

# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EVERETT

Online Worship Bulletin  
December 3, 2023 – 10am

\*For our liturgy this morning, **BOLD** text invites all to join in the reading.

The First Presbyterian Church of Everett welcomes you to worship. Our Friendship Pads are back in our pews. We hope you take a moment to fill them out. This is a great way for us to get to know who's worshipping with us and to connect you to our community. Again, welcome!

Prelude                      *Lo How a Rose Ere Blooming* – Bish                      Gary Norris, Organist

Ringing of the Bell    Steve Torrence, Director of Music Ministries

Welcome    Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Call to Worship    using Psalm 80:1-3; Joel 3:16; 1 Peter 1:8-9

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

**You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.**

Stir up your might and come to save us!

**Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

The Lord roars from Zion and utters his voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth shake.

**But the Lord is a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.**

Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him.

**We rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for we are receiving the outcome of our faith, the salvation of our souls.**

Today we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of Hope. (Light Candle)

**We put our hope in the One to come, the promised one who comes from God to bring good news of salvation.**

We hope in the One who will lead us to walk in the light of the LORD.

**We light this candle in Hope.**

Hymn                      *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*                      #2

Prayer of Confession

Lord of All, you draw near to us, yet we live in a world of violence:

**Come to us, with your peace.**

We are filled with the best of intentions, but are unable to follow through with action:

**Come to us, with your hope.**

We are sinners, who are afraid to gaze into your mirror of grace:

**Come to us, with mercy.**

**Give us the faith to live as your people. Equip with ears that listen, eyes that see you in others, lips that encourage and support, and hearts soft to be touched and quick to love.**

**Forgive us, restore us, and redeem us, we pray.**

*Moment of silent personal confession and reflection.*

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Amen**

### Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ, be with you! **And also with you!**

Hymn                      *Do You Hear What I Hear?*                      FPCE Sings #5

Scripture                Isaiah 64:1-9

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Choir Anthem        *Free Us, Emmanuel!*                      Directed by Steve Torrence

Sermon                *Simple Hope*                                      Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Communion Hymn        *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem*                      #308

### Communion Liturgy

May the God of compassion be with you!

**And also with you!**

As we begin our journey to Bethlehem, let us open our hearts to God.

**For God will fill them with strength and courage for the journey.**

Let us join our voices in singing praise to God.

**We will lift glad songs of joy to the One who is coming to us.**

Remembering that we are all your people, you pour out your Spirit upon us and the gifts prepared for us at your table. You came to earth in Jesus and now we find you in the broken bread which gives us the strength to be your hope to those in sadness, to be your light to those in shadows, to be your justice to the oppressed.

Your life was poured out for us in Jesus, and now we find your grace in the cup which gives us the spirit to be your healing to the broken, to be your family to the lonely, to be your love to those who are ignored.

And when all time is ended, gather us with our sisters and brothers from every time and every place around the heavenly table you have prepared for us, as we sing our joyful praises to you, God in Community, Holy in One. **Amen.**

## Celebration of Communion

Prayer

Benediction

Singing of the Lord's Prayer

Postlude

*Praise Ye the Lord of Host – Saint Saens*

Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Led by Steve Torrence

Gary Norris, Organist

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Part of our liturgy was adapted from the Rev. Thom Shuman at [Lectionary Liturgies](#).

### **Choir Anthem**

#### ***Free Us, Emmanuel!***

Come, O come Emmanuel! Come, and set us free! Come, O come Emmanuel, and set your people free!

Free us from the heavy chains of our sin and our sadness and body of pain. Free us, O Emmanuel, from the sorrow and suffering of where we dwell.

Free us, free us from the heavy chains of our sin and our sadness and body of pain. Free us, free us. O Emmanuel, from the sorrow and suffering of where we dwell.

Lord we are calling, how long do we wait before the glory of the kingdom we can celebrate? Tell us all! Lord we are calling will you answer, please! Hear the cries of the people calling, Lord, hear your people calling.

Free us, free us from the heavy chains of our sin and our sadness and body of pain. Free us, free us. O Emmanuel, from the sorrow and suffering of where we dwell.

Your light shall break like the morning. Your health shall surely spring up. For when you call the Lord of all, He will say, "Here am I."

We are calling, Lord, we are calling.

Free us, free us from the heavy chains of our sin and our sadness and body of pain. Free us, free us. O Emmanuel, throw the doors open wide from humanity's cell.

