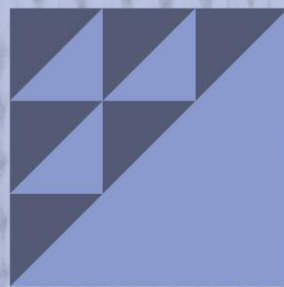




**FOR THE BEGINNING**

— HOPE IS WORTH THE RISK —



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 22, 2024  
10:30AM WORSHIP**



**First Presbyterian  
Church of Albany**

# Welcome!

Whether you are worshipping with us for the first time or have grown up here at FPC,  
we are glad you are worshipping here this morning!

## The Gathering

*\*indicates when to rise in body or spirit*

### Prelude

*Fuga sopra il Magnificat BWV 733*

J.S. Bach

### Welcome & Announcements

### Ringing of the Bell

### Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy

Kendra Smith-Howard, Alden & Sebastian

One: In a weary and worn world,  
how do we begin again?  
Where do we start?

**All: Let us begin with tenderness.**

**Let us begin with our hearts on our sleeves.**

**Let us begin from a place of vulnerability and hope.**

**Let us begin with love.**

One: Yes, let us start with love.

Today we light the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love

**All: May the warmth of these lights be our cornerstone.**

**May the truth in these lights help us begin again.**

One: May it be so! Amen.

### Choral Introit

*A Tender Shoot*

Otto Goldschmidt

First Presbyterian Chancel Choir

A tender shoot 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.

### **\*Call to Worship**

One: In this weary world,

**All: we sing of joy**

One: In this fragile world,

**All: we lift each other up.**

One: In this beautiful world,

**All: we look for God.**

One: In this tender world,

**All: we hold onto hope.**

One: This is the invitation of faith. So in this time of worship,  
may we sing, lift up, look for, and hold onto our with-us God.

**All: With hope in our hearts, amen!**

### **\*Hymn No. 83**

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

STUTTGART

### **\*Prayer of Confession**

One: Gracious God, you paint pictures of what could be,

**All: but we declare those visions impossible.**

One: You speak of the lion lying down with the lamb,

**All: but we spout skepticism and uncertainty.**

One: You dream of a more just day,

**All: but we poke holes in the plan, unable to fathom that horizon.**

One: Forgive us for losing sight of hope.

**All: Forgive us for assuming that what we see is all there is.**

One: Open our hearts to see the world as you see it.

**All: Open up our hearts to risk hope, to dream dreams, and not to be afraid of either. With gratitude we pray.**

### **\*Kyrie Traditional**

*Lord, Have Mercy upon Us*

KYRIE ELEISON



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, Have mer-cy up-on us.

