

A Service of Advent Lessons and Carols

First Presbyterian Church Davenport, Iowa

Half past nine o'clock in the morning, December 4, 2022 The Second Sunday of Advent

The Winter Is Cold, Is Cold

The winter is cold, is cold.
All's spent in keeping warm.
Has joy been frozen, too?
I blow upon my hands
Stiff from the biting wind.
My heart beats slow, beats slow.
What has become of joy?

If joy's gone from my heart
Then it is closed to You
Who made it, gave it life.
If I protect myself
I'm hiding, Lord, from you.
How we defend ourselves
In ancient suits of mail!

Protected from the sword, Shrinking from the wound, We look for happiness, Small, safety-seeking, dulled, Selfish, exclusive, in-turned. Elusive, evasive, peace comes Only when it's not sought.

Help me forget the cold
That grips the grasping world.
Let me stretch out my hands
To purifying fire,
Clutching fingers uncurled.
Look! Here is the melting joy.
My heart beats once again.

By Madeleine L'Engle (1918-2007)

Cover art: *The Annunciation*, Piermatteo d'Amelia (c. 1450-1508) Isabella Steward Gardner Museum, Boston Despite its roots in centuries-old liturgical sources, the lessons and carols service is a relatively new addition to the canon of Christian worship liturgy, but one that has already found its way into traditions across multiple denominations. The first Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was held in the chapel of King's College of Cambridge University, about sixty miles north of London, on Christmas Eve 1918. The service was planned by the school's dean, Eric Milner-White, who sought to bring more "imaginative worship" into the Church of England in the post-war era; White based the service on a similar format used three decades before at the church in Truro by E.W. Benson (who later became Archbishop of Canterbury). The BBC began broadcasting the service in 1928; every Christmas Eve since, millions of people across the world are touched by the scriptural readings and carols from this service.

As the service grew in popularity, an increasing number of English and American choirs began to program services modeled after the one at King's College, and a Service of Advent Lessons and Carols featuring seven rather than nine readings began to take root. The typical format of the service begins with the choir processional on the great hymn "Once in Royal David's City." After each of seven scripture readings, the choir sings one or two carols, intermixed with additional congregational hymns.

The carols this year have been selected to highlight the many connections between the prophecies and stories of the coming of Christ with the idea of preparation. In addition to offerings of traditional carols, the choir will also be singing works by living composers that set to music devotional poetry dating back to the Middle Ages. Fresh treatments of old materials are certainly not a novelty in the Christian experience, but rather serve as examples of the relevancy even of age-old tradition and our communion with those who initiated and propelled it. Because the texts of these carols are so poignant, illustrating individual stories themselves, we have printed them in this morning's order of worship for you to follow as you please.

We pray that you will take from this service a message of hope, of joy, of love, and of promises fulfilled as we are reminded again through the Advent liturgy of the great story of our shared faith: "And our eyes at last shall see him..."

-The FPC Chamber Chorale Matthew Bishop, Director of Music

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

* We invite you to stand.

PRELUDE

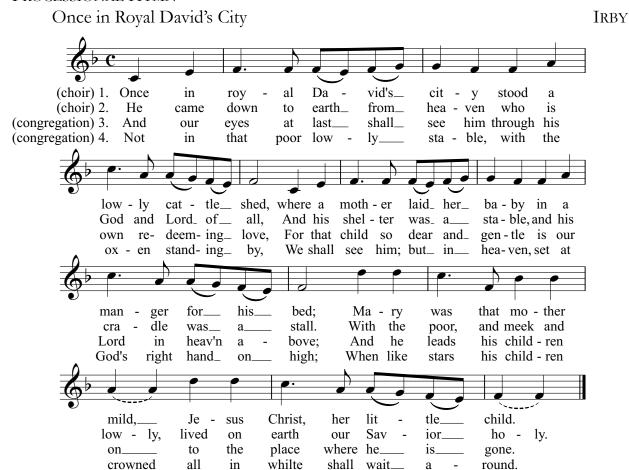
The Cradle Song

Alex Gilson, organist By Chelsea Chen (b. 1983)

