8:00	a.m.	Men's Bible Study/Narthex
	6:30	p.m.	Cub Scout #444/Fellowship Hall
	7:00	p.m.	Thursday Night Bible Study/Zoom
Fri, Dec 16	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Narthex
	7:00	p.m.	Gentle Yoga Class/Fellowship Hall



Farragut Presbyterian Church

209 Jamestowne Blvd., Farragut, TN 37934
 Phone: 865/966-9547 • Email: office@fpctn.org • Website: www.fpctn.org

Praising God - Serving Others - Growing in Faith



Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Class	Room	Topic
Adult Bible Study	Outside or in the Parlor in bad weather	This class discusses the Lectionary text from the sermon, and still meets under the trees in good weather and in the parlor in bad weather.
Monday Connection	Zoom and Room A	This group is discussing the book <i>Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved</i> , an autobiography by Kate Bowler who is facing cancer and the prospect of her own mortality.
Intergenerational Advent Study for Adults and Youth	Library	Thru Sunday 12/18 youth and adults are invited to join together to study "The Heart That Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of <i>The Grinch</i> ." Contact Mason Warren for more information at masonwarren@fpctn.org .



HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

If you would like to help us offset the cost of decorating the church for the holidays by making a contribution in honor or memory of a loved one, just fill out this form and include your check made payable to Farragut Presbyterian Church, with "*Holiday Decorations*" designated in the memo line. Place your check and this form in the sanctuary basket, drop them off in the church office or mail them to the church. **Our cost per poinsettia is \$10.00**, however, your gift may be in any amount. An insert will be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin listing the devotions.

I am making a gift towards holiday decorations, to the Glory of God, and:

Please Print Clearly

In Honor/Memory of _____
(Circle One)

In Honor/Memory of _____
(Circle One)

In Honor/Memory of _____
(Circle One)

In Honor/Memory of _____
(Circle One)

In Honor/Memory of _____
(Circle One)

Donated by: _____

