

✠ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** "The Apostles' Creed" (*unison*)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!

Go Out as God's People in the World

✠ **Closing Hymn HB #408:** "Come, We That Love the Lord"

✠ **BENEDICTION:** by *Pastor Janet*

✠ **POSTLUDE** by *Tracy (Yu) Qian*

Following today's service please join us in the upper hall
for coffee & conversation.



If you are **visiting** today, we thank you for coming and hope you return soon.

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Come and See What Good God is Doing at FPC!**



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November 28, 2021

FOR PASTORAL CARE, PLEASE CALL:

The Reverend Dr. Janet Hufford at 412-877-9310

Happy 1st week of Advent!



Today's Worship Leaders:

Organist/Pianist: Tracy (Yu) Qian

Officer Assisting: Leslie Crawford

Advent Candles: Tom & Karen Johnston

Pastor: The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Hufford

The Lord's Day Worship

November 28, 2021 – 1st Sunday of Advent - Worship, 11am

Assisted Listening Devices are available in the Sanctuary during Worship.

If you need instructions, please seek assistance.

(Those not wanting to be seen on the **video recording**, please sit under the balcony.)

Hymnals: HB is "The Hymnbook" (burgundy) & HoF is "Hymns of Faith" (scarlet)

Gathering of God's People

After the chimes, please be in quiet reverence & silence cell phones.

3 RINGS OF THE STEEPLE BELL & CHIMES

WELCOME by Leslie Crawford, ruling elder over Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS (See insert.)

PRELUDE by Tracy (Yu) Qian

CALL TO WORSHIP with LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE:

We begin the Advent season by lighting the candle of hope. Before the birth of Jesus, the Hebrew people waited in hope for prophetic words to be fulfilled in the Messiah's coming. Now we wait in hope for all of God's promises to be fulfilled in Christ coming again. We, who "take hold of the hope set us may be greatly encouraged." Hebrews 6:18

↑ stand as able

↑ **Opening Hymn HB #525:** "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

↑ **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** (responsively):

400 years of silence transpired in waiting for the Messiah to come, because the people had not listened to God's words given to the prophets. Many are still deaf to your Good News that came through the Holy Spirit about Jesus, the Christ.

Forgive us when we do not listen and are, thus, unable to hear.

(Pause in silent confession.)

↑ **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:** (responsively)

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The Old life had gone; a new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Amen.

↑ **GLORIA PATRI / RESPONSE:** (*unison*) 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.

Proclamation of God's Word

↑ **CALL TO GOD'S WORD:** John 10:35 & Romans 4:3 (*unison*)

"Scripture cannot be set aside... What does Scripture say?"

↑ **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:** (*unison*)

Lord, through your Spirit enable us to consider your Word, and to enact it in our lives to bring you glory and praise. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:1-25 N.T. pg. 1456

SERMON Takeaway: "Do Not Be Afraid, Your Prayer Has Been Heard"

by the Reverend Dr. Janet A. Hufford.

Response to God's Word

↑ **Hymn of Response HB #147:** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

PRAYERS of JOYS & CONCERNS followed by **LORD'S PRAYER** (*unison*)

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.

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP (*along with tithing, consider mission giving to the Boaz Project to help orphans in Africa, India, & Russia*)

OFFERTORY to prayerfully consider giving in thankfulness

↑ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION:** (*unison*)

Jesus, in view of your mercy, we offer up thanks thru giving. Amen.

↑ **DOXOLOGY:** (*unison*) 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.