Rev. Elissa Bailey

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*PROCESSIONAL HYMN



WORDS OF WELCOME THE BIDDING PRAYER

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.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Williams Family

The Advent candles remind us of the promise God has given to us: to send a Savior. On the first Sunday of Advent we lit the candle of Hope as we remain faithful to the Hope that is to come. for what is to come. On this second Sunday of Advent we light the candle of Peace, trusting that we do not find God's peace; God's peace finds us.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Let us pray: Almighty God, we ask you: where is Peace? Surrounded by injustice, greed and violence, sometimes it feels as if your Peace will never arrive.

Breathe into us, O God, the Peace that comes from you alone.

Remind us of your promise that your light will never be overcome, and then send us out to carry your Peace: to release the captives, bring good news to the poor, feed the hungry, help the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bring justice for all.

We ask it in the name of the One we call Peace; Amen.

OFFERTORY

Alex Gilson, organist

People, Look East

Arr. Wayne Wold (b. 1954)

(Copyright 2000, Augsburg Fortress)

CAROL

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

Text: from *Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs* (1784), compiled by Joshua Smith

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green: the trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought: I missed of all; but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know, but ne'er can tell the glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree. I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile: under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

(Copyright 2000, Oxford University Press [reprint])

FIRST LESSON Diana Miller-Bur

Isaiah 40:1-8

To God's people in exile in a faraway land, the prophet Isaiah announces good news: God is coming back, and is bringing the exiles home!

CAROL

Adam Lay Ybounden

By Joel Martinson (b. 1960) Text: Anonymous, 15th-century English

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond; four thousand winter thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, as clerkes finden¹ written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been, ne had never our Lady abeen heavene queen.

Blessed be the time that apple takes was; therefore we moun singen² Deo gracias!⁶

(Copyright 1993, Birnamwood Publications)

SECOND LESSON

Paula Hartmann

Jeremiah 23:5-6

The prophet Jeremiah offers hope for a righteous branch, a just king who is yet to come.

CAROL

A Tender Shoot

By Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907)

A tender shoot has started up from a root of grace, as ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race: it blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter, turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring; the Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing; our God of endless might gave her this child to save us, thus turning darkness into light.

THIRD LESSON

Theresa Jacobsmeier

Zechariah 9:9-10

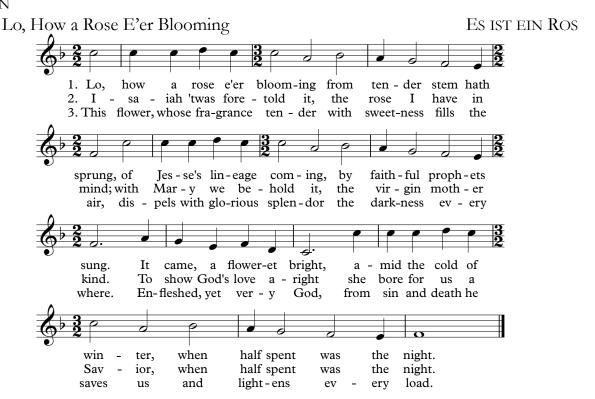
To a nation of war and weapons, God promises a king who will establish a reign of peace.

¹ clerkes: clergy (Middle English)

² moun singen: must sing (Middle English)

³ Deo Gracias!: Thanks be to God! (Latin)

*HYMN



FOURTH LESSON

Judy Hawthorne

Haggai 2:6-9

The prophet Haggai promises to God's people a temple even more glorious than the temple of old.

CAROL

O Quickly Come, Great Judge of All

By June Nixon (b. 1942) Based on a Swedish folk tune Text: Laurence Tuttiet (1825-1897)

O quickly come, great judge of all, for, glorious though thine Advent be; all shadows from the truth will fall, and falsehood die, in sight of thee. O quickly come, for doubt and fear like clouds dissolve when Thou art near.