### **\*The Welcome and Peace**

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

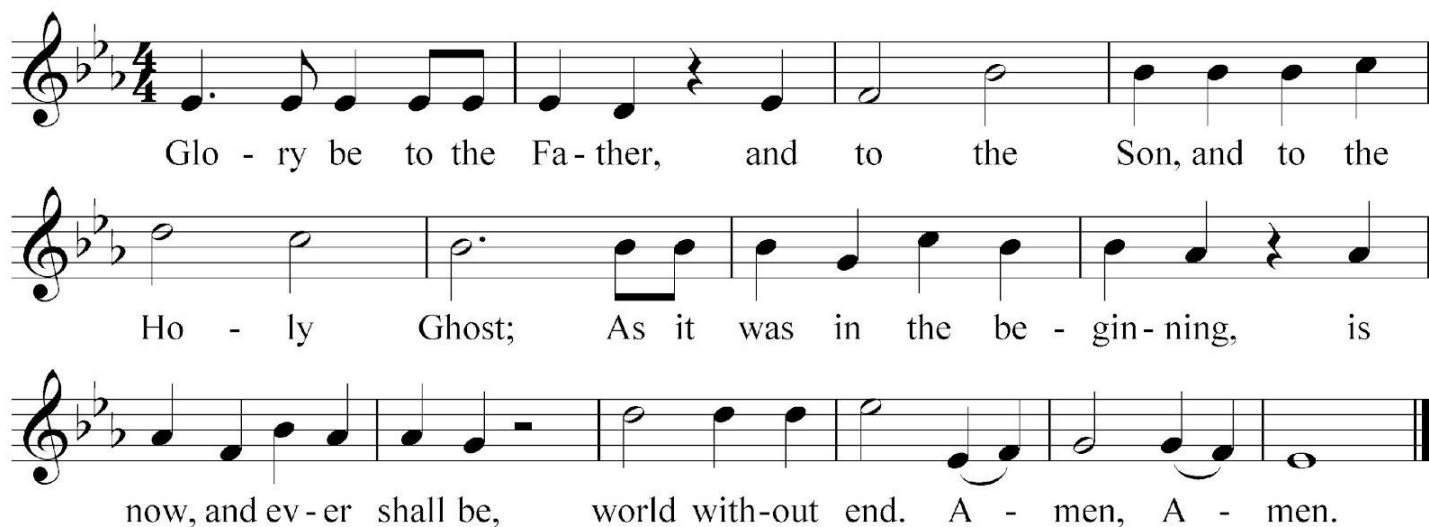
**All: And also with you.**

*The congregation greets one another with words and signs of peace.*

**\*Gloria Patri No. 581**

*Glory Be to the Father*

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the  
Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is  
now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men.

## The Word

**Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 1:18–25 (N.T., p. 1)

Lillie McLaughlin

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**Anthem**

*A Maiden Most Gentle*

Andrew Carter

First Presbyterian Chancel Choir

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing of Mary the mother of Jesus our King.  
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria. How blest is the birth of her heavenly child who came to  
redeem us in Mary so mild. The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call the Lord of  
creation and Saviour of all.

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare and marveled in awe at the  
babe in her care. Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray sing praise to the  
Savior, sing endless Amen

**Gospel Lesson**

Luke 1:46–55 (N.T., p. 57)

