

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EVERETT

Online Worship Bulletin – 10am

December 11, 2022

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

Prelude *Echo Noel* – Daquin Gary Norris, Organist

Ringing of the Bell Steve Torrence, Director of Music Ministries

Welcome Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Two Minutes for Mission Judy Hammond

Moment for Stewardship Debbie Roberts

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candle Psalm 126 Lisa Comstock

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.”

The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,

Shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Hymn *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem* #308

Lighting of the Advent Candle Lisa Comstock

Today we light three candles on our Advent wreath.

Previously, we lit the candle of Hope, remembering the hope which comes in Christ.

Light the Hope candle

We lit the candle of Peace, remembering our true peace which comes in Jesus.

Light the Peace candle

Today, we light the candle of Joy.

Light the Joy candle

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

#28

Prayer of Confession and Lord's Prayer

Lisa Comstock

On this third Sunday of Advent, we rejoice, Holy God. We rejoice in body, mind, and spirit because we recognize your presence among us. As you restored the people of Israel, returning them to the promised land, you also are at work among the wilderness and despair of our lives. May the joy you graciously offer serve as steppingstones through our wilderness experiences. May the joy of love and life surround us when suffering overwhelms.

Merciful God, you know us and love us despite our faults and failings. You look upon our hearts and discern our honest intentions. As we turn to you now in prayer, guide us by your Holy Spirit.

Gracious God, our doubt and despair lead us to low and longsuffering places. Our eyes downcast, we find nothing for which to give thanks, we find no reason to rejoice. Yet, you call us to resist the overwhelming forces that drag us down. You call us to rejoice in a babe about to be born. You call us to lift our eyes in hopeful anticipation of your kingdom to come. Forgive us. Help us. Save us.

Take a moment of silent personal confession and reflection

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning” (Lamentations 3:22-23). Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. With assurance of mercy and grace, we pray together the prayer Jesus taught us: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Choir Anthem

Free Us, Emmanuel

Directed by Steve Torrence

Scripture

Philippians 4:4-9

Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Gift: Joy

Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#31

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Postlude

Joy to the World – Bish

Gary Norris, Organist

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Part of our liturgy today was adapted by Teri McDowell Ott and provided for free distribution © Presbyterian Outlook, 2022.

Announcements

VOA Food Donations

We donated 509 pounds of food to the Volunteers of America Food Bank last week. This brings our total donation this year to over 2 tons of food! Awesome job!! Thank you for your generosity. Food donations go to support those in need here in Everett. We continue to accept donations and our next Monday drop-off will be January 9th from 10am to 12pm. Pastor Alan and Ken Newman will be accepting non-perishable food in the alley.

Priscilla Circle – December 12

Priscilla Circle will meet on Monday, December 12th at 11:30 am in Calvin Lounge – all women are welcome. We will have a potluck and gift exchange. In place of the YWCA adopt-a-family for Christmas this year, money was collected and donated to the Presbyterian recovery effort in Puerto Rico.

Dale J. Good Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Life for Dale J. Good will be held in our sanctuary on Saturday, January 7, 2023, at 11am. Dale's favorite color was red. The family asks that you wear something red. If you do not have red, another color would be appreciated.

On behalf of Dale Good's family, thank you for the cards, texts, emails, and support during these difficult times. Janet, Teresa, Brian, Richard, Dwight, Daniel and his grandchildren and great grandchildren.





Sunday, December 18 – Our choir will present Christmas Cantata 2022: *The Promise of Light* by Joel Raney.





