



DECEMBER 29, 2019
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
8:30 and 11:00 AM

OPENING SENTENCES AND WELCOME Stuart Gordon

†VOLUNTARY Benjamin Britten
Interlude from a Ceremony of Carols

†INTROIT arr. Douglas Wagner
Oh Come, Little Children

*CALL TO WORSHIP Adam DeVries

Leader: Praise the Lord!

People: **Praise the Lord from the heavens,
praise Him in the heights!**

Leader: Praise Him, all His angels, praise Him, all His host!

People: **For His name alone is exalted,
His glory is above earth and heaven.**

Leader: He has raised up a Savior for His people,
praise for all His faithful.

All: **Praise the Lord!** Psalm 148

†*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 143 REGENT SQUARE
Angels, from the Realms of Glory
(Stanzas 1-3)

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION (8:30) John Musgrave
(11:00) Sandra Randleman

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God and Father of Jesus,
O heavenly Father,
In thanking You for Your Son,
we confess that we settle too often for less.
Being unsure how to welcome our Savior,
we fill our time and space with lesser things.
We believe in Your Son, O Lord; help our unbelief.
Kindle in us a more expectant hope,
a more profound love,
a more passionate joy
in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ,
in whose name we ask.**
(A moment for silent confession.)

HYMN 121 ST. LOUIS
O Little Town of Bethlehem
**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*HYMN 143

REGENT SQUARE

**All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king!**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed (traditional) Hymnal, page 35

Children are invited to come to the front.

BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

Adam DeVries

‡ Children who are age 4, 5, or 6 (not in 1st grade) are invited to
Young Children and Worship in room CW-110.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Joe Bellardo

**God our helper,
by Your Holy Spirit, open our minds,
that as the Scriptures are read
and Your Word is proclaimed,
we may be led into Your truth
and taught Your will,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 40:1–5, page 667

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF PREPARATION 177

YOU ARE MINE

I Will Come to You

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Mark 2:1–12, page 36

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Stuart Gordon

The Incarnation According to Mark

OFFERTORY

PERSONENT HODIE

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

On this day earth shall ring
with the song children sing
to the Lord, Christ our King,
born on earth to save us; Him the Father gave us.
Ideo, ideo, ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!
His the doom, ours the mirth;
when He came down to earth
Bethlehem saw His birth;
ox and ass beside Him from the cold would hide Him.
Ideo, ideo, ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!
God's bright star, o'er His head,
wise men three to Him led;
kneel they low by His bed,
lay their gifts before Him,
praise Him and adore Him.
Ideo, ideo, ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!

On this day angels sing;
with their song earth shall ring,
praising Christ, heaven's King,
born on earth to save us; peace and love He gave us.
Ideo, ideo, ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!

*PRESENTATION AND RESPONSE *Doxology* OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(debts) Hymnal, page 35

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 134 ANTIOCH

Joy to the World

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ST. LOUIS

O Little Town of Bethlehem

**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him,
still the dear Christ enters in.**

*The congregation will be seated for a moment of silent prayer
after the congregational response.*

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY Johann Sebastian Bach

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

* Those who are able, please stand. † Latecomers may be seated.

PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE

Adam DeVries, Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families

Stuart Gordon, Executive Pastor

John Musgrave, Parish Associate

Sandra Randleman,

Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Missions

Emily Anderson, Acolyte (8:30)

Jack McGuire, Acolyte (11:00)

Ellie Ford, Cross Bearer

Maddie Fry, Bible Bearer

Joe Bellardo, Youth Liturgist

Raphael Bundage, Director of Music

Peter Rogahn, Organist

Rhonda Swanson, Assistant Organist

Emily Stone, Harp

Handbell Quartet, Bekah Caruso, Director

Welcome! — First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. We are delighted you have chosen to join us. Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please note your attendance today in the fellowship pad found in your pew.

