



First Sunday in Advent, November 28, 2021

"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go to the House of the Lord!" (Psalm 122:1)

Greetings and Announcements

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Introit Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

L: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
P: **The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**
L: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living;
P: **Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage.**
ALL: Let us wait for the Lord! (Psalm 27)

***Hymn 37 Let All Things Now Living**

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces, the stars and their courses, the sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the depths of the ocean proclaim God
divine. We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration, a song let us
raise, till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: to God in the highest, hosanna and
praise!

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Mike and Jaylee Ferreri

Response: Come, come, Emmanuel, come Emmanuel

(The choir will sing the refrain once, then the congregation will join the choir to sing the refrain two times.)

Prayer of Confession

O holy God, O loving God, forgive us for those times when we have said the wrong thing (silence); **for those times when we have been quick to speak but slow to listen** (silence); **for those times when we have failed to believe or trust in your good news** (silence). **Help us to make ready for Jesus in our hearts. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

L: Friends, believe the good news:

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

L: May the grace we have received shine through us into the world.

***Response**

Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel!

God's Word is Heard

Time With Children

Anthem E'en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come -- Manz Chancel Choir

Peace be to you and grace from Him who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come; Sing holy, holy Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein. Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon. For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more;
They used no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All!

God's People Respond

***Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life. We believe in God besides us, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death. On the third day he rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present, and His kingdom will come on earth. We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentacostal fire, life-giving breath of the church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen. (from the Iona Community)

***Giving Our Gifts**

Offertory My Soul Cries Out -- arr. Hayes

***Doxology (144)**

What can I give him poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb; If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give him: Give my heart.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you;

And also with you

...

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

God's Sends Us Out

***Hymn 88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verses 1 and 6)**

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.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response Wait For The Lord**

***Postlude Hallelujah, Amen -- Handel**

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Being the Church this week:

Today	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	11:45 a.m.	Sr. Seekers College Care Packages (11:45am-1pm)
	5:00 p.m.	Hanging of the Greens
Monday	9:00 a.m.	HENS (9am-1pm)
	4:30 p.m.	Music/Rec (4:30-5:45pm)
	7:00 p.m.	Cubs/Troop
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Yoga (Community Room)
	9:00 a.m.	Church Library open during Office hours
	10:00 a.m.	Staff meeting
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Audit Committee Meeting (Library)
	8:00 a.m.	Yoga (Community Room)
	9:00 a.m.	HENS (9am-1pm)
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts
	6:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts
	7:15 p.m.	Evening Prayer
Thursday	7:30 p.m.	Committees
	9:00 a.m.	Church Library during office hours
	9:30 a.m.	Sisters of the Way Bible Study (Community Room)
	5:00 p.m.	Community Meals (lower parking lot)
	6:15 p.m.	Chancel Handbells Rehearsal
	7:15 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Yoga (Community Room)
	9:00 a.m.	HENS (9am-1pm)
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	11:45 a.m.	Session (after worship)
	11:45 a.m.	Kitchen Committee Meeting (after worship)
	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	6:00 p.m.	Jr. Seekers (6-7:30pm)



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

750 N. Evans St., Pottstown, PA 19464

Phone 610-326-0620---FAX 610-326-4805

Rev. W. Carter Lester, Jr. & Rev. Karen Pidcock-Lester, Co-Pastors

Jaylee Ferreri, Director for Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

Debra Voytko, Organist, Cynthia K. Foust, Director of Music

Dawn Skelly, Parish Nurse

Jo Ann Bathurst, Children's Choir Director

Marie Kayati, Administrative Assistant -- Thomas Spitko, Sexton

Becky Bostwick, HENS Director, (610) 326-3690

Check out the church's website www.fpcpottstown.org

Sermons are available.

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