



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering

November 29, 2020
First Sunday
of Advent

PRELUDE Two settings of *Conditio alme siderum* Charles Callahan
 Two settings of *Stuttgart* Charles Callahan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT Advent Introit Iain Quinn
 Our King and Savior now draws near;
 come let us adore him.
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
 as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, amen.

 (Paul Butler, Chelsea Janzen, Greg McMahon, Madeline Ross)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH - HOPE Sally and Jerry Fish
The world says, "All is lost." God says, "All is loved."
The darkness says, "The light is dying." The light says, "The fire is catching."
Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears." Hope says, "Wait, watch, and listen."
As we light our first Advent candle,
 we pray for the holy hope of God.
Come now, O Child of Mary.
 Come now, O Prince of Hope.

 (candle is lit)



CALL TO WORSHIP

In Advent we watch and wait, preparing to welcome the Christ Child, praying,
 come, Lord Jesus!
In Advent we deepen the life of discipleship,
 watching for signs of God's light dawning on the world.
As we wait, we watch for signs of God's action in the world,
 notes of compassion and grace breaking in.
While we do not know the day or the hour,
 we know that the day is near.
 Come, Lord Jesus! Be born anew in our world and in our lives.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Unison*)

Eternal God,
through long generations you prepared a way
for the coming of your Son,
and by your Spirit
you still bring light to illumine our paths.
Renew us in faith and hope
that we may welcome Christ our Lord,
to whom be glory evermore. Amen.

HYMN #83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTT GART

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

God of the future,
you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.
We confess that we have not expected your realm,
for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.
We too often accept lies as truth, dismiss neighbors,
exploit the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Grant us wisdom to welcome your way,
and to seek the things that will endure
when Christ comes to judge the earth.

Our prayers continue in silence.

LORD HAVE MERCY



For-give us, Lord, for times when hope was lost, and mo-ments when we



nev - er thought to trust, for times when we de - spair and for - get



that you are where all joy and truth have met. For - give, for - give,



for-give us all our sins and help us hope and trust you with-out end.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus calls us to keep awake so that we are ready for his coming.
Therefore, let us lay aside all those things that distract us
from preparing for the Christ Child.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Jacques Berthier, 1979 © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé

SHARING THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we are also to forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you!
Please take a moment to be thankful for God's peace.

The Word

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19 Pew Bible, pg. 540 (OT)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

As the Dark Awaits the Dawn

Carl Schalk

As the dark awaits the dawn, so we await your light.
O Star of promise, scatter night, loving bright, till shades of fear are gone.

As the blue expectant hour before the silvering skies,
we long to see your day arise, whole and wise, O lucent Morning Star.

As the moon reflects the sun until the night's decrease,
may we your healing light release, living peace, unto your holy dawn.

Shine your future on this place, enlighten every guest,
that through us stream your holiness, bright and blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Mark 13:24-37 Pew Bible, pg. 50 (NT)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“After the Tribulation”

Rev. Audrey Schindler

HYMN #348

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

from The Scots Confession

When the fullness of time came, God sent his Son,
his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world,
who took the nature of humanity
from the substance of a woman, a virgin, by means of the Holy Ghost.
And so came among us the very Messiah promised whom we confess
and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, truly God and truly human.

That same eternal God and Father, who by grace alone
chose us in his Son Christ Jesus before the foundation of the world,
appointed Christ to be our head, our brother,
our pastor, and the great bishop of our souls.

OFFERTORY

People, Look East French carol / arr. Craig Phillips

People, look East. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth, and set the table.
People, look East, and sing today: Love the Guest is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:
give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look East, and sing today: Love the Rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look East, and sing today: Love the Bird is on the way.

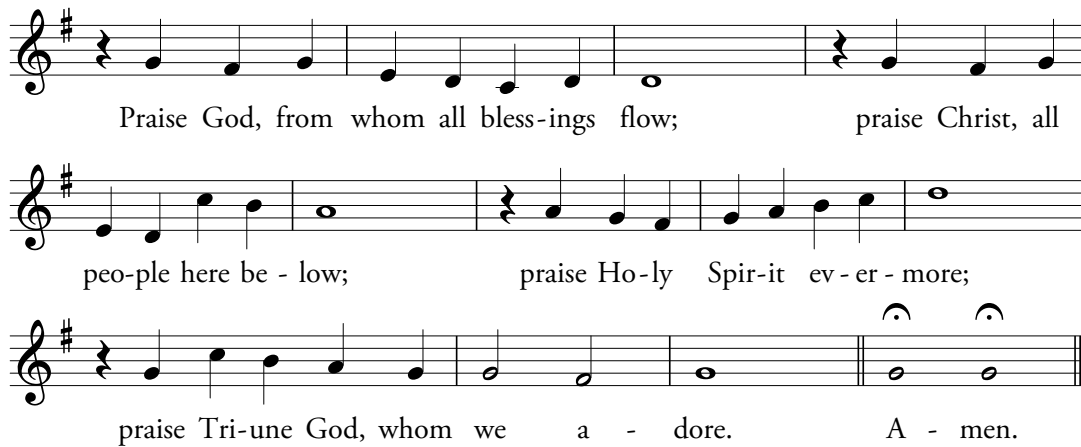
Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look East, and sing today: Love the Star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look East, and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

