

First Presbyterian Church of Naples

*In the Heart of Naples with the Love of God:
we worship, we love, we grow, we serve*



Hope

Peace

Joy

Love

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020
LITURGY

*Let us quiet our hearts, minds, and voices for the beginning of worship.
At this time, please silence all cell phones.*

The Prelude

Noel Etranger

LOUIS-CLAUDE DAQUIN

THE TIME OF GATHERING

Welcome and Life Together

REV. CRAIG GOODRICH

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

*Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candle

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

Acolyte: **We light this candle of joy. Hear the prophet Zephaniah's song of joy: "Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you with his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival."**

Leader: God of hope and peace, God of joyous good news, surely you are our salvation.

People: We will trust and not be afraid.

Leader: For the LORD is our strength and might: God has become our salvation.

People: With joy we will draw water from the wells of salvation.

Leader: And we will say in that day,

People: rejoice in the Lord always; again we say rejoice.

All: Let us Worship God!

A TIME FOR PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Hymn of Praise (*soloists only, congregation seated*)

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? Refrain.

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain.

Call to Confession

REV. REX CHILDS

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, your love is good news for the oppressed and you bind up the brokenhearted. Forgive us, O God, when we think that your good news is only for us. Forgive us, O God, when we twist your gospel into something that fits comfortably into our lives. By your light, may we see you leading us beyond ourselves and into the world you love. By your grace, forgive us, and free us to try again.

A Moment for Silent Personal Confession

** Please stand if able*

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! The wilderness will rejoice; the dry land will blossom. The people of God will return with joy and singing. In Jesus Christ, we have been forgiven. Receive that forgiveness and be at peace.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Presentation of Candidates

Elders Class of 2023: Teresa Doane, Fran Engelhardt, Linda Gadkowski, Roni Haggart, Bill Kearney

Deacons Class of 2023: Pat Collins, Gene Fraley, Tedi Fraley, Nancy Kier, Lucy Koll, Eileen Malstrom, Daisy Scott, Barbara Simons, Roger Simons, Deb Streamer, Harry Streamer

Questions of the Candidates

Questions of the Congregation

Leader: Do we, the members of the church, accept Teresa, Fran, Linda, Roni and Bill as ruling elders, and Pat, Gene, Tedi, Nancy, Lucy, Eileen, Daisy, Barbara, Roger, Deb and Harry as deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

All: We do.

Leader: Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

All: We do.

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

Declaration of Ordination, Installation and Welcome

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may be full of joy at the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4; 8-11

BETTY PLUM

Our first reading this morning comes from Isaiah, chapter 61. Hear now what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁸For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Paula Alva and Diego Davila

My Lord and Savior is my song, he fills my spirit with delight to raise me up his arm is strong, the lowly precious in his sight. *Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum* (My soul doth magnify the Lord). My name shall live from age to age, and ev'ry tongue his servant bless, for mercy is their heritage whose hearts the Holy One confess. The proud beguil'd by dreams of pow'r divided and degraded lie: he casts them down from throne and tow'r and stoops to lift the humble high. He feeds the hungry at his board and sends the rich unfil'd away, and mindful of his promis'd word has answer'd Israel's prayer today. With all the elders of our race, and those unborn who seek this birth, I sing the glory of his grace who brings eternity to earth.

Second Reading

Luke 1:46b-55

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Joy On the Way

REV. CRAIG GOODRICH

*The Apostle's 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

Prayers of Thanksgiving 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.

GOING FORTH

Hymn of Commitment (*soloists only, congregation seated*)

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: Refrain.

Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations; you have seen his natal star: Refrain.

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One: Refrain.

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Noël (Grand Jeu et Duo)

LOUIS-CLAUDE DAQUIN

Dismissal

Ushers will dismiss you by row following the Postlude.
Please remain seated until directed to dismiss.

Offering

Offering boxes are located on the wall by the exit doors.
You may also submit your offering by mail or online at www.fpcnaples.org/give.

Flower Dedication

The Chancel Flowers are given by Bill and Melissa Mc Clayton in honor of
the staff of First Presbyterian Church of Naples.