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

*Hope is Worth the Risk*

Miriam Lawrence Leupold

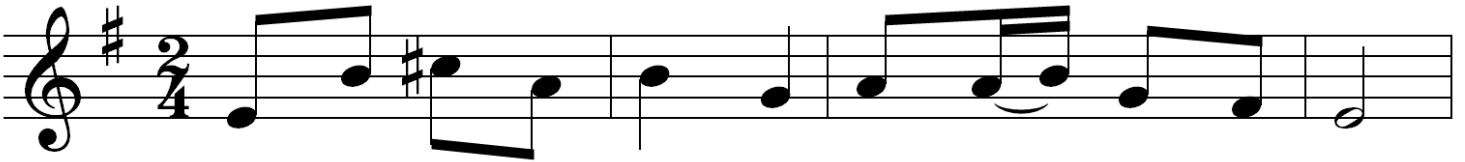
# Our Response

**\*Hymn**

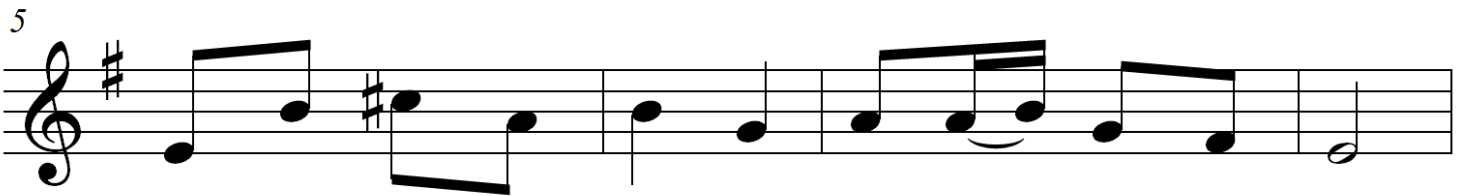
*Hope Is Worth the Risk*

NOEL NOUVELET

Words by Anna Strickland, 2024 Music Traditional French Melody



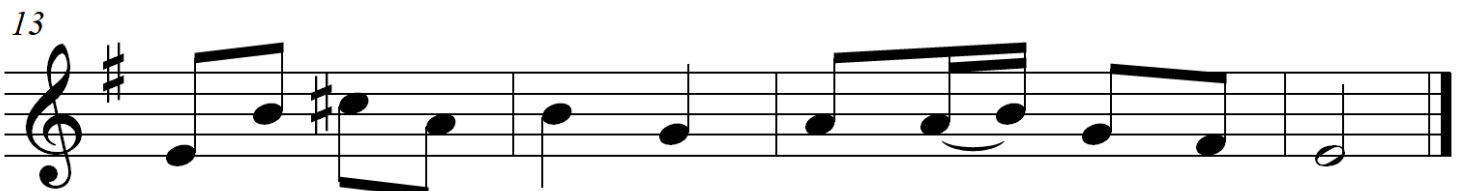
Col - lege stu - dents ga - ther pro - tes - ting for peace  
Young girls in I - ran to pro - test the re - gime  
In Tai - wan the dream - ers flood the streets with blooms  
Li - ber - i - an wom - en scarred by ci - vil war  
Eth - nic mu - sic rings out from the Bal - tic Sea  
Age to age and coast to coast peo - ple have stood



Stand - ing firm in spite of vio - lence from po - lice  
Take off their hi - jabs to let their hair be seen  
Sun - flow - ers and li - lies li - ber - ty's per - fume  
Keep the peace talks go - ing by bar - ring the doors  
As the peo - ple sing their right to li - ber - ty  
Risk - ing some - thing big in hope of some - thing good



Em - pires will fight with force or pol - i - tics



Still the Spi - rit whis - pers, "Hope is worth the risk"

## Prayers of the People

Sue Haney

*There is a "Prayers of the People" book on the table in the back of the sanctuary. We encourage the congregation to write their concerns and thanksgivings in the book before the service so they can be included in the Prayers of the People. Several petitions are offered, each concluding with: O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

## Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

*Ushers will pass the offering plates to each pew. There are also offering receptacles located in the back of the sanctuary. You may place your offering in one on the way into worship or as you leave. You may also donate online at <https://firstpresalbany.org/give/> or scan the QR code to the right.*



## Offertory

*Blessed Be That Maid Marie*

Susan LaBarr

Rose Hunsberger, Maria Southworth, Fiona McKinney, Sarah Dworjan,  
Joshua Gurwitz, Nathaniel Finke, Daniel Hoke, Tom Monkell

Blessed be that Maid Marie; born he was of her body;  
Very God ere time began, born in time the Son of man.  
[Refrain:] Eya! Jesus hodie Natus est de Virgine.

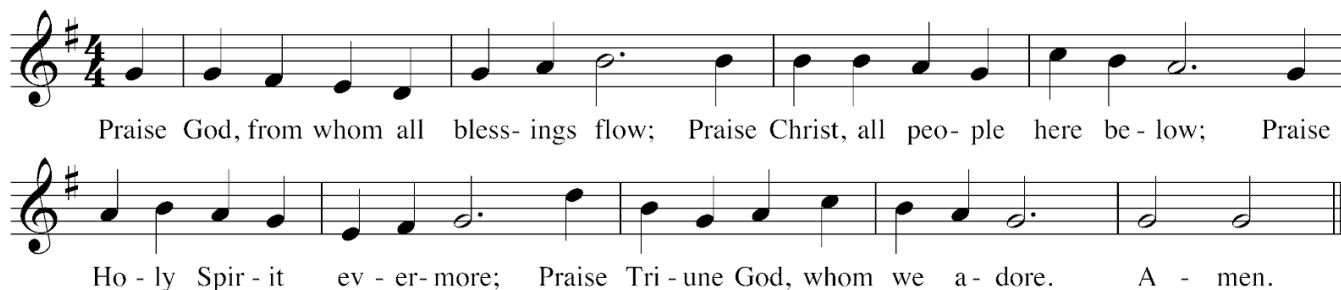
In a manger strewn with hay Jesus lay and lulled lay;  
Born to die upon the Tree Pro peccante homine. [Refrain]

Sweet and blissful was the song chanted of the angel throng,  
"Peace on earth, alleluya. In excelsis gloria." [Refrain]

Faire three Kings from far-off land, incense, gold and myrrh in hand;  
In Bethlehem the Babe they see, stelle ducti lumine. [Refrain]

Make we merry on this fest, in quo Christus natus est;  
On this Child I pray you call, to assoil and save us all. [Refrain]

**\*Doxology (sung in unison)**



Praise God, from whom all bless- ings flow; Praise Christ, all peo- ple here be- low; Praise  
Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er- more; Praise Tri - une God, whom we a- dore. A - men.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

