



²⁶ It had been revealed to [Simeon] by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God.

Luke 2:26-28a (NRSVUE)

Sunday, November 30, 2025
1st Sunday of Advent

*Please be seated, silence all devices, and prepare yourself for worship.
All are welcome in this sacred space, including the wiggles and giggles!*

◆ PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT

PRELUDE

Arnie H

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Bill and Kathy F

*...God still comes into our waiting and wondering,
providing hope for the journey.*

**Come, thou long expected Jesus; Born to set thy people free.
Born a child and yet a king. Born to reign in us forever.**

We light this candle for hope.

Christ is coming. Come, Lord Jesus.

ADVENT WREATH HYMN *Light the Advent Candle*

Light the Advent candles in the wreath of green.

Let them be an offering fit for a King.

**One for hope and one for love,
one for joy and peace, glowing in the darkness,
shine for all to see.**

~~~ GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE ~~~

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Murray

◆ SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*The Peace of Christ be with you! And also with you!*

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP (FROM PSALM 8)

Scott C

*People of God, lift up your heads and open your hearts!  
"my Spirit abides among you — do not fear," says the Lord;*

**We come, trusting in the promise  
that the glory of God will fill this house**

*Like Simeon, we wait with hope to see God's salvation revealed in our midst.*

**Our eyes have seen the Lord's salvation,  
a light for all people and the glory of God's people.**

*Come, long-expected Jesus.*

**Come and make your dwelling in us, and among us, again.**

*Let us worship the One who is coming and soon will be here!*

◆ HYMN 104

*O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

Congregation

**Children are invited forward as we sing the final verse**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Winslow

~~~ LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD ~~~

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Special Music

Arnie H

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Scott C

SCRIPTURE Haggai 2:4-9 (NRSVUE)

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*we begin in silent confession and then pray together*)

God of promise and fulfillment, we confess that we lose heart while we wait. We cling to what once was and fail to see the new thing You are doing. You call us to courage, but we dwell in fear. You offer us peace, but we cling to control. We despair over what has been lost instead of believing what you can make new.

Forgive us, O Lord. Renew our strength and restore our hope. Renew in us the hope of your coming — that we might live as a people who prepare the way for peace and joy. Make your dwelling among us once more, that we may reflect your glory in our world. Amen.

HYMN 551

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Congregation

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Scott C

...Believe the Good News: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and renewed.

The Lord who promised restoration has done it.
Thanks be to God!

HYMN 113

Angels We Have Heard on High

Congregation

~~~ PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD ~~~

◆ GOSPEL READING Luke 2:25-32 (NRSVUE)

Pastor Murray

***This is the Word of the Lord. God is still speaking.***

MESSAGE

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus  
Sermon Series "Caroling the Christmas Story"*

HYMN 82

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Congregation

~~~ RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD ~~~

OFFERING

Pastor Murray

OFFERTORY

Mary Dailey

◆ An Advent Doxology

Congregation

**Hope in the God who reigns above;
Who holds us all in steadfast love.
Whose spirit blows across the earth;
Preparing us for second birth. Amen.**

◆ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Pastor Murray

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (John 1- Selected)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing was created. The life that was in him became light for all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

To all who receive him, who believe in him, he gives power to become children of God. The Word became flesh, a man named Jesus. He lived among us, full of grace and truth. From his fullness, we have all received grace upon grace. In his name God has sent the Holy Spirit to teach us and to remind us of all that he has said. We believe that because he lives, we shall live also, to the glory of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (page 35)