Come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel, come, O come and free us, free us, free us, Emmanuel.

## **Announcements**

### **Flowers this morning are from Marilyn Nalbach In memory of her parents and her brothers, Larry & Bob Nalbach.**

Wes King's Celebration of Life will take place on his 100<sup>th</sup> birthdate, Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in our sanctuary with a reception following. Wes was interred with U.S. Navy honors at Tahoma National Cemetery on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Advent Potluck! – Today**

Join the Christian Formation and Discipleship Committee and the Deacons as they host an Advent Potluck after worship today. We will be kicking off Advent with festive music, Advent wreaths, and good food!

### **Deacons Contribution Drive**

The Deacons are collecting donations for the many activities they provide to our congregation and community throughout the year. Some of these activities include pizza parties, blanket drives, Easter brunch, Souper Sunday, graduating high school senior gifts, and donations to local organizations during the holiday season (food bank, Cocoon House, Millenia Ministries, YWCA gifts for families). They also provide coffee hour every Sunday, are responsible for communion the first Sunday of each month, and perform outreach to church members through calls, notes, and visits. If you would like to contribute to the Deacons, please use the green envelopes in the pews and note on your check Deacons. Thank you for your support and generosity.

### **Donations for Christmas at Bethany**

For many, the act of getting a gift and making sure a loved one opens it is the best part of the holiday season. Residents at Bethany at Silver Lake participate in a resident market where they can pick out a gift to give to a friend or family member. Teresa Good is working with the staff at Bethany to help provide gifts for the market. Bethany is seeking: Christmas wrapping paper, chocolate covered cherries, mint patties, boxed chocolates, other types of chocolates in a box, scarves and gloves for men or women, or other items you think someone might like to be gifted to a loved one. Please note, they cannot accept food unless it is prepackaged from the store. If you would like to help, please contact Teresa (425-308-1266), as items will need to be at Bethany by December 12th. Thank you!

### **SPAM Christmas Gathering – December 8<sup>th</sup>**

The SPAM Christmas Gathering is December 8th starting with the Friendship Punch Bowl at 11:30am, followed by a luncheon at noon, \$7.50.

Program: A snippet presentation of the preschool that is housed at FPCE followed by a Christmas Sing Along. Sign-up sheet at the Welcome booth.

### **Men's Breakfast – December 9<sup>th</sup>**

Men's Breakfast is Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am to 10:00 am. All men are invited to attend this time of fellowship and Bible study, not to mention breaking of bread. We hope to see you!

## VOA Food Donations

We donated 410 pounds of food to the Volunteers of America Food Bank this month. Great job! Our next drive-through collection is tomorrow, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12pm. Pastor Alan and Ken Newman will be accepting non-perishable food in the alley. You can also bring non-perishable food any Sunday and add it to the collection boxes at each door. Your donations support those in need here in Everett. Thank you for your donations.

## SCRABBLE

Scrabble will meet the first Wednesday in December. In January we will resume our regular schedule of the first and third Wednesdays. We invite newbies, the average “word-joe”, experts, mentors, and YOU to join us on December 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in Westminster Hall for fellowship, fun and SCRABBLE. The north door will be open from 12:50pm to 1:00pm. For more information, please contact Linda Senter or Lois Tysseling. Hope to see YOU there!

## Priscilla Circle – December 11<sup>th</sup>

Priscilla Circle will meet on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am in Calvin Lounge. Sonya Beardsley will lead chapter four of our lesson. We will be having a potluck lunch. All women are welcome.

## Hymn Requests

The Worship Committee invites you to suggest a favorite song or hymn for inclusion in worship. There are request forms next to the offering box. Just fill one out and drop it in the offering box and we will try our best to include your hymn in worship in the following weeks.

## Christmas Eve at FPCE – Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

Join us for the following  
Christmas Eve events  
happening at FPCE:

**Christmas Cantata**  
**“City of Hope”**

10:00 am in Sanctuary

**Christmas Eve Fellowship**  
**Coffee, Cocoa, and Cookies**

5:45 pm in Westminster

**Christmas Eve**  
**Candlelight Worship**

7:00 pm in Sanctuary

*More Details...*

### **Christmas Eve Fellowship Coffee, Cocoa, and Cookies**

Join Pastor Alan before worship at 5:45 pm. We invite you to bring cookies to share. Store bought or homemade. Bring a dozen or as many as you’d like. We will provide delicious coffee and cocoa to round out this community time.

