



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
Church of Nashville

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

*November 26, 2023*

*8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*



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

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## WORDS OF PREPARATION

*When are we closest to God? When we see ourselves as we really are.*

—Fleming Rutledge

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

*Darwall's 148th*  
Percy Whitlock

WELCOME

†INTROIT

*Tell Out My Soul*  
WOODLANDS

Tell out, my soul; the greatness of the Lord: unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP | Psalm 95:1–7

Dr. Stuart Gordon (8:30)  
Dr. Sandra Randleman (11:00)

Pastor: O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**All: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.**

Pastor: In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

**All: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

Pastor: Praise the Lord.

**All: The Lord's name be praised!**

\*†OPENING HYMN 263

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*  
CORONATION

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rick Gernert (8:30)  
Jessie Yancey (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Luke 1:68–79 (page 856)

<sup>68</sup> “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people <sup>69</sup> and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, <sup>70</sup> as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, <sup>71</sup> that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; <sup>72</sup> to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, <sup>73</sup> the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us <sup>74</sup> that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, <sup>75</sup> in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. <sup>76</sup> And you, child, will be called

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the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, <sup>77</sup> to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, <sup>78</sup> because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high <sup>79</sup> to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Mallory Hammond (8:30)

Gage Arnold (11:00)

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world and fail to be governed by justice and love. In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to acclaim Jesus as ruler of all, that we may be loyal ambassadors, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*A moment for silent confession.*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### \*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

LAUDA ANIMA

**Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.**

**Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.  
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.**

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | 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.**

*Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please mark your presence by signing the friendship pad and greet those seated near you as you pass it along.*

## ‡BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

*‡During the 8:30 and 11:00 services, PreK and Kindergarten children (ages 4–6) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.*

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## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

### PRESENTATION OF CHILD

Olivia and Miller Fitts are presenting their daughter, Brooklyn May Fitts, for baptism.  
Bill Oldacre, Assisting Elder.

### BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### THE BAPTISM

## HYMN OF PREPARATION 223

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*  
HAMBURG

## SCRIPTURE READING | Ephesians 1:15–23 (page 976)

<sup>15</sup> For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints,  
<sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him,  
<sup>18</sup> having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup> that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SERMON

**Above All**

Dr. Ryan Moore

*And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church.* —Ephesians 1:22

### OFFERTORY

*O Lord, You Are My God and King*  
JERUSALEM

O Lord, you are my God and King, and I will ever bless your name; I will extol you every day, and evermore your praise proclaim. You, Lord, are greatly to be praised; your greatness is beyond our thought; all generations shall tell forth the mighty wonders you have wrought. How rich in grace are you, O Lord, full of compassion, merciful, your anger always slow to rise; your steadfast love you show to all, for you are good in all your ways; your creatures know your constant care. To all your works your love extends; all souls your tender mercies share. Your works will give you thanks, O Lord; your saints your mighty acts will show, till all the peoples of the earth your kingdom, power, glory know. Eternal is your kingdom, Lord, forever strong, forever sure; while generations rise and die, your high dominion will endure.

*As you reflect on the Lord's goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting "GIVE" to 707-475-3005, or donating online at [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org).*

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## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

\*CLOSING HYMN 268

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*  
DIADEMATA

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

*Amen*  
Peter Lutkin

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Crown Imperial*  
William Walton

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

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## PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*  
Stuart Gordon, DMin – *Senior Associate Pastor for Christian Formation & Witness*  
Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Missions*  
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*  
Mallory Hammond – *Director of Ministry with Children & Their Families*  
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*  
Peter Rogahn, DMA – *Organist and Assistant Director of Music*  
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*

## SUPPORTING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

You can make a gift or fulfill a pledge payment by placing your gift in the offering plate, texting "GIVE" to 707-475-3005, donating online at [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org), or scan the QR code.



## WELCOME

First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. Since 1814 First Presbyterian has sought to be faithful in service to Jesus Christ and the common good. We are rooted in the Reformed, orthodox, and evangelical traditions of the larger church. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you!

### Hearing Assistance App Directions

Join WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Network Name: FPC Guest; Password: GreenRock-81. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select "First Pres Sanctuary." Plug in your headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

**Join us downstairs** in Courtenay Hall between services for coffee and doughnuts.

To **livestream** worship and special events or view past services, visit [youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville](https://youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville).