Ushers

Jack Marsh (head usher), Tom Clark, Doug Jensen, Sylvia Marsh, Bill Morgan, Saralene Oldham

Greeters

Cindy Esler, Les and Jean Kasten, Jeanne Perkins, Jill Purcell

PRAYER LIST

*Linda Arsenault
Jackson Barton
Darryl Bernhardt
*Sharon Cumming
Giraldo-Castano Family
Wayne Godwin
*Bob Graham
Jeri Kett
*Jane Long
*Diane Miller

Dominique O'Connell
Ethan Ridgway
Stuczynski Family
H.A. Summerfield
*Charlotte and Dale Waters
Mike Wilson
The U.S. Military
Stephen Ministers and
care receivers
* church member

Missionary (Honduras)
Dorie Hjalmarson
Central Presbyterian
Reformed Church, Matanzas,
Cuba
Rev. Ary Fernandez Alban
Rev. Beidy Casas Aragon
Yaquelin Arvelo
Keimi Horta

Zoom Calendar of Events

Zoom with the Pastors

Please join us on December 16 at 11 a.m. for a brief message from our pastors, Craig and Rex, and a time of fellowship. Please register (reservations@fpcnaples.org) by 4 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to ensure you receive the link to the meeting.

Wednesday Morning Men: Faith and Fellowship

In December we continue a study on the disciples. Join other committed men in our congregation on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Following the presentation, we join in some question and answer sharing and follow-up discussion. We will gather via Zoom, at 8 a.m. December 16 when Jack Marsh will present the disciple John. For Zoom instructions contact Rev. Rex Childs at rexc@fpcnaples.org or Bill Kearney at skearney239@comcast.net.

The Spiritual Practice of Waiting—An Advent Journey

Join Rev. Rex Childs and Nancy Van Fleet on December 17 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom for a time that will help prepare our hearts for the signature of this season – waiting. In Advent, we will explore characteristics of Advent waiting followed by a time of Centering Prayer – the spiritual practice of waiting.

Week Three, December 17 – Advent Waiting is Hopeful

Contact Nancy Van Fleet nancyv@fpcnaples.org or Rev. Rex Childs rexc@fpcnaples.org for Zoom information.

News

Session Update

As we seek to “love one another” as Jesus taught us, the Session, at their most recent meeting, upon the recommendation of the Reopening Task Force, and due to the significant rise in COVID-19 cases in recent weeks, approved holding Christmas Eve worship services online only. There will be no in-person services held. The taped Christmas Eve service will be sent by e-mail early December 24 and available to view on our website.

Other reasons considered in making this change include the logistics of managing a much larger congregation than usual, many of whom will have traveled to Naples from other parts of the country and the potential of their carrying the virus unbeknownst to them. We believe that this is the best and safest approach to take at this time. Other local Presbyterian churches have made the same decision and the medical experts at Naples Community Hospital concur.

The online service will continue FPCN’s tradition of reading the Christmas scriptures, listening to beautiful music brought to you by our Director of Music, Dr. Brice Gerlach and hearing favorite Christmas carols sung by our soloists, along with the lighting of the Christ Candle. We invite you to participate by having a candle available as we sing Silent Night together.

For the time being, we will continue to hold Sunday morning worship service at 9:30 a.m. with all safety protocols in place.

Required precautions for live worship:

- All attendees must wear masks during the entire service.
- Social distancing is required. Seating and dismissal will be directed by the ushers.
- There will be no singing but you will be able to enjoy the soloists who will be singing the hymns and anthems.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office at 239.262.1311 and ask for Rev. Craig Goodrich or Sharman Pfaus, Executive Office Manager.

Your understanding of this decision is greatly appreciated. We wish you blessings and peace during this challenging Christmas season.

Congregational Meeting

A meeting of the congregation will take place on Sunday, December 20 following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to approve our pastors' Terms of Call.

Office Hours

The staff is currently working in the office however, due to the increases of COVID cases, we are minimizing entry to the office areas. You may make an appointment with a staff member or call ahead if you need access to the building. We appreciate your consideration and help in keeping our staff healthy and well.