— Eleanor Farjeon

Thank you for your support of the church and Christ's ongoing ministry. You may give through the church website (at this link: firstpresportland.ccbchurch.com/goto/giving) or mail your check to the church office: 1200 SW Alder St., Portland, OR 97205.

DOXOLOGY



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all
people here below; praise Holy Spirit ever more;
praise Tri-une God, whom we adore. Amen.

Text: © 1990 by Neil Weatherhogg Music: © 2008 by Hal H. Hopson

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Unison*)

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 #84 Creator of the Stars of Night CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Prelude on *Conditor alme siderum* Wilbur Held

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Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Pastor
Rev. Spencer Parks, Associate Pastor
Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Parish Associate
Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries

**WORSHIP
LEADERS**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We join in holding in prayer:

Liz Dean, Ed & Janice Gehrig, Herb Grose, Carl Hammond, David Hall (caringbridge.org/visit/wdhall), Bob Hastings, Fran Hermanson, Anna Myers, Pete Taylor, Margery Van Deusen and others facing illness and loss.

If you would like your name added to the prayer section of the weekly bulletin, or confidential prayers, please contact the church office at office@firstpresportland.org or by phone at (503) 228-7331.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

This morning, the flowers in the sanctuary are given in loving memory of Dr. James and Mary Brown by their family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2021 Stewardship Campaign

Second Timothy 4:7

"I have fought the good fight...I have kept the faith."

The focus of our stewardship campaign this year is "Live Our Faith". After a challenging year we have much to be thankful for, and much to do. We are entering into 2021 with a renewed commitment to our church ministries and our place as a "Heart for the City" in a time of great need.

Many thanks to those who have already joined in pledging! Please plan to join in with your financial pledge of support. Our pledges allow us to plan for the year ahead and to fund crucial outreach, mission and education programs. Our goal of \$740,000 will undergird the church's life and work. To date with 133 families and individuals pledging, we are at regular gifts (annual, monthly, weekly) of \$646,632 or 85% of our goal.

As you prayerfully consider making a pledge, please contemplate increasing your pledge. We welcome you to mail in your pledge card to First Presbyterian Church, 1200 SW Alder Street, Portland, OR 97205, or submit your pledge online via this link:

<https://firstpresportland.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/39/responses/new>

Questions? Please contact Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator at cba@firstpresportland.org or (503) 228-7331 ext. 110.

Thank you for your faithfulness to First Pres!

Stewardship Team Leaders: Cam & Midge Birnie



Join Us Virtually For Coffee Fellowship Today!

Join in Virtual Coffee Fellowship today from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you, dial in to say hello! **Join this "Zoom Meeting" by using this link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88436962691>

DEAR Fund Collection Today

At FPC, we like to help others in the community, including those within our FPC family. The DEAR fund is a small, donations-only account that helps FPC members who face unexpected one-time expenses. Requests for DEAR funds are reviewed and approved by our pastors and kept confidential. Please join in sharing a virtual gift **today at this link:** <https://firstpresportland.ccbchurch.com/goto/giving> **Please designate your gift to Deacons/DEAR Contributions.** or mail your gift to First Presbyterian Church 1200 SW Alder St. Portland, OR 97205. Thank you for helping your FPC family in times of need!

Tuesday Night Virtual Scripture Study

Join in Virtual Scripture Study on Tuesday nights at 7 pm. We've begun a study of the gospel of Mark, and we're looking forward to seeing you on Zoom!

Zoom Link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73059586516?pwd=REVXbEN0OWp4LzFXK2daMW1lUGR4dz09>

Meeting ID: 730 5958 6516 Passcode: 0E6C10

Questions? Please contact Shelby:

infodesk@firstpreportland.org

The Tuesday Women's Book Club will meet on Zoom **December 1st at 11 am.** The book **"The Vanishing Half"** by Bret Bennett will be led by Nancy Callison.