## **The Eucharist (Thanksgiving)**

**Invitation to the Lord's Supper**

*All those, including children, who seek the way of Christ and desire fellowship in the church are invited to the Lord's Table to share in our common meal of Thanksgiving.*

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*(prayer continues)*

One: ...Hear us now as together we pray the prayer Jesus taught us to pray, saying:

**All: 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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People**

*The congregation is served at the front of the sanctuary, coming forward by the center aisle and returning by the side aisles. Communion is by intinction – take a piece of bread from the loaf or a piece of pita from the plate, dip it into the cup of juice, and eat. When served, you may respond by saying “Amen,” “Thanks be to God,” or another response. You may choose a sealed prepackaged communion element from one of the baskets – the ones with “GF” are gluten-free. If you prefer to receive communion in the pew, you may remain in your seat and signal an usher. Servers will bring you the elements.*

## **Communion Music** *Ich will nur dir zu ehren leben* from Christmas Oratorio J.S. BACH

Joshua Gurwitz, tenor

German text

English translation

Ich will nur dir zu Ehren leben,

I will live only for Your honor,

Mein Heiland, gib mir Kraft und Mut, my Savior, give me strength and courage,

Daß es mein Herz recht eifrig tut!

so that my heart can do it eagerly!

Stärke mich,

Strengthen me

Deine Gnade würdiglich

to exalt Your mercy worthily

Und mit Danken zu erheben!

and with gratitude!

## **Prayer after Communion**

**All: God of all nations, we give you thanks for this feast of your goodness and grace. As you have nourished us in Christ Jesus, send us forth to feed and serve others—sharing your peace with the whole community and showing your faithful love in the world; through Jesus Christ, bread of life for all.  
Amen**

## **The Sending**

### **\*Hymn No. 100**

*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

Canticle of the Turning

### **\*Charge and Blessing**

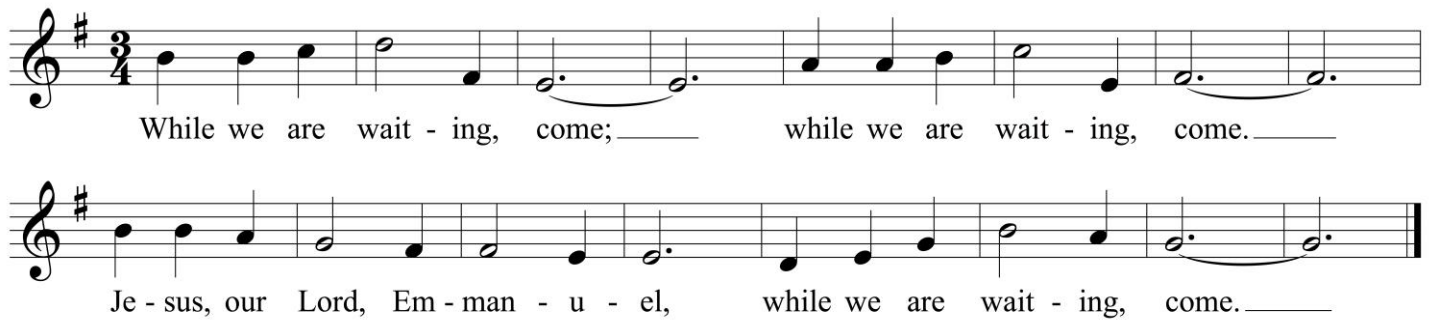
**\*Response by the People (in unison) Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.**



**\*Responsive Hymn No. 92 v. 1**

*While We Are Waiting, Come*

WAITING (CASON)



While we are wait - ing, come; \_\_\_\_\_ while we are wait - ing, come. \_\_\_\_\_

Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el, while we are wait - ing, come. \_\_\_\_\_

**Postlude**

*Rhapsody on 'Helmsley'*

Lloyd Webber

*You may be seated if you wish to listen to the postlude.*

*Please come to Assembly Hall for Fellowship Time.*

*For your convenience and as an aid to your worship experience, large print hymnals and Bibles are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.*

The music is reprinted under CCLI License #2853455 and OneLicense #A-716938.

Prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed of A Sanctified Art LLC [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

## **All are Welcome in this Place!**

New faces and voices are always welcome and add to the spirit of our worship, education, mission and fellowship. Let us know you worshipped with us by either filling in the yellow card in the pew in front of you or by scanning the QR code. Pastors Miriam & Glenn use email addresses to share congregational email and important announcements about the life of the church.



### **First Presbyterian Church**

is a community for all people where apprentices of Jesus seek to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

We are called by God to envision and work toward eradicating systemic poverty, eliminating structural racism and sharing the experience of the good news of God's love, peace and joy.

**We welcome children to our worship services.** Nursery care for children ages birth through kindergarten is provided on the second floor of the Christian Education Building. Nursery care is available from 8:45am to 12:15pm and is staffed by experienced childcare providers Morgan Odom and Mary Margaret Cabuhat.

**Parking is available on Sunday mornings** in Washington Park. There is also a parking lot on Washington Avenue just west of Lark Street available during church services on Sunday mornings. The church parking lot on Sunday mornings is reserved for visitors and for those who, for physical reasons, need close access to the church. Please note the spaces reserved for those with disabilities, and please do not block other cars.

**We continue to livestream our Sunday worship services on Facebook.**

### **Christian Education on Sunday mornings will resume January 5**

9:15-10:15 Education Classes in the Education Building

*Godly Play* in the Preschool Class on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (age 3 thru kindergarten)

*Godly Play* in The Upper Rooms on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor (Grades 1-5)

Youth Education in the Youth Room on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (Grades 6-12)

Adult Education is the Rose Room



# FOR THE **BEGINNING**

## REMINDERS FOR NEW SEASONS



**YOU ARE A BLESSING**



**WE CAN'T GO ALONE**



**DO THE GOOD THAT  
IS YOURS TO DO**



**DON'T FORGET TO LAUGH**



**HOPE IS WORTH THE RISK**



**THE ROAD ISN'T STRAIGHT**



**LOVE KNOWS YOUR NAME**

**Come explore these words with us each Sunday  
during Advent and Christmas**

**10:30am worship service in the sanctuary and  
online (Facebook and YouTube)**

**11:45am Fellowship Time**



for more info

## Announcements

The **paraments** (the cloth on the pulpit, lectern, and communion table) and the **pastors' stoles** (the cloth around their necks) are blue, one of the liturgical colors for the season of Advent (the four Sundays before Christmas Day). Blue is the color associated with Mary the mother of Jesus. As she prepared for his birth, so do we.

**As 2024 draws to a close**, please remember to submit all 2024 check requests in to the office by the deadline, **Sunday, January 5, 2025**. Thank you!

**Holiday Photo opportunity!** Would you like a family portrait for the holidays? Dwight Cheu has offered to take your holiday portrait **today, December 22**, after worship during the Cookie Exchange. All photos will be taken on a plain, neutral background, so that you can add your own holiday background, say using the free version of Adobe Express. And then you could print cards, say on Shutterfly, while also adding a holiday border.

**Offering Envelopes** are available in the Assembly Hall if you are interested in having them for 2025. These are not dated or numbered and can be used at any time. They are in groups of 12. Please take as many as you need.

Each month the **FOCUS Food Pantry** requests items from its member churches. FPC's December donation is shampoo. All items must be new and unopened. The **FOCUS Food Pantry** is also requesting one-pound bags of rice. Please leave donations in the box in Assembly Hall. Questions? Call Susan Sneeringer at 518-496-4793.

Have you been wondering what you can do to make a difference? Especially now – after the election? One way is to become a **tutor at the Wizard's Wardrobe's** free, after-school tutoring program. You can make a difference by helping a youngster who is struggling in school learn to read. Becoming literate – truly literate – helps to strengthen democracy. Help us help the children who live in the South End to grow up reaching their full potential. It will not only benefit them, but our country as well.

Our next two-day tutor training will take place on : January 11 & 18, 8:45am – 4:00pm Please consider coming and making a difference. For more information speak to Carol Green or Debbie Fagans.