Pastor Winslow

◆ HYMN 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Congregation

~~~ CARRYING GOD'S GOOD NEWS INTO GOD'S WORLD ~~~

◆ BENEDICTION

Pastor Murray

POSTLUDE

Mary Dailey

**Flowers given today in honor of Jan and Mike H's 42<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary**

A congregational meeting has been called on December 14 following worship in the sanctuary to elect new church officers.

***November RightNow Media picks***

All content from RightNow Media is accessible for you to conveniently enjoy from your computer or mobile device. Your account is already paid for through FPCL, so all you have to do is sign up here: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/fpcl> If you have any trouble creating your account, or accessing content, please contact Pastor Blakeley for assistance!

**For children Paws and Tales** Younger viewers will enjoy this series of animated adventures which explore important Biblical concepts such as showing gratitude, conquering fear, putting others first, and following God's rules.

**For general audience The Top Ten Hebrew words every Christian should know** Join host Mark Ward to explore some important Hebrew vocabulary, learning the deeper meaning behind words like Amen, Messiah, Selah, and more. A great study for those wanting to delve deeper into Old Testament context and interpretation.

**For general audience Redeeming your time** Best-selling author Jordan Raynor leads this study which takes the lifestyle of Christ as a model for how we can improve our time-management skills and find a better work-life balance.



**Second Thursday of each month at 1pm in Ayers' Parlor or Zoom**

**For December 11**

no book, just a Christmas potluck lunch get-together!

**January First Word Deadline is December 17<sup>th</sup>**

**The Giving Tree** in Chandler Hall will once again be adorned with ornaments for our Whiz Kids and their families. Gift wishes or ideas will be listed on the back of the ornaments. Please be sure to let one of the Mission Committee members know which ornament you have adopted.

Gifts need to be wrapped and labeled with the ornament attached and returned to the church no later than **Sunday, December 14th**. The gifts will be distributed at the Whiz Kids Christmas party on December 18th. Your gifts are such a blessing to these families and help to make their Christmas special. Thank you!



### **Today's Service**

Director of Music

Mary Dailey

Trumpet Soloist

Arnie H

Liturgist

Scott

Trustee

Paul P

Ushers

Mike and Jan Hole and Gary G

Advent Candle Lighting

Bill and Kathy F

Cover Image

worshiphousemedia.com

**During this Advent Season, where do you see God rebuilding hope in your life or in the community?**



**Open Door Circle** will be meeting every 3rd Thursday, at 10:30.

All women are welcome. Please call Hedy L. with any questions.



### **WINTER ACCESSORIES DRIVE**

**The mission committee will be collecting new hats, gloves and scarves during the month of November. Collection bins will be placed at the Windermere entrance and in Chandler Hall.**



**Peacemakers Country Store Christmas Sale Save the date**

**December 7, 2025, 8:30-10:00, 11:00-2:00, Chandler Hall.**

## Sunday Bible Study **December 7**

Bible Study is on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, following worship. Bring a 'brown bag' lunch and join us as we discuss God's Word to us. Both children and Adult Sunday Bible Study will meet, starting in Ficklin Hall for lunch.

**Office Hours** 9am-2pm Tuesday-Thursday

**Office Phone Number** 303-798-1389

**Office Email** [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto:fpcl@fpcl.org)

**Pastoral Care Emergency Line** 720-662-7277

### Staff Members

**Pastor Jonathan Murray**, Minister of Word and Sacrament

**Pastor Blakeley Winslow**, Pastor of Christian Discipleship

**Lydia Cooper**, Office Manager

**Mary Dailey**, Director of Worship Arts

**Karen A. Meersman**, Director of Handbells & Children/Youth Music

**Joan Lund**, Financial Secretary

**Tracy Eidson**, Child Care

### Worship Plans

#### Sermon Series *Caroling the Christmas Story*

December 7: '*What Child is This?*' --- Isaiah 11:1-10; Matthew 1:18-25

December 14: '*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*' --- Psalm 96; Luke 1:39-56

Saturday, December 20, 1p.m. Blue Christmas Service

--- a service for those not feeling merry or bright  
and seeking space to embrace grief

December 21: "*Carols: A Cantata for Congregation and Choir*"

December 24: '*Joy To The World*' --- Luke 2:1-20

1p - Baroque

4p - Children & Family

7p - Communion and Candlelight

December 28: '*First Nowell*' --- Isaiah 63:7-9; Matthew 2:1-12

January 4: *Epiphany & Communion*

### Mission Statement:

**We Believe the Good News that all of Littleton is called Beloved by Jesus Christ and  
together we Belong to God's Kingdom.**



**First Presbyterian  
Church of Littleton**

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