O quickly come, great king of all; reign all around us, and within; let sin no more our souls enthrall, and pain and sorrow die with sin. O quickly come, for Thou alone canst make Thy scattered people one.

O quickly come, sure light of all for gloomy night broods o'er our way and weakly souls begin to fall with weary watching for the day.
O quickly come, for round thy throne no eye is blind, no night is known.

(Copyright 2016, Paraclete Press)



FIFTH LESSON

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is

Christ_ who

came.

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Dawn Hickenbottom

Isaiah 35:1-6

The prophet Isaiah announces the renewal both of the land and of God's people on the coming day of redemption.

in

CAROL

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

French Carol, PICARDY

Arr. Stephen Cleobury (1948-2019)

ly

Text: Liturgy of St. James, trans. Gerald Moultrie (1829-1885)

God's most ho

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ, our God, to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords in human vesture, in the body and the blood he will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way as the Light of Light, descendeth from the realms of endless day, that the powers of hell may vanquish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the Presence as with ceaseless voice they cry:

"Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

(Copyright 2000, Oxford University Press)

SIXTH LESSON Dianna Darland

Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will give birth to a ruler whose reign shall never end.

CAROL

The Angel Gabriel

Basque Carol Arr. Malcolm Archer (b. 1952) Text: Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "thou lowly made Mary, most highly favoured lady." Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."
Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

Of her, Immanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say, "Most highly favoured lady." Gloria!

(Copyright 2000, Oxford University Press)

*HYMN



SEVENTH LESSON Jay Williams

Mark 1:1-15

Jesus proclaims the coming of the kingdom of God.

CAROL

Gaude et laetare

By Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951) Text: 4th century, attributed to St. Ambrose

Latin Text:

Gaude et laetare, exultatio angelorum.
Gaude domini virgo, prophetarum gaudium.
Gaudeas benedicta, Dominus tecum est.
Gaude, quae per angelum gaudium mundi suscepisti.

Gaude, quae genuisti Factorem et Dominum. Gaudeas quae digna es esse Mater Christi. Gaude mater luminis. English Translation:

Rejoice and be glad, you who are the angels' exultation.

Rejoice, the Lord's virgin, the prophets' joy. Rejoice, blessed one, the Lord is with you. Rejoice, you who from the angel received the world's joy.

Rejoice, you who bore the Creator and Lord; Rejoice, you who are worthy to be Mother of Christ;

Rejoice, Mother of Light.

*BLESSING Rev. Elissa Bailey

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage;

hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil;

strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;

help the afflicted; honor everyone;

love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always.

Amen.



POSTLUDE Alex Gilson, organist Fugato from *Variations sur un Noël* By Marcel Dupré (1886-1971) (Copyright 1923, Alphonse Leduc)

JOYS & CONCERNS

In Our Prayers: families and victims of gun violence; the people of Ukraine and all who groan under oppression; for God's presence with all who are grieving the loss of Juanita White Daugherty Briggs, Gayle Allard, Betty Nelson, Eleanor Beadles White, Kathy Goldsmith (Ruth Rensberger's daughter), Betsy Kisler, Jim Lasala, Ella Johns, Georgia Sodawasser, Gloria Wadsworth, Chris Cook, Bruce Kahler, Jim Calhoun, Holly Rivera; for God's mercy and grace to touch Dwight Wood (Don Wood's father), John Timm and family, Brandon Bufe, Allison Kennedy, Dylan's grandmother, Roberta Shadensack, Julia Pedigo, Jim Woods, Tammy Wood, Benjamin Bartnicke, Erin Middleton Cavan, Danielle, Dorothy Bain, Lynette, Brenda Cole, David Milnes, Gloria Osborne, Hudson Stoner, Dorothy Downing (Patrick's grandmother), Julie Bennett (Nancy Foster's Sister), and those experiencing abuse, addiction, violence, loss, suicide, COVID-19, and natural disaster.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Called Meeting of the Congregation

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa has called a Special Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, December 18, 2022, immediately following the worship service for the elections of a Nominating Committee and Church Officers and to take action on a proposed change to the terms of call for the Pastor/Head of Staff.

