

# FARRAGUT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



FROM  
GENERATION  
TO GENERATION...

*We see God in each other*

4th Sunday of Advent  
December 18, 2022 ~ 11:00 am



## ~The Gathering~

Prelude

*O Jesulein Süß*  
Tami Newsom, organ

te Velde

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Greeting

Rev. Matt Nieman

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.**

Hymn #49

*Once in Royal David's City*

Irby

**Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed.  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, oppressed, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.**

*~continued next page~*

**Jesus is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us He grew;  
He was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew;  
And He feels for all our sadness, and He shares in all our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love,  
for that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;  
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.**

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848; alt. Music Henry John Gauntlett, 1849. Harm. Arthur Henry Mann, 1919  
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)*

### Kyrie Eleison

### Remember Not, O God

Southwell

O Lord, our Savi - ior, help, and glo - ri - fy your name; de -  
liv - er us from all our sins and take a - way our shame.

Text: The New Metrical Version of the Psalms, 1909, alt. Music: Daman's Psalms, 1579, alt.  
Glory to God The Presbyterian Hymnal © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, KY.

### Declaration of Forgiveness

### Gloria Patri

### God of Grace and God of Glory

Cwm Rhondda

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.**

### The Peace

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

## ~The Word~

Anthem

*The Holly and The Ivy*  
FPC Ringers

arr. McChesney

Prayer for Illumination

Steve Dehmlow

**God of all, we are a mixed bag of distracted and forlorn, eager and anxious. We hope that you might move through the obstacle course we build up around our hearts—made out of questions and defenses—and douse us in good news. For at the end of the day, all we want is to know that we are not alone, that you are always near. So knock on our door, sweet talk the guard dog we place in front of our vulnerable hearts, and come right in. Make yourself at home. Pull us close and tell us your story of unbelievable good news. We are listening. We are grateful. Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Luke 1:39-45, 56-58

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Psalms 80 1-7, 17-19

Dr. Angela Batey, cantor

Guimont



Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help. **(R)**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **(R)**

May your hand be on the one you have chosen, the one you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again; give us life that we may call upon your name. **(R)**

*Psalms for the Revised Common Lectionary* – Michel Guimont © 2002 by G.I.A. Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638  
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Second Scripture Reading: Luke 1:46-55

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.**

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

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us, let us find ourselves in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;  
dear Desire of every nation, hope of every longing heart.

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.**

~ **The Sending** ~

Hymn #31

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Mendelssohn

**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,  
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

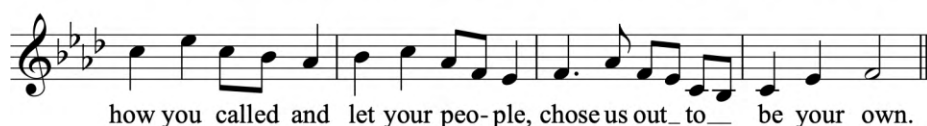
**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory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

Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response

*We Will Tell Each Generation*



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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](mailto:office@fpctn.org)



## FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION...

### 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.

*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. 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.

## 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



The [VMC LUNCHEON](#) to help feed the homeless is on Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> and is being coordinated by Carol Kraft. A sign-up sheet is on the narthex table. [We need a VMC Meal Coordinator effective January 1<sup>st</sup>](#). 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.

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A special thank you to all who donated gifts and helped to sort and deliver presents to [SUNSET GAP](#). Your kindness and generosity will certainly brighten a child's holiday this year. *Thank You!*



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### **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. 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 24<sup>th</sup>**  
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**

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## **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](http://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. 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

### This Week at FPC

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

### Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (No Sunday School on 12/25)

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 <a href="mailto:masonwarren@fpctn.org">masonwarren@fpctn.org</a> .



## Farragut Presbyterian Church

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