

# First Presbyterian Church of Naples

*In the Heart of Naples with the Love of God*

*The First Sunday  
of Advent*



First Presbyterian Church of Naples  
December 2, 2018  
**LITURGY BULLETIN**

**THE TIME OF GATHERING**

Welcome and Life Together

REV. CRAIG GOODRICH

**SERVICE OF PREPARATION**

\*Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candle

GREG AND LIBBY BIEHL

Leader: Watch and wait for Christ's coming. Light candles of hope, peace, joy and love, remembering the promises of God.

Acolyte: We light this candle in hope. Hear God's promise of hope from the prophet Isaiah.

"Comfort, comfort my people says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice of one crying in the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Leader: Faithful God, out of death you bring life.

**People: Renew us in hope that we may be alert to Christ's advent among us.**

Leader: God of promise, God of hope,

**People: into our darkness come.**

**All: Let us worship God.**

**A TIME FOR PRAISE AND CONFESSION**\*Hymn of Praise #133 (vs. 1,3,5) **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

VENI EMMANUEL

1. *O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.*

*Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

3. *O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;  
and drive away the shades of night, and pierce the clouds and bring us light!*  
*Refrain.*

5. *O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill all the world with heaven's peace.*  
*Refrain.*

Call to Confession

ANNABEL DOANE

Friends, in this Season of Advent we anticipate the coming of Christ: the savior who came to us long ago, the one who will come to us at the end of time and who by the Holy Spirit is with us even now. In Him we receive grace and forgiveness and hope. Assured of God's mercy, let us join together in our prayer of confession.

## Prayer of Confession

**Faithful and Loving God, through your faithful prophets and through our savior Jesus Christ you proclaim and promise renewed life and peace. Yet, we give into anxiety, fear, conflict and division. We focus on our own security and neglect the needs of others. Forgive us. Strengthen our hearts to believe your advent promise that one day we will walk in the holy way of Christ, the way of peace, where sorrow and sighing will be no more and the journey of God's people will be hope and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

## A Moment for Silent Personal Confession

### Congregational Response

**All: 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.**

## Declaration of Pardon

Leader: **Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Receive God's forgiveness and be at peace.**

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## \*Gloria Patri

**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! Amen!**

## Children's Time

REV. REX CHILDS

## Reception of New Members

### Presentation of New Members

LIBBY BIEHL, CLERK OF SESSION

Hugh and Shareen Montgomery

### Questions of Members

### Question of the Congregation

Elder: Do you as members of the church of Jesus Christ promise to guide and nurture these members by word and deed with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of Christ's church?

**Congregation: We do.**

### Welcome

**All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in Christ.**

### Prayer

## THE WORD

## Prayer for Illumination

**Gracious God, by your Holy Spirit open our eyes to see, our ears to hear and our hearts to receive your Word. Amen.**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup> he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Leader: **This is the Word of the Lord.**

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Choral Response

***He Became Poor***

JOHN BELL

## Second Reading

## Luke 1:5-25

PEW BIBLE PAGE 831

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup> Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. <sup>7</sup> But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. <sup>8</sup> Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, <sup>9</sup> he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. <sup>10</sup> Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. <sup>11</sup> Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup> When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. <sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. <sup>14</sup> You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, <sup>15</sup> for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>16</sup> He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. <sup>17</sup> With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." <sup>18</sup> Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." <sup>19</sup> The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. <sup>20</sup> But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur." <sup>21</sup> Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. <sup>22</sup> When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. <sup>23</sup> When his time of service was ended, he went to his home. <sup>24</sup> After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, <sup>25</sup> "This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."

Leader: **This is the Word of the Lord.**

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

***How It Begins***

REV. CRAIG GOODRICH

## \*The 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.***

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

(Please pass the friendship pad down the pews and back). Friends, in Jesus Christ we have received the gift of hope. In gratitude let us give generously of our tithes and offerings. We will now receive the morning offering.

The Offertory

***And the Glory of the Lord (Messiah)***

G. F. HANDEL

\*The Doxology

***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. Amen.***

\*Prayer of Dedication

O God of hope and peace, we gladly give. We give of our money, our labor, and our time. We give ourselves as well. Use these gifts and use us to bring hope to others and to build your kingdom. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

## TIME OF HOLY COMMUNION

\*Communion Hymn #167 (vs. 1,2) ***Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence***

PICARDY

- 1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.*
- 2. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,  
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.*

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: *And also with you.***

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: *We lift them to the Lord.***

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

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

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy...Let us pray together as Jesus taught us, saying:

***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.***

Words of Institution and Distribution

Communion Music

***Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland***  
(Now Come, Savior of the Gentiles)

J. S. BACH

***Chorale Prelude on 'Es Ist ein Ros' entsprungen'***  
(Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming)

JOHANNES BRAHMS

Prayer of Blessing

## GOING FORTH

\*Hymn of Commitment # 135 ***Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus***

HYFRYDOL

- 1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.*
- 2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.*

\*Benediction

Postlude

***Toccata on 'Savior of the Nations, Come'***

PAUL MANZ

### Flower Dedication

The Chancel Flowers are given in loving memory of Julia Thompson Smith, by her family  
and by

Shirley Hagerson in honor of the Congregational Care Team—Stephen Ministers,  
Care Visitation Ministry and the Deacons.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

### Deacons Fund Sunday

Did you know that communion Sunday is also Deacon Benevolence Fund Sunday? Please consider donating to the Deacon Benevolence Fund today using the pink envelopes in the pew racks. Your donation will go directly to one of the three Deacons' partners in their important local outreach: The Salvation Army, Helps Outreach and the St. Vincent De Paul Society.

### Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry is a program of our congregation that equips lay persons to provide distinctive Christian one-on-one care to those who are experiencing various kinds of life needs and circumstances in our congregation. If you feel the need for someone to hear your problems and/or walk a difficult journey with you, please visit the Stephen Minister table in Spencer Hall or call the church office.

### Hospital Ministry

Will you be hospitalized or know of someone in the congregation who is? Please contact Sharman Pfau so she can notify the pastor of your hospital stay. Also, please remember to note on the hospital paperwork that you are a member of First Presbyterian Church of Naples.

## NEWS & EVENTS

### A Season of Music

Today at 4 p.m. join us for the **Chancel Choir Christmas Concert**. The annual concert showcases the incredible talent of First Presbyterian Church. Enjoy a beautiful concert with some of the most traditional and well-loved Christmas songs ever composed. There is no charge for the concert. A free-will offering will be taken.

### December Gathering

Presbyterian Women present a beautiful Christmas concert with Brice and Michele Gerlach on Wednesday, December 5 at noon in the Sanctuary. Appetizers will be served starting at 11:30 a.m. All are invited! The luncheon (\$7) may be paid at the door, but reservations are required.

**Circle meetings:** All circles meet in the Parlor.

Grace: Tuesday, December 4 at 10 a.m. Andie Goodrich 404.317.5850 or Coke Evans 559.978.5898

Sunshine: Wednesday, December 12 at 11:30 a.m. Janet Root 239.963.9838

Love/Friendship: Wednesday, December 19 at 9:30 a.m. Mary VandeVoren 616.446.0882 or Martha Waddell 507.581.1481

Peace with Honor: Wednesday, December 19 at 1:15 p.m. Betty Mangos 239.254.9883

## NEWS & EVENTS

### **Preschool Family Portrait Fundraiser**

The Preschool staff and families would like to thank the numerous church families that participated in our recent fundraiser. The Preschool raised \$560 that will enable us to continue offering additional programming in the areas of science and the arts. We appreciate your support and your participation!

### **HUDDLE**

The Men's noon-time Bible Study continues every Thursday in Spencer Hall. Bring your lunch and Bible and join them for discussion and study. All men are invited.

### **Sew & Sews**

The next Sew & Sews gathering will be held on Thursday, December 13 at 10 a.m. in Room 205/206. At that time, they will decide on additional meetings in December. All are welcome as there is most certainly something for everyone – blankets to tie, pressing to do, using patterns to cut fabric, dresses and bags to sew. . . oh, the list goes on! Bring lunch, and stay as long as you'd like.

### **Name Tags**

As we head into our busy season, please remember to wear your name tags to worship and church meetings. There are a lot of new visitors and regular attendees, so please introduce yourself and welcome our new friends!

### **Year End Charitable Giving**

As we approach the end of the year, consider giving a gift of highly appreciated stock to First Presbyterian Church. Consult your tax advisor for details. If you are interested in learning more about how you can help FPCN, contact Anna Focht, Director of Finance, or Rev. Craig Goodrich.

## MISSIONS

### **Feed the 5,000**

Your food contributions will go to Youth Haven this month. Ushers will offer you a Publix bag as you leave the Sanctuary today. Food contributions will be collected at the Sixth Street church entrance before the service next Sunday. Checks may be made payable to "First Presbyterian Church" marked "Feed the 5,000" and placed in the offering plate. Donations can also be made securely online through our website.

### **Salvation Army Bell Ringing**

Thanks to all who have volunteered for shifts this week to ring the bell for the Salvation Army. There are just a few spots left. If you have 2 hours this week to ring the bell, sign up in Spencer Hall today. If you have any last minute questions, contact Sherry Hoffman at sbh1122@hotmail.com or Carol Graham at mcgrahamc@comcast.net

### **Christmas Angel Tree**

Thank you, angels! Many of you have already returned your gifts of clothing for the children at Mision Peniel, and the Angel Tree looks very festive with so many gift bags under its boughs. Next Sunday, December 9, is the last Sunday to bring your gifts back for delivery. If you didn't receive a tag for a specific child, you can still be an angel by gifting the following: diapers (sizes 4, 5, and 6 only), new baby onesies (0-3 months), and small fleece baby blankets. These items can be placed under the tree, unwrapped, with grateful thanks.

### **Weekend Power Pack Packing and Delivery**

Join the assembly line in Spencer Hall following worship to help pack bags of food for elementary school kids who otherwise don't have enough to eat over the weekends. We share in this ministry with Moorings Presbyterian Church, providing weekly packs on alternate months.

### **Lunch Prep at St. Matthew's House**

Several FPCN members help to prepare lunch every Monday morning from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. We are a bit short of choppers, sandwich makers, and salad assemblers this holiday season. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Betty Plum at bplum1188@aol.com or at 239.732.8799

