

FARRAGUT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FROM
GENERATION
TO GENERATION...

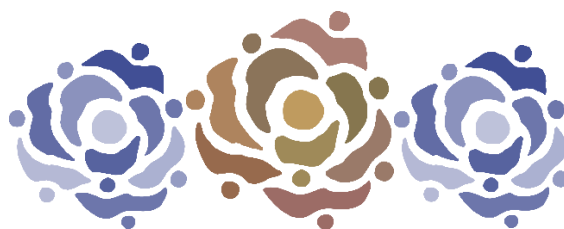
We see God in each other

4th Sunday of Advent
December 18, 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

Angels We Have Heard on High
Music Ensemble

Contemporary Instrumental

Voices of Advent

The Candle of Joy
Itzhak, The Young Shepherd ~ played by Graham Morrell

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

*Call to Worship

We stand on the cusp:
the promise is almost fulfilled.
We wait with bated breath:
the child is almost here.
We trust the well-loved story:
God is truly with us.

*Opening Songs

Awesome
and
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(see music and lyrics on next page)

Lord _____ you are awe - some. _____

5 Lord _____ you are awe - some. _____

9 Lord _____ you are awe - some. _____

13 Lord _____ you are awe - some. _____ If it

17 was - n't for your love, was - n't for your grace, I don't know where I'd be with - out you.

Source: [Musixmatch](#)
 Songwriters: Narada Michael Walden / Sunny Hilden / Otis Williams
 Awesome lyrics © Wb Music Corp., Gratitude Music, Gratitude Sky Music

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King.
 Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
 Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
 With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
 Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity,
 Pleas'd in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
 Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
 Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739; alt. Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840. Arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855.
 The Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs © 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press. All Rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Prayer of Confession

**God of today and tomorrow,
When Mary was pregnant and afraid, she ran to her cousin Elizabeth's house.
Elizabeth threw open the door with joy and showered blessings upon her.
How often do we have that same opportunity?
How often do we leave the door locked, the curtains drawn, and the lights off?
How often do we shower critique or judgment instead of blessings and joy?
Gracious God, forgive us for our wrongs.
We want to see you when we see our neighbor.**

(please continue in silent prayer)

*Declaration of Forgiveness

*The Peace

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

~We Proclaim~

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings: Luke 1:39-58

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

“We See God in Each Other”

Rev. Matt Nieman

~The Response~

Affirmation of Faith - written by Rev. Sarah Speed | sanctifiedart.org

**We believe that creation is inextricably linked.
We belong to one another in an undeniable way.
We are bone of bone and flesh of flesh, life breathed into dust.
We believe that God invites us to live into that truth—to love without abandon,
to see the good in one another, to trust that all belong to God.
We know that this life of connection is easier said than done,
which is why we gather in this space, week after week,
generation after generation, to be reminded:
We see God in each other.
This we believe. Amen.**

Musical Reflection

We Are Christmas
Musical Ensemble

K. Johnson/S. Benibo

We are Christmas, We are God's hands to care for one another in these worn torn lands.
We are Christmas, the love that we share, will carry one another 'til we understand,
We are Christmas!

We Are Christmas! Music and lyrics by Sarah Stephens Benibo/Kevin Johnson
Performed by Spelman College Glee Club/Sarah Stephens Benibo, soloist/Sisters Chapel, Spelman College 2008. Directed by Kevin Johnson.

Call to Give

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~

*Song

Emmanuel

Bob McGee

♩ = 80

C/E F F/E Dm⁷ G⁷ C Gm⁶/B \flat

Em - man - u - el, _____ Em - man - u - el, _____

5 A⁷ A⁷/C \sharp Dm Dm/C G⁷/B G C

— His name is called _____ Em - man - u - el: _____

9 E⁷ F F/E Dm⁷ G⁷ C Gm⁶/B \flat

— God with us, _____ re - vealed in us! _____

13 A⁷ A⁷/C \sharp Dm Dm/C G⁷/B G C

— His name is called _____ Em - man - u - el.

CCLI Song # 12949- Words and Music by Bob McGee © 1976 C.A. Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)
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*Charge and Benediction



Special thanks to our Music Ensemble:
Dr. Khyle Wooten, piano ~ Tim Mashue, bass 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/>

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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, Jack Rightmyer, Larry Roberts, Nancy Signer, Steve Tinder, Helen Weaver, George White, Kent Williams

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

Where I Saw God Last

The dimple in your right cheek, the child playing peek a-boo from his stroller, the abuelita who spends her afternoons in the park by 86th; the teenagers on the subway who cannot control their laughter; Neil, my neighbor, who always asks about you, the mother who whispers a dozen times a day, “*thank you, Jesus, thank you, Jesus, thank you, Jesus*”; the saxophone player at 42nd street, the poets, the artists, the garden volunteers; the metro car driver who sticks his head out the window to make sure we’re all aboard; the man who gave up his seat on the subway, the kid in the dinosaur pajamas who cannot be convinced they’re not school attire; the teachers, the nurses, the taxi cab drivers; the woman at the end of the block with her yappy dogs and her books in the window, the lovers that lay sprawled out on park blankets, the runners, the daydreamers, the sidewalk chalk artists; John from upstairs whose favorite flowers are yellow tulips, the Persian man at the grocery who tells me to be safe when I leave, my grandmother in Georgia; my neighbor, the stranger; *thank you, Jesus, thank you, Jesus, thank you, Jesus*.

Poem by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed

SANCTIFIED ART FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION ADVENT DEVOTIONAL | WE SEE GOD IN EACH OTHER

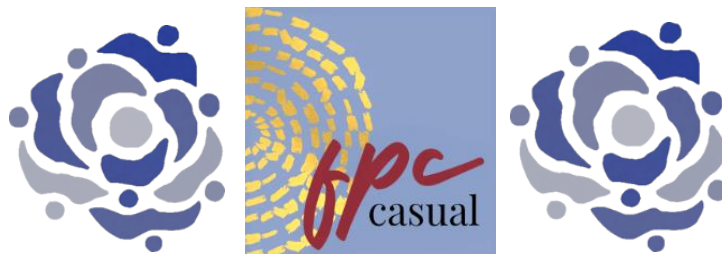


This Week at FPC

Sun, Dec 18	9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship		
Mon, Dec 19	9:00	a.m.	KidZone/Room 10
	6:00	p.m.	Youth Christmas Party /Fellowship Hall
Wed, Dec 21	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Narthex
	6:15	p.m.	STEM Scouts/Fellowship Hall
Thur, Dec 22	2:00	p.m.	Grief Support Group/Library
	7:30	p.m.	Chancel Choir/Sanctuary
Fri, Dec 23	7:00	p.m.	Thursday Night Bible Study/Zoom
Sat, Dec 24	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Narthex
Sun, Dec 25	5:00	p.m.	Casual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
	7:00	p.m.	Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Sun, Dec 25	10:00	a.m.	Christmas Morning Worship

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 .



Farragut Presbyterian Church

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Praising God - Serving Others - Growing in Faith