Guests — Please take a moment to fill out a Connect Card so that we may more personally welcome you into community. We also invite you to visit the Welcome Center in Courtenay Hall for additional information or if you are interested in becoming a member. There, you may visit with one of our greeters. You may also contact the church office at 615-383-1815, and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

TODAY AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- **FELLOWSHIP, COFFEE & DONUTS** — Please join us between services downstairs in Courtenay Hall for coffee and donuts.
- **ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES** — Hearing devices, large-print hymnals, large-print bulletins, and large-print Bibles are located in the narthex. If anyone has a need or disability requiring assistance or accommodation for any church activity, please contact the church office at 615-383-1815.
- **MOTHER AND INFANT QUIET ROOM** — If you need a quiet place for nursing or calming your baby, please use the room inside the Nursery Wing.
- **LIVESTREAM IN COURTENAY HALL** — Each of the Sunday morning worship services is streamed live in Courtenay Hall.
- **HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?** — Prayer request cards can be found in the pews and deposited in the offering plate or the prayer request boxes located in the narthex on the southeast wall and at the Hospitality Center in Courtenay Hall. Church officers meet weekly to lift up prayer requests to God.
- **SERMONS** can be found on our website at fpcnashville.org.

Greet those who worship around you. Be a Worship Friend!

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **THE TABLE** — The Table is a relaxed worship service rooted in the Reformed tradition. It meets on Sundays in The Gathering Place at 11:00. All are welcome!
- **THANK YOU!** — Thanks to all who have pledged to the annual stewardship/generosity campaign! Every pledge enables First Presbyterian to continue its ministry in our community and around the world. If you have not yet pledged, you may either fill out a pledge card, go online, or call the finance office. Your participation in this campaign is vital for our congregation to expand its ministry.
- **EPIPHANY BONFIRE** — Join us on Sunday, January 5, at 3:00 P.M. on the grounds of the church. The bonfire is an all-church event featuring hymn singing, fellowship, the lighting of the bonfire, cookies, and hot chocolate!
- **ROOTED IN CHRIST: FAMILY PROM** — January 11, 2020 from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. in The Gathering Place. Register online.
- **PASTOR INSTALLATION** — Join the FPC community Sunday, January 12, to welcome Pastor Ryan Moore and to celebrate his installation as our Senior Pastor. The installation will be held at the 11:00 A.M. worship service. The Presbyterian Women will host a reception during the Sunday School hour.
- **COLLEGE DAYS PODCAST FEATURING RYAN MOORE** — Check out FPC's College Ministry's podcast "College Days" on SoundCloud. Episode 2 of its third season features an interview with Ryan Moore: <https://soundcloud.com/user-553125988/college-days-ryan-moore-interview/>.

ADULT EDUCATION

■ **2020 WINTER INQUIRERS' CLASS** — Are you interested in learning more about our church? Have you thought about joining our church family and becoming an active participant in the life and mission of First Pres? Are you just curious about the Presbyterian faith tradition? Then you are welcome to attend our Inquirers' Class series on January 19 and 26, and February 2 and 9 during the Sunday School hour from 9:45 to 10:45 A.M. in the Jones Session Room, located on the second floor down the hall from the Sanctuary. If you are interested in uniting with First Presbyterian Church as a member or just wish to learn more about the history and mission of FPC, please join us! Registration is not necessary. For more information, feel free to reach out to Rev. Sarah Bird at 615-298-9518 or sbird@fpcnashville.org.

■ **INTRODUCTION TO THE ENNEAGRAM CLASS** — Join us for the Introduction to the Enneagram class, starting January 5 in Room L-202 during the Sunday School hour, as we learn more about the Enneagram and what this tool has to teach us about loving God, others, and ourselves well. We will walk through The Enneagram Journey curriculum by Suzanne Stabile during our time together. This Sunday School class is designed for those who don't know anything about the Enneagram, those who have been studying the Enneagram for a while, and everyone in between!