The best part – you can take leftover cookies home to eat on Christmas day! We will provide cookie carriers.

All friends and family are welcome to join.



## This Week...

- **Sunday School** There is no Sunday School today, due to the Advent potluck.
- **Lunch with Alan** – is on Mondays at noon in the church library. The north door will be open at 11:45am. Bring your lunch or just come to talk and catch up. Coffee is provided.
- **Thursday Bible Study** – Join Pastor Alan December 7<sup>th</sup> using the Zoom platform. We will be studying Luke 1:1-25, 57-66.
  - Join Zoom using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4319124902>
  - Meeting ID: 431 912 4902
- **Next Sunday** we will have hybrid worship at 10am.
  - All videos are linked to our Facebook page, website, app, and YouTube channel.

## To all worshipping with us...

The First Presbyterian Church is a sanctuary open to all people. Please:

- Honor those who wish to wear masks in our facility. Ask people to be kind and welcoming to those who may need some extra space.
- Respect boundaries if one asks for alternative ways of greeting.
- Use the many hand sanitizer stations throughout our building.

If there is any confusion, concerns, or questions, please contact Pastor Alan or a greeter. Our goal is to worship together and love our neighbor. We value everyone being able to worship in safety, inclusion, and openness. All are welcome.

### **Prayer Requests December 3, 2023**

- We pray for peace and the cessation of war in Israel/Palestine. While there are historical and political complexities and layers to this conflict, we boldly pray for Israeli and Palestinian families who have been caught in the middle and torn apart. We pray for those grieving, for those suffering, for those confused, and for those whose only reaction is to seek revenge. We pray for comfort, relief, healing, and release. We seek your peace that defies understanding to settle on families, individuals, and leaders on all sides. We pray, fully knowing we do not have the answers, knowing we are weak and sometimes prejudiced, but trusting our Lord Jesus knows the answer, is working, and is present there.
- We pray for peace between Russia and Ukraine.
- **Update:** I am very thankful and appreciative of the prayers, cards, and expressions of encouragement from the First Presbyterian Church family. I was diagnosed with Stage 4 prostate cancer on September 4. I went through surgery and several tests to confirm the diagnosis. After confirmation, the doctors put me on a treatment plan that is based on immunotherapy. The plan provides a 50/50 chance to live for four years. I know that God can miraculously heal if he so chooses, although I recognize that happens very rarely. I do know that He walks with me every day on this journey. Prayers have been answered. Thanks for your support. Gary Norris
- **Update:** Barbara Peckham's shoulder replacement surgery went well, and she is home recovering. Prayers are appreciated. From David Baer-Peckham.
- **Update:** Jean Kanter is recovering from COVID and slowly getting her strength back. Jean and Kory thank everyone for their prayers, calls and cards.
- Please pray for Joan Copeland, Diane Preston's mom, after a hospital stay.
- We pray for Bob Barren's sister, Pamela. Her son, Scott Talley died on November 17. We pray for Pam and the family as over four months, her husband died, she has moved to assisted living, and now Scott's death. We pray for strength and peace. From Bob and Barbara Barren.
- **Update:** Susan Klingler is seeking a second opinion about her leg and appreciates prayer.
- Please pray for Jimmy Sharp's friend, John, whose son was in a motorcycle accident and is paralyzed.
- Please pray for Genevieve Heuer who will be having surgery for melanoma. From Jimmy Sharp.
- Dierdre Hervey died November 9<sup>th</sup>. Please keep her family in your prayers.
- Vicki Dorway's friend's mom was recently diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. Please pray as they meet with Fred Hutch doctors and consider treatment options.
- Randy Fehlhaber asks for prayer for his dear friend, Marian Luca and his wife, Sanda. Marian, who grew up in Romania in a village and has a super strong gene heritage,

and though his life has been “strong as a bull”, is suddenly gravely ill with cancer. Word from Sanda is that his liver function is dependent on the next round of chemotherapy. Please pray for liver function.

