



First Presbyterian Church

Tupelo, Mississippi

Morning Worship Service

November 29, 2020 - 10:00 A.M.
First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE (Sanctuary Service – Video)
(Garden Service)

Thank You God
Fear No More the Heat of the Sun

arr. Thompson
Gerald Finzi

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus Christ has come among us,

People: by God's grace and mercy.

Leader: Jesus Christ will come again,

People: by God's grace and mercy.

Leader: Meantime, we have holy work entrusted to us,

People: by God's grace and mercy.

Leader: Let us worship God who loves and trusts us.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Bryan, Natalie, Gia, Chris and Bryan Thomas Ellis

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 9

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

The cares of this life weigh us down, and we seek escape more than insight, avoidance rather than confrontation with God's truth. God comes to us even in the darkest of times. God waits to hear our story and to restore us to life as it is meant to be. Let us come to God in prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, surprising God, that our sense of anticipation has been dulled. We have ceased to expect any wonders from your hand. We do not see the marvels around us in the people and happenings we view as commonplace. We are not alert to your presence or your action on our behalf. Wake us up, God, lest sleep be our death. Pardon and redeem us that we may escape the judgment we are bringing on ourselves. Send your light that it may shine through us into a needy world. We pray in the name of Christ, our Lord. *(Pause for reflection and meditation)* **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Give thanks to God who is merciful and who has called each of us into the fellowship of Jesus Christ. We are a forgiven people and are equipped for ministry by the power of the Holy Spirit.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

ANTHEM (Sanctuary Service – Video)
(Garden Service)

Give Thanks
Ave Maria

arr. Henry Smith
Bach/Gounod

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 64:1-9
Mark 13:24-37

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Getting It Right

Rev. Dr. Ron Richardson

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY (Sanctuary Service – Video)
(Garden Service)

For the Beauty of the Earth
Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

arr. Diane Bish
Eric Thiman

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O faithful One, accept these gifts of our hearts and hands. May they be multiplied and magnified as the living presence of Christ in the world. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Sanctuary Service – Video)
(Garden Service)

Now Thank We All Our God
People Look East, the Time is Near

arr. Sigfrid Karg-Elert
Dale Wood

The Flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in memory of Frances and Ernest Joyner by Frances and Dan Brasfield.

Welcome to worship! While we enjoy the beauty of Stuart Garden, we remind you that this service will be uploaded and available for viewing tonight on [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) at 6:30 P.M. Our indoor service, which is streamed online, can be viewed on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) today at 10:00 A.M. by those unable to be with us this morning. TV Broadcast of the service is the following week on Christian Network Television at 9:00 A.M. Sunday; and at 8:00 P.M. Monday on Channel 4 Comcast, Channel 49 Dish and antennae, and Channel 20 MaxSouth. Visit our website at www.firstprestupelo.org.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the family of Robert Wayne Monaghan, who passed away on November 23. He was the father of Gil Monaghan.

From the Financial Secretary: Honoraria and memorials that need acknowledgements sent before Christmas need to be received in the office by December 6. Any receipts that have not been submitted for reimbursement need to be submitted by December 9. Please remember that to receive contribution credit for 2020, your contributions must be received in the church office or postmarked by December 31, 2020.

Join us for in-person worship on at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday, December 6. You must register to attend this service. Beginning at 8:00 A.M. on Monday, November 23, you may register by using [this link](#) or on our website. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Richard Hastings at rihasti@comcast.net or Bob Taylor at bob1981@comcast.net or phone the church office at 662-842-5681.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatments: Judy Armentrout, Aimee McDonald Burrow, Julie Seiler

Homebound: Bernice Baker, Jerry Burkett, Bobbye Carsten

College Students: Bennett Mark, Eli Martin, John Robert Martin

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$16,960

Amount Received 11/22/20: \$55,267

YTD Budgeted Income: \$808,447

YTD Income Received: \$850,484

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, November 29

10:00 A.M.

Worship Service in Stuart Garden and later streaming on [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

5:30 P.M.

PW Coordinating Team in Stuart Garden or Fellowship Hall, depending on weather

Monday, November 30

8:00 A.M.

Registration OPENS for Sunday, December 6 In-Person Worship Service in Stuart Garden. Use [this link](#), go to our [website](#), or call the church office.

7:00 P.M.

Boy Scouts, Stuart Garden

Tuesday, December 1

9:00 A.M.

T'ai Chi Chih, Stuart Garden

7:00 P.M.

A.A. Meeting

Thursday, December 3

5:00 P.M.

Registration CLOSES for December 6 In-Person Worship Service in Stuart Garden.

Friday, December 4

12:00 P.M.

A.A. Meeting

Hymn of Praise

ADVENT

9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL LM with refrain

Latin, c. 12th century

Stanzas 1-2 trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1854

Stanza 3 trans. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916

Adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1854

Accomp. John Weaver, 1988

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spir - its
3. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples

cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
by Thine ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
in one heart and mind; Bid en - vy, strife, and dis - cord

here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re-joice! Re-joice!
cease; Fill the whole world with heav - en's peace.

ADVENT

Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!