Christmas Joy Bags

Thank you for your outpouring of generosity for the children of Mision Peniel. We are able to deliver over 100 Joy Bags! Your continued support for our Missions is greatly appreciated.

Sew & Sews Stamp Collection

Just a little reminder that Sew and Sews/Presbyterian Women are still saving stamps and sending them in to Stamp Alliance Ministry. Just last week we sent in a large bundle - thanks to the kindness of many of you who have been saving them for us. These stamps are sold and monies collected is used to purchase Sunday School materials for Spanish speaking children nationally and internationally. So, when those Christmas cards come in don't throw the envelope away without removing the stamp.

Coronavirus Emergency Relief Fund

We are thrilled with our church community's response to our Coronavirus Emergency Relief Fund (CERF). The Session established CERF to provide assistance to local agencies which provide for persons' basic needs. We are continuing to accept new donations through the end of the 2020 calendar year. You may give by mailing your contribution to the church or give online through our secure website (www.fpcnaples.org/give). For information or questions regarding your giving, please contact Anna Focht, annaf@fpcnaples.org.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your generous support of our community, especially during this time of uncertainty due to the impact by the Coronavirus.

On behalf of The First Presbyterian Church of Naples, we thank you!

Giving

Your gift has an impact on every aspect of our ministry. Our entire church community is grateful for your continued support of and belief in the mission of The First Presbyterian Church of Naples. You may give by mailing your contribution to the church at 250 Sixth Street South, Naples, FL 34102, or give online through our secure website, www.fpcnaples.org/give. For information or questions regarding your giving, please contact Anna Focht, Director of Finance, annaf@fpcnaples.org.

STAFF

<u>Name</u>	<u>Ext.</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Ministers		
Rev. Craig Goodrich, Senior Pastor	2035	craigg@fpcnaples.org
Rev. Rex Childs, Associate Pastor	2027	rexc@fpcnaples.org
Music		
Dr. Brice Gerlach, Director of Music Ministries	2039	briceg@fpcnaples.org
Christian Education		
Jack Fogelman, Kidz Lab Teacher		
Audrey Gordon, Childcare Provider		
Ashley Hancock, Christian Education Assistant	2012	ashley.hancock@fpcnaples.org
Nancy Van Fleet, Director of Children and Youth	2029	nancyv@fpcnaples.org
Office		
Anna Focht, Director of Finance	2042	annaf@fpcnaples.org
Angie Johnson, Office Assistant/Receptionist	2000	angiej@fpcnaples.org
Kathleen Law, Communications Coordinator	2013	kathleenl@fpcnaples.org
Sharman Pfaus, Executive Office Manager	2036	sharmanp@fpcnaples.org
Facilities		
Lisa Ethier, Custodian	2016	lisae@fpcnaples.org
Eduardo Martinez, Maintenance	2014	eduardom@fpcnaples.org
Sandy Poore, Director of Facilities	2028	sandyp@fpcnaples.org
Preschool		
Ashley Houk, Preschool Director	2009	ashleyh@fpcnaples.org
Lindsay Willkomm, Preschool Assistant Director	2038	lindsayw@fpcnaples.org

SERVING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Elders

Class of 2020

Jill Crawford
Shirley Hagerson
Jim Kier
Jerry Perkins
David Weigel

Class of 2021

Norman Brown
Duncan Connell
Doug Jensen
Saralene Oldham
Barbara Weiss

Class of 2022

Carleton Cleveland
Deborah Meeson-Vige
Thomas Morr
Patty Rutzler
Janice Witman

Deacons

Class of 2020

Charles Fraley
Tedi Fraley
Audrey Gordon
Kathy Grandi
Phyllis Harris
Holly Jensen
Nancy Kier
Bill Morgan
Jeanne Perkins
Daisy Scott

Class of 2021

Jean Kasten
Les Kasten
Gary Nordbrock
Betty Plum
Linda Pratt
Gary Root
Janet Root
Lee Ryan
Martha Waddell
Fred Witt
Joyce Witt

Class of 2022

Barbara Beach
Richard Beach
Teresa Doane
Cindy Esler
Karen Parker
Roy Parker
Jill Purcell
David Witman