## Christmas Cookie Market

**Help us raise funds to support the FOCUS Breakfast Program while creating a scrumptious assortment of Christmas cookies for your family & friends!**

*How does it work?*

**Please bring 3 dozen (or more!) of your favorite Christmas cookies to worship on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. During coffee hour, you will be able to shop for cookie varieties from some of the BEST bakers in town and create your own Christmas cookie special collection! We'll also enjoy Christmas music and hot mulled cider to get you in the cookie shopping mood!**

**WHEN:** Immediately following worship, Today

**WHERE:** Fellowship Hall

**WHY:** to benefit the FOCUS Breakfast Program

**COST:** \$4.00 per dozen cookies



**FOCUS**  
CHURCHES OF ALBANY

**Brought to you by the FPC Outreach & Mission Committee**





# WINTER COAT DRIVE



## HELP KEEP OUR BREAKFAST CLUB GUESTS WARM THIS WINTER

There is an urgent need for warm winter clothing. Please donate **NEW** or gently used, clean coats, hats, scarves, and gloves. While all sizes are welcome, Large to X-Large coats are especially needed.

### **We're collecting coats through January 6th:**

- **Drop off:** Bring items to the FOCUS Interfaith Pantry between **9:00–10:30 am**.
- **Pickup:** Call Belinda at the FOCUS Churches of Albany to arrange a pickup from one of the FOCUS Churches Covenant Churches.

**Coat distribution begins December 19th and we will continue to warmly welcome all donations up to and through January 6th.**

**Thank you for joining us to do together what we cannot do alone.**

Questions? Contact Belinda at 518-443-0460 or [belindaq@focuschurches.net](mailto:belindaq@focuschurches.net)

Learn more:  
[www.focuschurches.net](http://www.focuschurches.net)





**The Poinsettias in the Chancel are given to the Glory of God  
and in Memory or Honor of Loved Ones  
by Members and Friends of the Congregation**

**Given by:**

Lizzie Cayro  
Celeste Roeller Harp  
Ray & Katie Henrikson  
His siblings, nieces, nephews & grand-nieces  
Annette Johnson  
Judy & Don Mark

Given by:

Anonymous  
Bruce Brynolfson

Dwight & Leslie Cheu

Ellen & Eric Eisenbraun

Janice Easton-Epner (on behalf of their loving children) Al & Susan Easton  
Roger, Carol & Lydia Green  
David Hannay  
Sue Haney

Celeste Roeller Harp  
James, Rose, & Christian Jackson

**In Honor of:**

Grandma, Rachel Smith  
Louise & Brad Roeller  
Our Grandchildren  
Ron Geuther  
Marilyn Hayes  
Members & Pastors of 1<sup>st</sup> Pres.

In Memory of:

Joyce Bascom  
Bill Cornell  
Ethel Spinks  
Janice Krull  
Edwin Krull  
Andrew Krull  
Janey M.Y. Cheu  
Eunice & Bob Eisenbraun  
Marian & Nelson Limber  
Loved ones  
Margaret  
Mom & Dad  
Auntie & Kenny Jr.  
Howard & Doris Roeller  
Mrs. Sara E. Logan  
Mrs. Lala M. Jackson



**Given by:**

Annette Johnson  
Dawn Knutson

Tara Lindsley  
Jerry Nathan

Sarah Macinski & Dorothy Sperry  
Yousaf & Neelam Mathias

Harry P. Meislahn  
John & Lee Myers

Mary Rogers

Harriet B. Seeley

Rachel Smith  
Dorothy Sperry  
Sharon & Joe Steffens  
Bob & Linda Stevens

Roseline & David Takor

Their Children, Grandchildren,  
& Great Granddaughters

**In Memory of:**

Madeleine & Walter Johnson  
Our parents, John & Ethel  
Knutson and James &  
Nancy Sampson

Charlie Kite

Geraldine Nathan

Michael Davis

George & Dorothy Sperry

Lily Adiel

Claudia & Munir Mathias

Esther Mall

Meredith G. Meislahn

Jane Shaw Myers

In honor of departed loved  
ones

Avery

Bob Rogers

Dan Carroll

Mary & Jay Seeley

Dwight C. Smith, Jr.