ACE Lecture Series

Sundays at 10:35 am

Von Maur Hall & Zoom (Zoom link available in e-news)

Bible Basics 201 – December 2021 Lessons

In Advent, we will be returning to the video series by Jean-Pierre Isbouts, *The History and Archaeology of the Bible.* No need to prepare for the lessons. Come watch the 30-minute video and join in on the discussion.

- December 7, 2022 The World of the Gospels
- December 14, 2022 The Birth of Jesus

Bible Basics will be in recess on December 21 & 28, 2022. We will start again on January 4, 2023. Please contact Mark Jones (mkjones@mchsi.com) for more information. Zoom link available in the e-news.

Women of Hope Bible Study

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 10:00 am Church Parlor

Per Capita - \$40.32 per Member

Per Capita is the annual contribution each Presbyterian makes to support our denomination's local, national, and international ministries. The 2023 Per Capita is \$40.32 per member. A member is one who has been confirmed or welcomed into the congregation by confession of faith, letter of transfer from another congregation, or reaffirmation of faith. You can submit your annual Per Capita contribution by placing the designated offering in the offering plate, mail, or you can pay online.

FPC Christmas Concerts

"Let All the World in Every Corner Sing"
Saturday, December 17 | 7:30pm
Sunday, December 18 | 4:00pm
Cornellmentary Tickets Required (recovered a

Complimentary Tickets Required (reserved seating)

The Music department at FPC is excited to continue its tradition of celebratory Christmas concerts. This year's concerts, on the third weekend in December, feature many of the church's great and beloved ensembles: the Sanctuary Choir, Chamber Chorale, Vesper Bells, and Celebrations Singers, accompanied by full orchestra and Principal Organist Alex Gilson.

This year's repertoire celebrates the broad diversity of Christmas celebrations across the world. Featuring carols from many different global regions, this multicultural concert highlights the many creative ways Christians have found to mark the birth of Christ, a yearly observation that unites us and places us in communion with people in other continents and at other times in history.

Complementary tickets required, available on Eventbrite.

Saturday Tickets https://bit.ly/3GlkK13
Sunday Tickets https://bit.ly/3hVCtSk

Angel Tree Season

A friendly reminder to those who took an Angel Tree tag. Gifts are due back Tuesday Dec. 6th, unwrapped, in a bag with the tag attached. There are a few tags left, so feel free to grab one if you haven't. Thanks for your help!

Cocoa and Caring...Warm Hands and Warm Hearts

We will again be reaching out to our FPC neighborhood on Tuesday, December 6 between 3PM and 5PM with some hot cocoa, candy canes, warm mittens, gloves, hats and lots of Christmas spirit. The Deacons will set up a table outside the front doors of the sanctuary on Kirkwood Boulevard. In order to do this we need you to start bringing donations.

Please bring men's and women's gloves (can be dress or ski gloves), children's gloves and hats, as well as infants and toddler sizes. You can also join us on December 6. This event will warm your heart, even if it is cold outside. There will be a container for donations at the back of the church sanctuary. If you have any questions, call or text Cathy Pratscher-Woods at 563-349-2288.

Session Highlights

November 2022

- Now that the PNC has been dissolved, several items related to the start of Pastor Kris Schondelmeyer' time at FPC (start date, pulpit supply in early January) were referred to the Personnel Committee. Items related to Pastor Kris' moving expenses were referred to the Personnel and Finance Committees and the Foundation Board of Trustees.
- Pastor Stoner-Lasala's last day at FPC will be December 31, 2022.
- Received a report from the Nominating Committee of the congregation that they were very close to having a full slate of nominations for 2023 leadership. That led the Session to approve a congregational meeting for December 18, 2022 for election of officers. Officer training was set for the evenings of December 20 and December 21. Installation of officers will be January 29, 2023.
- Moderator Stoner-Lasala provided additional elder training in areas that can provide for a stronger Session.