■ **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL** — Questions? Contact Sarah Bird at sbird@fpcnashville.org or 615-298-9518, or check us out online at fpcnashville.org.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AND NURSERY

■ **SERVING TOGETHER: CULTIVATING A SERVANT'S HEART** — Our monthly collection for January will be new pajamas and new books for children of Fannie Battle Day Home. Come downstairs during the month of January to the Children's Ministry and select a child for whom to shop. Return all donated items to the white bin located in the Children's Ministry entrance.

■ **DECEMBER VERSE OF THE MONTH** — "Every good and perfect gift is from above" James 1:17 (NIV). Window clings for this verse are now available at the children's welcome desk. Send a picture of where you are hanging your window clings to cadmin@fpcnashville.org.

■ **CHILDREN'S CHOIR** will not have rehearsal today or on January 5. Rehearsal will resume on January 12 at 4:00 P.M. For more information, visit music.fpcnashville.org/children/childrens-music/.

■ OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN DURING OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

- **Children's Bulletin, Sermon Sheet & Worship Bag:** All children are encouraged to use these to stay engaged during the service. These are located both in the narthex and at the pulpit entrance.
- **Young Children & Worship:** Children who are age 4, 5, or 6 (not in 1st grade) are invited. After the children come up during worship services for children's time or a baptism, they will exit the Sanctuary and go to room CW-110. Parents are welcome to join their child or stay for the remainder of the service.
- **Nursery Care** for children 6 weeks through 3 years is available during the 8:30 & 11:00 services and Sunday School from 9:45 to 10:45. Ask an elder/deacon to help you locate the Children's Hospitality Center.

*For Children's Ministry info, contact Deb O'Brien
at 615-298-9582 or dobrien@fpcnashville.org.*

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

■ **SYMPATHY** — The First Presbyterian Church family extends sympathy to:

- Suze Ward and Jimmy & Corinne Ward, on the death of Suze and Jimmy's stepmother, Caroline Hilton Woodard, who died December 7. Sympathy also to Katie Anderson and Jimmy Ward.

■ **PRAYING THE PSALMS OF LAMENT AS WE SEEK HEALING** — You are invited to participate in a grief support group offered by Dr. Sandra Randleman that combines prayer with a study of the psalms of lament and to explore how we, like the psalmists, can express our feelings and our petitions for help to God as we place our trust and hope in God and seek healing. The group will meet on Sunday afternoons for four weeks beginning January 19, from 12:00 to 2:00 P.M. Lunch will be available in Courtenay Hall beginning at noon, followed by the support group at 12:45 P.M. in the Memorial Library (Room MW-224). If you have family members, friends, or neighbors who you think would benefit from this group, please invite them to join us. Questions? Contact Sandra at 615-298-9502 or srandleman@fpcnashville.org. Please register online under "Ministries/Care & Support/Grief Support Group" or by contacting Ginny Barber at 615-298-9509 or gbarber@fpcnashville.org.

■ **STEPHEN MINISTRY** — Stephen Ministers work alongside our pastors to care for, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are going through a difficult time. If you have the gifts of caring, encouraging, and listening, please begin to prayerfully consider becoming a part of this important ministry. Contact Sandra Randleman at 615-298-9502 or srandleman@fpcnashville.org for additional information.

MISSION MINISTRY

■ **MISSION SPOTLIGHT: JUSTICE INDUSTRIES** — Justice Industries (JI) exists to create and sustain social-enterprise businesses that generate job opportunities for the chronically unemployed and under-employed. More than just helping people find a job, JI helps them break free from the cycle of generational poverty and become contributors to their families, their communities, and the greater purposes of God. For more information, go to www.justiceindustries.org or contact Missions at missions@fpcnashville.org.

■ **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** — FPC's Room In The Inn needs overnight hosts for Wednesday nights January through March. There will be two overnight hosts who will be met by the site coordinator to help with serving dinner and to walk you through the process. Arrive by 5:30 P.M. and leave the next morning by 6:00 A.M. Feel free to call with any questions. Sign-up sheets are in Courtenay Hall and online, or contact Annette Crout at 615-298-9507 or missions@fpcnashville.org.