Paul Behrens

Deborah Acker

Beatrice Bisognano

George & Dorothy Stevens

Martha Abunaw

Mami Emilia Takor

Darwin & Florence Geuther



**Serving you on Sunday, December 22**

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Kathie Keck, Yousaf Mathias, Amy Robinson

Online Worship Assistant: Fadia Ghobrial

Scripture Reader: Lillie McLaughlin

Prayer Reader: Sue Haney

Communion Servers: Amy Robinson & Marian Eaton

Offering Counters: Laura Schultz & Marc Boucher

Audio Visual Specialist: Kevin Fuscus

**Serving you on Christmas Eve, Tuesday December 24**

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Yousaf Mathias, Sue Haney, Harriet Seeley  
& Kate Pruzek

Online Worship Assistant: Alison Stonbely

Audio Visual Specialist: Dwight Cheu & John Cheu

**Serving you on Christmas Day, Wednesday December 25**

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Margaret Leupold & Elizabeth Leupold

Online Worship Assistant: Alison Stonbely

Audio Visual Specialist: John Myers

**Serving you on Sunday, December 29**

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Joanne Gascoyne, Richard Gascoyne, David Hannay,  
Amy Jenal

Online Worship Assistant: Alison Stonbely

Scripture Reader: Carol Bullard

Prayer Reader: Betsy Hadden

Communion Servers: Chas Kite & Jon Rice

Offering Counters: Carol Green & John Myers

Audio Visual Specialist: Bruce Brynolfson

## **THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

Sunday, 12/22      11:45am Cookie Exchange & Fellowship Time  
12:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, 12/24      6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm Musical Prelude  
7:30pm Christmas Eve Worship Service

Wednesday, 12/25      Church Office Closed  
11:00am Christmas Day Worship Service

Thursday, 12/26      Church Office Closed

Friday, 12/27      Church Office Closed

### **Next Sunday, 12/29**

10:30am Worship Service in the sanctuary and livestreaming on  
Facebook  
11:45am Fellowship Time

### **Deacons currently serving on the Board of Deacons**

Susan Haney – Moderator  
David Hinchey – Hospitality Team  
Kathie Keck – Hospitality Team  
Ellen Kemp – Flower Team  
Sebagala Kimuli – Care Team  
Chas Kite – Care Team

### **Elders currently serving on Session**

Mirabelle Beck – Stewardship Committee Chair  
Marian Eaton – Clerk of Session  
Ellen Eisenbraun – Christian Education Committee Chair  
Kevin Fuscus – Property Committee Chair  
Annette Johnson – Anti-Racism Committee Chair  
Sarah Lansaw – Nominating Committee Chair  
Paloma Luisi – Finance Committee Chair  
Kelsey Mayo – Membership Committee Chair  
Lillie McLaughlin – Social Justice and Peacemaking Committee Chair  
Jon Rice – Outreach and Mission Committee Chair  
Amy Robinson – Administration Committee Chair  
Roseline Takor – Worship Committee Chair



**First Presbyterian**  
Church of Albany

362 State Street, Albany, NY 12210 • Phone: 518.449.7332

Fax: 518.472.0449 • [info@firstpresalbany.com](mailto:info@firstpresalbany.com)

[firstpresalbany.org](http://firstpresalbany.org)

*Glenn D. Leupold, Co-Pastor • Miriam Lawrence Leupold, Co-Pastor • Michael C. Lister, Director of Music  
Trevor Kahlbaugh, Organist • Molly Dowell, Youth Director • Steven Minchin, Office Administrator*



# FOR THE **BEGINNING**

## -- **LOVES KNOWS YOUR NAME** --

**CHRISTMAS EVE- DECEMBER 24**

7:00pm Musical Prelude

7:30pm A Service of Lessons & Carols

**CHRISTMAS DAY- DECEMBER 25**

11:00am Worship Service

Come as you are to sing, pray,  
hear a story and rejoice!

## -- **DON'T FORGET TO LAUGH** --

**SUNDAY - DECEMBER 29**

10:30am Worship Service

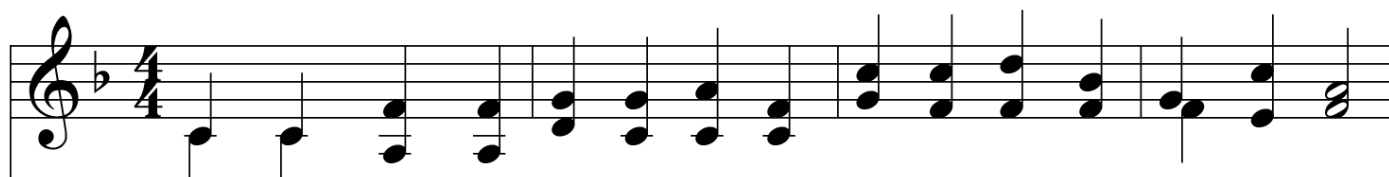
Something a wee bit different-full of fun and joy!

