First Presbyterian Church

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026, 11:00 AM

* Indicates that those who are able may stand **Bold type is spoken by the people.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Registers & Binder: Please sign, fill out, and pass.*

VOLUNTARY: Carol *Gerald Finzi*
Philip Thompson, clarinet

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE *Rick and Amelie Woods*

ONE: We light this candle of hope, a growing light in a season of vigil, a promise in the night.

Lighting of the candle

ALL: We wait for the Holy One, Immanuel, to come near.

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Bobby Young, Liturgist*

ONE: The sun is darkened; the moon does not give light.

ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.

ONE: You are the potter; we are yours.

ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.

ONE: Strengthen us so that we are ready.

ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.

*OPENING HYMN: People, Look East **#105**

CALL TO & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE: We have all sinned, not one of us is clean; but there is mercy for those who call on the name of the Lord. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin, saying…

ALL: Restore us, O God of hosts. Let your face shine, that we may be saved. Save us, O Lord, from traps of our own creating: from fear that blocks the way of love, from worry that blocks the way of joy, from isolation that blocks the way of relationship, from structural injustices that keep the world bound. Forgive us, O God of hosts, until the stars fall from heaven and we live as people transformed.

SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

*RESPONSE HYMN: Lord Have Mercy Upon Us **#575**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

ALL: Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI **#581**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen!

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES *Rev. Michael McLaughlin*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 64:1-9 **P.652**

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 **P.155**

ANTHEM: The Holy Son of God *K. Lee Scott*

The holy Son of God most high for love of Adam's fallen race,
Left all the pleasures of the sky to bring us to that blessed place.
His robes of light He laid aside, which did His majesty adorn,
And the frail state of mortals tried, in human flesh and figure born.

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 13:24-37 **P.47**

ONE: Heaven and earth will pass away but the word of the Lord stands forever.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: *Rev. Michael Mclaughlin*

*SERMON HYMN: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus **#82**

COMMUNAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Confession of 1967, 9.19*

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

*GREETINGS

After an exchange of Peace between the liturgist and the congregation, we encourage you to greet one another. The Greetings will conclude with the first verse of *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*.

ONE: …The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Let us pass the peace…

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; #306
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ONE: ... Coming Savior,

ALL: hear our 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.

INVITATION TO GIVING

OFFERTORY: Of the Father's Love Begotten *Lani Smith*

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY **#606**

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN: Creator of the Stars of Night **#84**

*BENEDICTION

ONE: …Alleluia!

ALL: Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: Prepare the Way *Ben Logan*

REGULAR WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY

- **Higher Grounds Café** – 9:30am-11am, in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Religion & Culture Class** – 9:30am-10:30am, in room 6.
- **Nursery** – 9:30am-12:15pm - Ages 5 and under.
- **Children's Sunday School –** 9:45am in Room 16
- **Faithful Living Class** 10am-10:45am, in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Adult Morning Bible Study** – 10am-10:45am, in the Library
- **Worship Service** – 11am, in the Sanctuary
- **Children's Church** - 11:15am, in Fellowship Hall.

WEDNESDAY

- **Choir Rehearsal** – 7:30pm, in the Sanctuary.

ELDERS:

2026: Cade Arnold, Josh Doré
2027: Sidonie Sansom, Dee Tompkins
2028: Ben Marsee, Donna Simpson

CLERK: Chris McCormick

DEACONS:

2026: Michelle Doré, Ron Ledbetter, Stacey Trent
2027: Kelly Appleton, Ann Hayes, Tony Lawson, Gabrielle Pate, Shelley Wiley
2028: Missy Moore, Pat Wilhelm

BIRTHDAYS:

Pate, Eric	12/03
McCormick, Emily	12/06
Lawson, Abram	12/09
Pate, Gabrielle	12/09
Turner, Rebecca	12/12
Smith, Jeannie	12/13
Boutillette, Adam W.	12/15
Wilson, Linda	12/16
Turner, Barry	12/19
Womack, Rowan	12/19
See, Robert	12/20
Pelren, David	12/24
Hayes, Pam	12/28
Nisbet III, John	12/29

STAFF:

The Rev. Michael D. McLaughlin……...…….……..…...……...Pastor & Head of Staff
The Rev. Katie Long……..……..Dir. TTU PSA, Community Life Minister
Paul Thurmond……..…...…..…… Director of Music
Michelle Dore´ ...…….....Interim SoulSong Coordinator
Amy Ainsley…….…….....…Office Administrator

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