The novel takes place between 1940-1990 in the Southern United States. As light-skinned Blacks, the twin sisters were favored, When they left home at age 16 for New Orleans, there is where their paths separated. Contact Marilyn Weber, schazimlw@gmail.com for a Zoom invitation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Virtual Lessons and Carols for Advent

We are offering a **special virtual service of Advent Lessons and Carols** to aid in the spiritual preparation for Christmas. Congregational hymns and choir anthems from past years will be combined with newly-recorded readings from FPC members and clergy. **The link will be available at <https://www.firstpresportland.org/2020/fpc-advent-devotions/> on Friday, December 4th**, and will be active all month.

Advent Devotions

The clergy and music staff have prepared a series of five devotions to accompany you on your Advent journey. Each devotion features a scripture passage, a reflection, a prayer, and a musical pairing. These devotions will be available in the December Spire as well as on the church website: <https://www.firstpresportland.org/2020/fpc-advent-devotions/>

Celebration Works' "If I Were a Bird"

Next Saturday, December 5th & Sunday, December 6th
Join us for our second *Celebration Works* virtual concert of the season, *If I Were a Bird*

Next Saturday, December 5th at 2 pm and rebroadcast next Sunday, December 6th at 2 pm.

Mezzo-soprano Lisa Neher and pianist Stephanie Thompson will perform a concert of music exploring the human condition through the lens of birds, featuring *Winged from Within*, a new work by Portland composer Theresa Koon. We are partnering with Portland Audubon for this concert, in support of their work for birds and their natural habitats in our city.

<https://www.firstpresportland.org/music-arts/celebration-works/>

Youth Coffee Hour

All youth are invited to join Pastor Brenna from **11:30-12:00 pm, Next Sunday, December 6th** for your very own Coffee Hour. Stop by with a warm drink to say hi as we get ready to welcome in the Christmas season.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83734055271>

Sunday School Video Lessons on our Website!

The children's ministry committee has sent out boxes filled with crafts/activities to all the children of the church (5th grade and under) and there are links on our website to three video lessons created by Sunday school teachers. Visit this link for the video lessons:

<https://www.firstpresportland.org/church-life/childrens-youth-ministry/>

Poinsettias

Every year poinsettias adorn our sanctuary and are given to home-bound or ill members of First Presbyterian Church to brighten their holidays. You can help off-set the cost of the poinsettias by donating \$15 in memory of or in honor of a loved one. **Online Poinsettias form:** <https://firstpresportland.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/40/responses/new> Fill out with names of those to be remembered or honored. There is an option for payment online or you may select pay later and mail a check to First Presbyterian Church, 1200 SW Alder St, Portland, OR 97205 with Poinsettia in the memo line. (Paper order forms may be found in the glass office at church) **The final order date is Tuesday, December 8th.** Then keep an eye out for our December 20th Worship Bulletin when names of those remembered or honored will be published.

All Church Family Advent Virtual Coffee Hour

Come one, come all for our intergenerational Advent coffee hour on **December 13th** after worship! This is a special coffee hour for all members of our church, with crafts, music, and other fun activities over zoom. The children and youth of the church of the church will be receiving packs in the mail the week before that has craft supplies. Adults are invited to source their own supplies (Paper dollies & a Pen). We hope to see you all virtually! **Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88436962691>

Downtown Youth Collective Christmas Party

On December 13th at 7pm, youth grades 6th-12th are invited to our annual Christmas Party!

Come enjoy a time of fellowship, games, and more!

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84159745584>

Blue Christmas Service December 16th at 7:30 pm (streamed from the Sanctuary)

While many look forward to the Christmas season with joy and excitement, others come with grief, sorrow, and some with a mix of both. As people of God, it is important to have holy spaces to collectively mourn and find comfort in the midst of our sorrow and pain. Our Blue Christmas Service will be streamed live from the Sanctuary, at **7:30 pm on Wednesday, December 16th at this link:** <https://vimeo.com/event/483803>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FPC Giving Tree

This year, like so many other things, FPC's Giving Tree will be online. Please click on the link below, scroll through the gifts, pick one or two and sign-up with your name, email and cell phone. We are supporting several programs including: New Avenues for Youth, Friendly House Senior Citizens, With Love Foster Care Support, EMO Men's Day Center, Life Change Center for Women & Children and Alder House Residents. These organizations are thrilled for our support as they have so many more needs this year. Please try to support local businesses and you may also shop online and have your gift shipped to FPC attn: Brenna 1200 SW Alder St. Portland, OR 97205. FPC's Giving Tree online link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA4AD28A6FF2-giving> Please be sure to label your gift with the name of the Organization as well as recipient name. **"With Love" gifts are due Tuesday, December 1 and all other gifts are due December 8.**

To ensure social distancing, please drop off your donations M-F from 10-12 am in the marked boxes located in the parking garage hallway headed towards Geneva Hall. The parking garage will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27, in celebration of the Thanksgiving holiday. Questions or assistance with donations, please contact Lurna Shively, shivelyLLL@comcast.net

Karen's Coats

Karen's Coats Drive has begun. Open Circle is collecting new and like-new clean outer clothing. This includes coats, heavier jackets, rain gear, warm hats, scarves, mittens/gloves, boots - for youth, women and men. To ensure social distancing, please drop off your donations M-F from 10-12 am in the marked boxes located in the parking garage hallway headed towards Geneva Hall. The parking garage will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27, in celebration of the Thanksgiving holiday. Questions or assistance with donations, please contact Cindy Finch cindyloufinch@yahoo.com This annual tradition is called Karen's Coats in memory of Karen and Harry Keefer who spearheaded this effort for so many years.