**Children of all ages** are invited to worship alongside their families, and worship activity bags are provided at each entrance to the Sanctuary. Children ages 4-6 are invited to join **Young Children & Worship** following the Blessing of the Young Disciples. Parents pick up their child after worship at Grundy Hall, located in the Children's Ministry Wing. Following 8:30 a.m. worship, children of all ages are invited to stay for the Education Hour. Check-in and pickup for Nursery-Kindergarten is located in the Children's Ministry lobby, while Elementary is located in Oak Hill C-Wing. **Nursery care** for children ages 0-3 is available from 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. The **Mother and Infant Quiet Room** is located in the Nursery Wing.

## INTERESTED IN GETTING MORE CONNECTED?

If you are new to our community, we would love to get to know you and welcome you personally into the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Whether you are a guest or a longtime member, fill out the Connect Card to get more involved, update your contact information, or sign up for church communications. Drop your completed Connect Card in the offering plate so we can follow up!

*Stay informed about news and upcoming events by reading FPC's weekly Parish News email.  
To subscribe, email [communications@fpcnashville.org](mailto:communications@fpcnashville.org).*

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

*Adult Sunday School classes offer an excellent opportunity to develop friendships and enjoy Christian community. Classes range in size, formats, and content. Most classes start at 9:45 a.m. during the Education Hour unless otherwise noted. Visit [linktr.ee/fpcnashville](https://linktr.ee/fpcnashville) to learn about these and all our Sunday School offerings.*

Coffee & Bible Class | Memorial Library  
Confirmation 201 | OHS Board Room  
Cornerstone Class | Vance Hall  
Current Issues Class | L-200  
Discipleship Class | Witherspoon Room  
Fellowship Class | Jones Session Room  
Good News Class | Room L-207  
June Ramsey Class | Cheek House Living Room  
Life Together | Room L-203  
LOGOS Class | Stanford Chapel

# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2023

## EVENTS

### **Ceilidh and Christmas Tree Lighting** | *December 3 | 4:30 p.m. | Courtenay Hall*

A ceilidh (pronounced kay-lee) is a party with music and dancing, a Scottish tradition that we'll celebrate together with flair. There will be food, Celtic music, and Scottish country dancing in Courtenay Hall, followed by carol singing and the lighting of the Christmas tree outside the Sanctuary. Registration is not required.

### **First Friends Dinner & Christmas Lights Bus Tour** | *December 6 | 5:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall | Cost: \$15*

First Friends will meet for dinner at 5:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m. the group will leave for a Christmas Lights Tour on the Oak Hill School bus. The bus will return to the church around 7:30 p.m.

### **Youth Grade-Level Christmas Parties** | *December 10 | 9:40 a.m. | Gathering Place*

Youth (7th-12th grade) will join others in their grade level for festivities and a white elephant gift exchange during the education hour. Bring a \$5 white elephant gift (or a regift)!

### **Presbyterian Women Christmas Gathering** | *December 12 | 10:30 a.m. | Courtenay Hall | Cost: \$20*

Women of all ages and life stages are invited to join us on Tuesday, December 12, for a time of worship, music, and fellowship as we celebrate the season. Lunch will follow. Register online or call 615-383-1815 by December 8 or register in person in Courtenay Hall today or December 3.

### **College Christmas Gathering** | *December 18 | 6:00 p.m. | Stark-Gingrass Home*

College students will gather for their Christmas party and dinner. RSVP to Ginger at [gsheppard@fpcnashville.org](mailto:gsheppard@fpcnashville.org) by December 4.

### **Epiphany Bonfire** | *January 7 | 3:00 p.m. | South Lawn*

Join your church family for hymn singing and burning of the greens at our annual Epiphany Bonfire. It's been a tradition since Victorian England to celebrate the end of Christmas on Twelfth Night, taking down the evergreens of the Christmas season and lighting a bonfire. The greenery used to decorate for the Christmas season has served its purpose, and the bonfire from burning them celebrates the light and warmth of Christ coming into the world on one of the darkest nights of the year.

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

### **99th Annual Christmas Waffle Shop at Downtown Presbyterian** | *Thursday, December 7 | 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

Enjoy waffles, a guided tour of the historic Egyptian Revival sanctuary, a silent auction, and the church's gift shop at Downtown Presbyterian Church. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go directly to the Fish and Loaves ministry at The Downtown Presbyterian Church.