• On the recommendation of CEFY and Kristy Woodrow, Director of Christian Education, the Session approved the use of a new Sunday school curriculum.

Sunday School Volunteers Needed

We will continue using a one-room school-house model for now. Volunteers are needed each week so we can comply with the Child Safety Policy – there is no teaching requirement unless you would like to do so! Interested in volunteering? See Kristy Woodrow.

Food Pantry Donations Needed

Friends, whether we attend services in the parking lot, via livestream, or in the church, the need for donations to the Food Pantry is always with our community. You may drop off goods in the church office during the week or in the narthex on Sunday mornings. Monetary donations are also accepted. All donations go to Sacred Heart Food Pantry located at The Center on Brady Street.

Stewardship Update

Your generosity and commitment to the many missions of FPC have resulted in 133 confirmed pledges totaling \$409,993. If you have returned your 2023 Stewardship Cards or set-up your online pledge already: a sincere thank you! While we did not reach our goal of \$500,000 by November 30 (we are 82% of the way there), your pledge is always greatly appreciated and welcome! We realize many tune into our worship services virtually and have not been able to turn in your pledge card. You can still show your faith in God's future by pledging online or sending a picture of your card to Kristine Olson at olson@fpcdavenport.org.

Year-End Giving Reminder

We ask all of our members to fulfill their 2022 pledge prior to December 31. Donors must deliver checks on or by Friday, December 30, in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2022. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2023 (January 1) will not qualify for a charitable deduction in 2022, even if the check is predated to or actually written in 2022. However, under the so-called "mailbox exception," checks that are written, mailed, and postmarked in 2022 will be deductible in 2022 though they are not received by the church until 2023. As always, thank you for your continued support of First Presbyterian Church. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Office at olson@fpcdavenport.org or 563.326.1691 Ext. 219.





Land Acknowledgement

First Presbyterian Church gratefully acknowledges the Indigenous Peoples on whose ancestral homelands we gather, as well as the diverse and vibrant Indigenous communities who make Iowa and Illinois their home today. The communities we serve through our ministries occupy the traditional homelands of the people of the Kiikaapoi, Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówiŋ, Peoria, Sauk, and Meskwaki nations. We honor these and numerous Indigenous tribes who first made the banks of the Mississippi River a center for arts and commerce.

The FPC Chamber Chorale

Matthew Bishop, Director of Music Alex Gilson, Principal Organist/Assistant Director of Music

Sopranos:
Marty Bowles Edwards
Tricia Humphries
Julia Meyer
Kristine Oswald
Heidi Pedersen
Kathlynn Price

Tenors: Steve Arp Mike Bawden Glen Roebuck Mark Ruebling

Altos: Samantha Crow Wendy Hammen Anna Putman Linda Ruebling Cheryl Schipull Basses: Ted Brown Jim DeReus Patrick Downing Dave Pedersen

FPC Staff

Rev. Elissa Bailey
Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala,
Bridging Pastors
Rev. Pat Halverson,*
Parish Associate
Kristy Woodrow,
Director of Christian Education
Sarah Greim & Paula
Hartmann,*
Interim Christian Education
Coordinators
Nichole Kerker,*
Nursery Coordinator
Kelley Wohlers,*

Nursery Caregiver

Matt Bishop,
Director of Music
Alex Gilson,
Principal Organist & Assistant
Director of Music
Linda Bengfort,*
Assistant Choral Director
Kathy Middleton,*
Assistant Choral Director for
Children

Kristine Olson,
Finance Manager
Becky Lopez,*
Accounting Assistant
Susan Parker,
Administrative Assistant
Darren Long,
Facilities & Custodial
Supervisor
Chad Dean*
Kevin Wilson,
Custodians

* Part-time employee

To make a donation to support First Presbyterian Church, please visit our website at www.fpcdavenport.org, or send a text to (563)538-5020 (example: "\$25"). You'll be sent a text with a link to register. It's that easy. Your support is appreciated and will help fund all of the good things happening at FPC!