- Please pray for Randy and Elly to find a house in Everett near a bus stop, so it is easier for me to visit and care for them. From Jodi Doney
- **Update:** Amber McGuire, daughter of Phil & Sonya Beardsley, is home recovering. She is still having headaches and has a tiny aneurism that will be closely watched. The family is thankful for your continued prayers.
- Please pray for Hugh Minor.
- Please pray for Carol Gresham who is suffering with a compression fracture of a vertebrae.
- Please pray for Jay Kuhnenn who has been struggling with a couple of cysts on the nerve bundle in his lower back causing sciatica in both of his legs. The first injection has not provided relief. He is now exploring the next steps.
- We pray for Arlene Mawudeku with on-going health issues.
- **Update:** Sue Hermansen appreciates our prayers and sends a huge thank you to those who have lifted her family in prayer. She is asking for prayers for her vision which has been impacted by her stroke. For the present she is staying with her daughter, Lori. From Lois Tysseling.
- Our friend Karen Jensen asks for our prayers. Her husband recently passed away and she is now living in an adult home struggling with a long history of lupus. From Alan and Dottie Villevik.
- Our friend Meredith’s mother, Beverly, is hospitalized in critical condition. We appreciate your prayers for her and her family. From Ari and Robin Kohler.
- **Update:** Marsha Lueth – We are grateful to learn she does not have brain cancer. Marsha had a stroke but is thankful for your prayers and support. Please continue to pray for Marsha for strength with her on-going health concerns.
- **New Update:** Son-in-law, Doug Schultz, is now committed to his “chemo for life” regimen (Revlimid). He’s driving short distances, and we praise God daily for his improvements in his balance and strength. Thank you for your continuous prayers. From Annette King.
- **Update:** Karen, daughter of Marilee Richards, is making progress with her health challenges and the family is grateful for the prayers. Please continue to pray for ongoing improvement.
- **Update:** on prayer request for our granddaughter, Melissa Mobeck. Chris and Melissa both appreciate our prayers and ask for continued prayers for Melissa’s healing. From Alan and Dottie Villevik.
- **Update:** On our friends Mike and Jeannine Schone: Mike continues to feel great and appreciates our prayers. Recent tests showed no cancer but is continuing his treatment as recommended by his doctors. From Alan and Dottie Villevik



## **Continued Prayers for FPCE**

- Family of Cindy Rowlands
- Family of George Newland
- Family of Wes King
- Family of Peter Boonstra
- Family of Maggie Lamus
- Family of Lin Davis
- Jan Geibel, daughter of Judy & Clyde Pitcher
- Susan Klingler
- Tom & Pat Dotson – friends of Bob & Barbara Barren
- Cody, grandson of Marilee Richards
- Florence Day
- Karen Summers
- Quinn Carpenter
- Genny Heuer and extended family
- Larry O'Donnell
- Robert Henry
- Paul & Joyce Richardson
- LaMara Halstrom and Jane McMahan – Steve and Nancy Torrence
- Pat Weakley Hein – sister-in-law of Jan Weakley
- Matt McCoy, grandson of Annette King
- Clyde Pitcher
- Robby as he continues to heal and for Monica helping every step of the way – from Martha and Mike Clemans
- Cy Paydar – nephew of Steve and Nancy Torrence

We pray for families affected by dementia and/or Alzheimer's. As with other individuals and families, we pray for successful research, perseverance, a sense of humor, and the Spirit's peace.

## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831

Charles Wesley, 1744

1. Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy  
2. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child and

peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us;  
yet a King, Born to reign in us for - ev - er,

Let us find our rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -  
Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By Thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear de - sire of  
Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone; By Thine all - suf -

ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Alternate tune: STUTTART, 1

## O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

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KINGSFOLD CMD

Louis FitzGerald Benson, 1899

English Country Songs, 1893  
Arr. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

1. O sing a song of Beth-le-hem, Of shep-herds watch-ing there,
2. O sing a song of Naz-a-reth, Of sun-ny days of joy,
3. O sing a song of Gal-i-lee, Of lake and woods and hill,
4. O sing a song of Cal-va-ry, Its glo-ry and dis-may;



And of the news that came to them From an-gels in the air:  
O sing of fra-grant flow-ers' breath, And of the sin-less Boy:  
Of Him who walked up-on the sea And bade its waves be still:  
Of Him who hung up-on the tree, And took our sins a-way:



The light that shone on Beth-le-hem Fills all the world to-day;  
For now the flowers of Naz-a-reth In ev-ery heart may grow;  
For though, like waves on Gal-i-lee, Dark seas of trou-ble roll,  
For He who died on Cal-va-ry Is ris-en from the grave,



Of Je-sus' birth and peace on earth The an-gels sing al-way.  
Now spreads the fame of His dear name On all the winds that blow.  
When faith has heard the Mas-ter's word, Falls peace up-on the soul.  
And Christ, our Lord, by heav-en a-dored, Is might-y now to save.