### **Christmas Toy Drive** | *Collecting gifts through December 3*

This Advent, FPC will be holding a Christmas gift drive for children in need, infants through age 12. Collection boxes will be in the narthex and the lobby of the administrative wing. Toys should be new and unwrapped.

### **Room In The Inn** | *Wednesdays November through March*

First Presbyterian Church provides shelter for men experiencing homelessness through Room In The Inn. There are a number of volunteer opportunities available this year: overnight hosts, van drivers, breakfast donors, lunch donors, and laundry volunteers. Room In The Inn takes its name from the Christmas story in Luke 2, a reminder that Jesus was laid in a manger because there was no room for him in the inn. Participating in this ministry is a beautiful way to serve Christ by serving the least of his brethren (Matthew 25:40). In addition to food and shelter, they regularly need clothing. This Advent, please consider blessing our friends at Room In The Inn with donations of the following needed clothing items.

- New only: undershirts, boxer shorts, and socks; size medium through 2XL.
- Used or new items: light and medium-weight jackets, stocking caps, weatherproof gloves, jeans, and work pants. No slacks or dress shirts please.

*Please contact Annette Crout (615-298-9507 or [missions@fpcnashville.org](mailto:missions@fpcnashville.org))  
with any questions about mission opportunities.*

## Christmas Greenery Dedication

*Dedications close December 8*

FPC's Flower Ministry prepares the greenery that beautifies our Sanctuary during the Advent season. A greenery fund has been established to provide for these decorations. During Advent, those who make a contribution to the greenery fund may do so in memory or in honor of loved ones. These dedications will be printed in the December 17 bulletin. To contribute and make a dedication, fill out a paper form (available in the narthex or hospitality center) or complete one online at [linktr.ee/fpcnashville](http://linktr.ee/fpcnashville).



# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2023

## WORSHIP

### ADVENT

#### Morning Worship

**December 3 & 10 | 8:30 (livestreamed)  
and 11:00 a.m. | Sanctuary**

The 8:30 a.m. service will be livestreamed each week on YouTube and Facebook. Nursery care will be available from 8:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m., and Young Children & Worship will be offered at both services.

#### Christmas Music Sunday

**December 17 | 8:00, 9:30  
(livestreamed), & 11:00 a.m. | Sanctuary**

Worship will feature brass, strings, and percussion, beloved carols of the season, and festive choral music. Because there are three worship services that morning, there will be no education hour programming. Coffee and donuts will be available in Courtenay Hall. Nursery care will be available from 7:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m. and Young Children & Worship will be offered at all service times.

#### Service of Hope

**December 17 | 12:15 p.m.  
Stanford Chapel**

If you or a loved one is going through a challenging time, join us for prayer, Scripture, Communion, and lighting candles of hope. Hosted by our Stephen Ministry. All are welcome to come and find comfort.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

*Sunday, December 24*

#### Christmas Eve Sunday Worship

**11:00 a.m. | Sanctuary**

This traditional service will include the lighting of the Advent wreath and a celebration of the Lord's Supper. Please note that nursery and Young Children & Worship are not provided.

#### Journey to

#### Bethlehem Live Nativity

**5:00 p.m. (livestreamed) | Sanctuary**

A lively pageant will be led by our children at this year's 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Join shepherds, angels, wise men, and more on a *Journey to Bethlehem*. Please consider blessing our friends at Room In The Inn with a donation of M, L, or XL weatherproof gloves. Bring them to worship for a special offering during the children's time!

#### Lessons and Carols

**8:00 (livestreamed) & 10:30 p.m.  
(New time!) | Sanctuary**

This beloved service, first celebrated in the English cathedral town of Truro in 1880, features Scripture readings that recount salvation history, with hymns and choral anthems sung in response. Communion will be celebrated at the 10:30 p.m. service. The service culminates in the candlelit singing of "Silent Night."

### CHRISTMASTIDE

#### Christmas Day Worship

**Monday, December 25**

**11:00 a.m. | Stanford Chapel**

Happy Birthday, Jesus! Spend an hour worshipping the newborn King with your church family at this informal, relaxed service. We will enjoy some birthday cake and children are welcome to come in pajamas.

#### First Sunday of Christmas

**Sunday, December 31**

**11:00 a.m. (livestreamed) | Sanctuary**

On Sunday, December 31, there will be only one worship service, at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Nursery care will be available, beginning at 10:45 a.m. Young Children & Worship will not be provided.



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