■ **MISSION TRIP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** — Financial assistance is available for FPC members to participate in any FPC-sponsored mission trip. Contact Sandra Randleman at 615-298-9502 or srandleman@fpcnashville.org to submit a request.

*For more Mission Ministry info, contact Annette Crout
at 615-298-9507 or missions@fpcnashville.org.*

MUSIC MINISTRY

■ **HANDBELL OPPORTUNITY** — Are you interested in ringing in the bell choir at First Presbyterian Church? The Chancel Bells hopes to welcome new members in 2020! We are an intermediate-level handbell choir, and we welcome interested ringers of all experience levels. Rehearsals are Thursdays at 4:00 P.M. in the balcony, and we generally ring for worship once a month. If the time is not right for you, make a contact anyway to add your name to the list of possible future ringers. We encourage you to join us! Please contact Organist and Assistant Director of Music Peter Rogahn at 615-298-9538 or progahn@fpcnashville.org.

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

■ **THURSDAY LUNCHEON & PROGRAM** is January 16 at 12:00 P.M. in Courtenay Hall. Buffet is \$6. By popular demand, our friend Attorney Bill Carter will return to continue stories of his career as escort of President Kennedy's casket to working with countless prominent people, including the Rolling Stones, Jimmy Hoffa, Fred Smith, Steve McQueen, Reba McEntire, and currently, the Gaithers. RSVP by January 13.

■ **BOOK DISCUSSION** is January 23 at 2:00 P.M. in the Memorial Library. We will be reading and discussing Jojo Moyes's *The Giver of Stars*. Set in Kentucky during America's Great Depression, this is a remarkable story of women's friendship and determination to make books available during this dark period of our history.

■ **CHARLESTON, SC** — April 20–25, 6-day tour of Charleston, South Carolina. Contact Brenda Geise at 615-298-9515.

For First Friends info, contact 615-383-1815.

RECREATION MINISTRY

■ **FRIDAY PICKLEBALL** — All are welcome to join us for pickleball on Fridays at 3:00 P.M. We will have courts and equipment available in the Enrichment Center.

■ **OUR EQUINE PROGRAM** is still accepting participants! Adults 18 and up with disabilities, veterans, and service members are eligible for this therapeutic horseback riding program. To apply for the program or for more info, contact Curt Stacy at cstacy@fpcnashville.org.

*For Recreation Ministry info, contact
Bryan Miller at bmiller@fpcnashville.org.*

YOUNG ADULT & COLLEGE MINISTRY

■ **COLLEGE SUNDAY SCHOOL** — Class will continue December 29 to January 19 in Room L-201.

■ **ME MORNINGS** — ME Mornings will resume meeting on January 9, 2020.

*For Young Adult Ministry info, contact
Josh Rodriguez at 615-298-9598 or jrodriguez@fpcnashville.org.*

The Mission of First Presbyterian Church

To know Christ, to make Him known, and to exhibit His love through worship, education, and service.

YOUTH MINISTRY

■ **THE SEAT AT THE TABLE** — Sunday School class for 9th graders and their parents begins on Sunday, January 12, in The Gathering Place with Adam DeVries.

■ **REGISTER ONLINE TODAY FOR THESE RETREATS AND TRIPS!**

- **Guys' St. Louis Retreat** — January 31–February 2
- **Girls' Beach Retreat** — February 14–17
- **Spring Break Mission Trip to Waco, Texas** — March 14–20
- **High School West Virginia** — May 31–June 5, 2020 (Seniors depart May 29.)
- **Junior High Great Escape** — June 7–12, 2020
- **Mystery Trip for Graduated Seniors** — June 18–25, 2020

Every youth is required to have an online release form completed in order to participate in FPC activities! Please check the website, complete the online release form, and email youth@fpcnashville.org with a photo of the front and back of your insurance card. Thank you!

For Youth Ministry info, contact 615-298-9570 or youth@fpcnashville.org.



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