Capital Campaign near Finish Line

We're within a month of completion of the church's three year **Forward in Faith** Capital Campaign and very close to meeting our goals. We're thankful for all the gifts and pledges that have been given, and hope that if you're yet to complete your pledge, you will make a final gift before the campaign concludes.

Open Circle Support for the Rose Haven Shelter

The Rose Haven Day Shelter for Women and Children continues to serve the needs for those experiencing the trauma of abuse, loss of home, and other disruptive life challenges. Current needs are: gloves, boots size 7.5 – 9, plus size clothing size 20 and up (gently used OK), leggings of all sizes (gently used OK) body wipes, blankets, tents, tarps, sleeping bags (gently used OK), umbrellas, luggage and rolling carts (gently used OK). To ensure social distancing, please drop off your donations M-F from 10-12 am in the marked boxes located in the parking garage hallway headed towards Geneva Hall. The parking garage will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27, in celebration of the Thanksgiving holiday. Questions or assistance with donations, please contact Cindy Finch cindyloufinch@yahoo.com

WOW! The Impact of NEFP

Last week, NBC News reported live from NEFP for the rest of the country to see. You can **watch the clip and their Program Manager, A'Jay's, interview here:** <https://twitter.com/NBCNewsNow/status/1329573362432139264> Since mid-February and the start of Covid, NEFP has fed over 300,000 people and delivered over 7 million pounds of food! FPC volunteers have been part of that success. Sign up to volunteer! Food distribution days are Thursday and Saturday and volunteers are welcome! They currently have volunteer shifts 8:30 am-3:30 pm Tuesday-Friday, and Tuesday & Thursday evenings from 5 pm-8 pm. Tuesday & Thursday evenings are primarily box building and donation sorting shifts. Thursday & Saturday DAYS are primarily food distribution: 8 am-11 am set up shifts, 11 am-4 pm distribution assistant (giving out food) Tuesday, Wednesday, & Fridays are primarily sorting donations, putting away orders, and building boxes. To sign-up for a volunteer shift <https://bit.ly/volunteerNEFP> Questions? Contact Bill Resley kayak500@gmail.com

Reoccurring Classes and Church Resources:

Lectionary Adult Bible Study

Sundays from 9 – 10 am via this link: <https://zoom.us/j/92285138816> ID is 922-8513-8816

Tuesday Virtual Scripture Study

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73059586516?pwd=REVXbEN0OWp4LzFXK2daMW1UUGR4dz09>

Meeting ID: 730 5958 6516 & Passcode: 0E6C10

FPC Faith Formation Resource Hub

<http://tinyurl.com/fpcfaithformationresources2020>

Virtual Vespers & Sermon Archive:

<https://www.firstpresportland.org/church-life/worship-services/service-live-stream/>



“wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ”
stained-glass window at Brown Memorial Presbyterian, Baltimore



Mission Statement:
Glorifying God,
Proclaiming Christ,
Serving Others

Vision Statement:

At First Presbyterian Church, we commit to building faithfully on our legacy as a Christ-centered community, serving the spiritual needs of a multi-generational congregation, welcoming and accepting all, honoring all voices. Through engaging worship, thoughtful education, warm fellowship and caring outreach, we will develop and sustain disciples for Christ, serving our neighbors near and far.

PRINCIPAL CHURCH STAFF

Pastoral

Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Spencer Parks, Menucha Director, Associate Pastor

Rev. Brenna Dykman, Interim Associate Pastor

Rev. Carmen Goetschius, Parish Associate

Rev. Zane Buxton, Parish Associate

aschindler@firstpresportland.org

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bdykman@firstpresportland.org

cgoetschius@firstpresportland.org

zkbuxton@gmail.com

Music

Greg Homza, Director of Music Ministries

ghomza@firstpresportland.org

Administration

Marc Lavender, Church Business Administrator

cba@firstpresportland.org

First Presbyterian Church
1200 SW Alder Street Portland, OR 97205

www.firstpresportland.org

Sunday Services online at www.firstpresportland.org/service-broadcast

Church Office (503) 228-7331

Menucha (503) 695-2243