

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

We Gather in God's Name . . .

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

(for silent prayer during the prelude)

Lord, help me to feel the presence of your Holy Spirit, the hope and peace that come from knowing that you love me unconditionally. I look for and find the joy of worshipping you next to my sisters and brothers in Christ. As we approach our National Day of Thanksgiving and our Christian season of anticipation for the birth of your Son, the Christ Jesus, remind me of all the large and small blessings that bring gratitude to my life. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

THE LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Kim Cooney, Brian Seavey, and Sunday Morning Bible Study Class

*OPENING HYMN “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” #2

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Forgive us, Lord, if we are distracted by all the glitz and gluttony of this holiday season. Help us to remember that while our humanity tries to steal us away from you, we desire more than anything to be your children following the way of Jesus. Hear us as we silently confess those things that too often separate us from you.

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON “Hear the Good News of Salvation”
(verse 1) #355

Singing: Hear the good news of salvation:

Jesus died to show God’s love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy!
Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love you!
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me.
Love me still and cleanse within.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus the Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

. . . to Proclaim God’s Word

FIRST READING Isaiah 2: 1-5 p. 631

SECOND READING Psalm 122 p. 571

ANTHEM “A Light of Hope, A Song of Peace” Choir

GOSPEL READING Matthew 24: 36-44 p. 27

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Where There is Hope” Pastor Judy Sibley

*HYMN OF RESPONSE “Soon and Very Soon”
Lt. Blue Songbook #142

. . . to Give Thanks to God . . .

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD

THE OFFERTORY

*OFFERING RESPONSE
“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” #592

Singing: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

With these gifts we declare our hope for those who are in need, for our neighbors and for those who are strangers in our land of plenty. It is because of your generosity in our own lives that we can give generously to others. Help us to make known through our giving, our voices, and the way we live that there is sanctuary from hurt among us. May the peace of God surround all who struggle to find hope, peace, joy and love in this Advent season. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our 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.

. . . and to Be Sent in God’s Name

*CLOSING HYMN “Lead On, O King Eternal” #447

BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION “Go with God”
Lt. Blue Songbook #138

Singing: Go with God. Go with God.
As you leave this place, go with God.
God will direct your way, God will light ev’ry day.
As you leave this place, go with God.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mon. Dec. 1	Easy Does It Exercise Handbells	10:00 AM 6:00PM
Tues. Dec. 2	Prayer Ministry	12:00PM
Wed. Dec. 3	Easy Does It Exercise Learn 2 Sew Adult Discipleship Class Church School/Youth Program	10:00 AM 3:30 PM 6:00 PM 6:15 PM
Thurs. Dec. 4	Worship Committee Bible Study @ Horizon Lodge Choir	10:30 AM 2:00 PM 7:00 PM
Fri. Dec. 5	Easy Does It Exercise Community Meal In The Fellowship Hall	10:00 AM 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM
Sun. Dec. 7	Sunday Bible Class	10:00 AM

Welcome to worship this morning! If you have small children, you're welcome to keep them in worship or take them into the quiet room.

Our thanks go to our lay reader Julie Katana, Kim Cooney, Brian Seavey and Sunday Morning Bible Study Class for lighting the First Advent Candle, the choir, and pianist Dave Thomas.

You will find **prayer request cards** in the backs of the church pews that you may fill out and drop in the offering plate as needed.

For **Prayer Chain Requests**, please call either Martha Orcutt, 406-868-1890 or Karen Burditt, 406-450-5295.

Sunday Morning Bible Class has begun an Advent study today, **November 30th**. It is the first Sunday in a 4-week video and discussion study titled, *"Heaven and Earth and the Incarnation"* by Will Willimon. The author and presenter is a retired United Methodist bishop and serves as Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry and Director of the Doctor of Ministry program at Duke Divinity School in Durham, NC. Join us at **10:00 AM in Room 3**. Coffee is hot and doughnuts are fresh.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

The Church Office will be closed on **Friday, December 5th**.

The Community Meal will be on **Friday, December 5th** 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The menu for the day will be Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Tossed Green Salad, and Christmas Cake Dessert. We hope to see you there!

Deacons will be making Christmas Cards on **Wednesday, December 10th in Room #3 at 10:00AM**.

The Presbyterian Women's Christmas Luncheon is scheduled for **December 11th at 12:30 PM**. It will be held at the Moose Lodge. The meal will be steak and scampi (\$25.00). We will be taking a special offering of canned fruit for the food pantry. Everyone is welcome to come. Signup sheets will be posted in the Fellowship Hall and the Church Office. Please sign up before December 5th.

The Wednesday Night Adult Discipleship Class is taking a break from our regular series to study *"Voices of Advent"* by Matthew Skinner November 26th through December 17th. We won't meet December 24th or December 31st but will resume *"Taming Your Thoughts"* by Max Lucado starting January 7th, 2026. Please join us Wednesday's from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM in Room 4 for these scripture-based studies and Christian fellowship. All are welcome!

It's almost that time of year again. Annual reports are due in the church office **the week after Christmas**. If the office is not open when your report is ready, you may put it in an envelope and slip it through the mail slot or email your report to conpres@3rivers.net.

Last week, the combined giving was **\$1,569.00**. In order to meet expenses, we need to average **\$3,104.00** per week.

Please remember to pray for Bruce Benjamin, Cecil & Alice Benjamin, Amy Zimbelman, Helen Stordahl, Barb Perry, Wally McHenry, Wendy Wagner, Dave Perry, Ward Orcutt, Kristine Ries Prewett, Mary Sanders, Lavon & Karen Carter, Sean Carter, Dana & Marie Ahmed, Pearl Severtson, and Hazel Jones.

First Presbyterian Church



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