11:45am Fellowship Time



JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

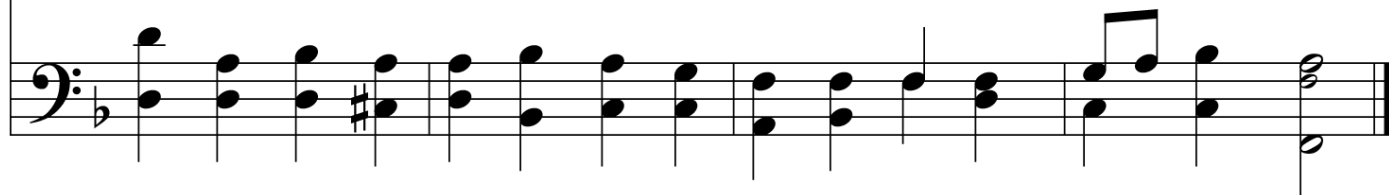
# 83 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,  
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.



With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744  
MUSIC: Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715, alt.

STUTTGART  
8.7.8.7  
(alternate tune: HYFRYDOL, 82)

# 100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

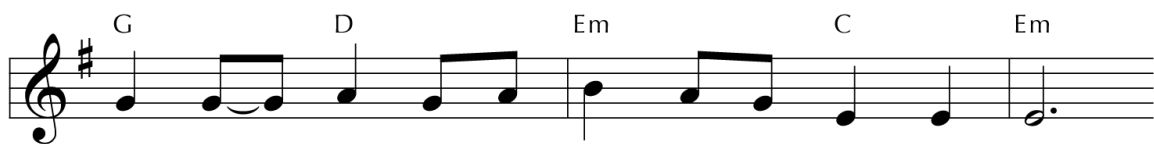
## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



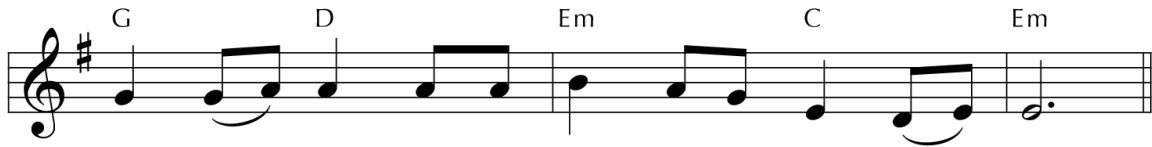
You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46–55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

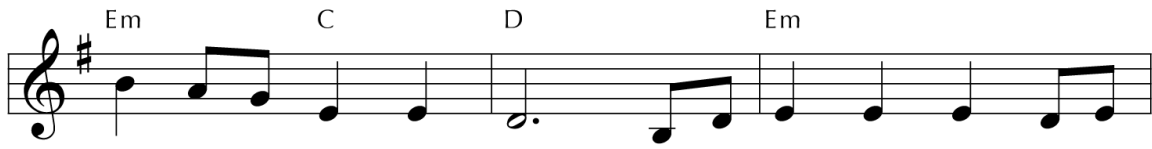


name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

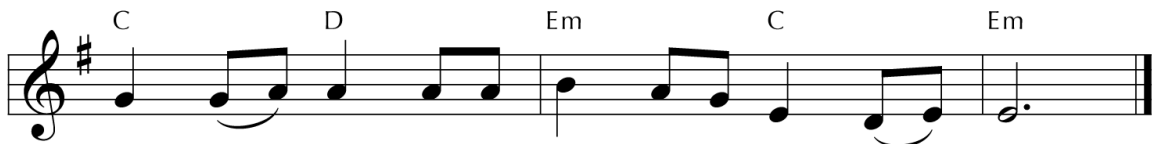
*Refrain*



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.