More Announcements

- Next Sunday we will have hybrid worship at 10am.
 - All videos are linked to our Facebook page, website, app, and YouTube channel.
- **Sunday School** today is 11:30am to 12:30pm in hybrid format, both in-person in Calvin Lounge and on Zoom, led by Steve Hammond. This Adult Sunday School class is based on the Teaching Company lecture series: *The Dead Sea Scrolls* and is a deep dive into one of the most significant discoveries ever in Biblical archeology. There is no requirement for preparation for this class, and you can drop in at any time you are able and still gain precious knowledge and insights.
 - Join Zoom using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4319124902>
 - Meeting ID: 431 912 4902
- **Lunch with Alan** is Mondays at noon in the church library. The north door will be open at 11:45am. Bring a lunch or just come to talk and catch up. Coffee is provided.
- **Thursday Bible Study** with Pastor Alan on December 15th at 4pm using the Zoom platform. We will be looking at Chapter 52 of *We Make the Road by Walking*. However, you do not need the book. Our scripture references will be Luke 15:11-32, Romans 8:31-39, 1 Corinthians 15:50-58.
 - Join Zoom using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4319124902>
 - Meeting ID: 431 912 4902

To all worshipping with us:

- Masks are optional in our facility
- The first six rows of the sanctuary are open seating
- The back rows are every other pew for more spacing

Even as we move into this new chapter, we affirm a cautious approach by:

- Having masks and hand sanitizer available for use
- Keeping socially distanced
- Using prefilled communion cups

If there is any confusion, concerns, or questions, please contact Pastor Alan or a Session member. 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 Updates December 11, 2022

- We pray for our county and city leaders as they navigate the COVID crisis in our community.
- We pray for the Uyghur people in China. They are facing tremendous religious persecution for following Christ. We pray for all persecuted Christians around the world and seek the Holy Spirit to bring hope and grace to all situations.
- We pray for peace between Russia and Ukraine.
- Thank you so much for all the prayers for our dear neighbor and friend, Doug Dawson. Several weeks before he died, he said, "I have so much to live for, and I have so much to die for". That speaks to the person you all prayed for. From Tony and Lois Tysseling.
- Dottie and Alan Villevik thank you all for your cards and prayers over the last month as we dealt with that COVID bug. We had a very light case, just a runny nose and a cough. No temperature, no headaches or pain except for the pain of isolation. We are both fully recovered and very grateful to be able to come to church in person!
- Update: Don Collins, our regular helper at Dinner at the Bell was back on the job Wednesday and is doing well. He wanted me to express his deepest appreciation to all of you that prayed for the success of his surgery, that it all went well. They inserted seven stents. From Dottie Villevik.
- Please pray for Maggie Lamus as her cancer has returned. She has restarted treatment and we pray for peace, healing, and strength.
- Please pray for Bruce Russell. He has a narrowing in his esophagus and has difficulty eating and swallowing. From Lisa Comstock.
- Please pray for Arlene Mawudeku who has stage 4 kidney failure and needs a kidney transplant.
- Quinn Carpenter is having health issues and would appreciate prayers. From Marilyn Minch.

- Please pray for my friend Barbara and her parents. They all have COVID. From Lisa Comstock.
- Marilee Richards son-in-law, Galileo, had knee replacement surgery recently and now has a bad infection in the knee. He underwent emergency surgery. Please pray for healing and protection for his knee.
- Update: My friends Aaron and Alicia no longer have COVID but do struggle with long-COVID problems. Thank you for continued prayers. From Lisa Comstock.
- Update: Mason DeAndre, grandson of Tony & Lois Tysseling, had a doctor appointment on Tuesday and his bones are continuing to heal. He walks three times a day but isn't allowed to twist or bend. He is off all meds! He's disappointed that he can't begin physical therapy for a least another six weeks. Prayers for patience and continued healing will help greatly. Thank you for your prayers. From Tony & Lois Tysseling.
- Update: Tracy McLean (Martha Klingler's daughter) had a lung scan recently that showed a 35-50% reduction of all tumors and no new tumors. She is scheduled for another scan on November 30. They are thankful for our prayers. From Dottie Villevik.
- Our son-in-law, Doug Schultz, has a long recovery ahead from a spinal cord injury. Prayers are requested for strength and mobility in his legs. From Annette and Wes King
- Please pray for Marilee Richard's friend, Kimberly, who has recently been placed on hospice.
- Update: Please continue to pray for Marilee Richard's daughter, Karen and for her doctors to find the best treatment. She is having difficulty speaking. Please also pray for her husband, Robert, and son, Steven, as this is difficult for the whole family.
- Janet Good is experiencing an unfortunate progression with Parkinson's disease, resulting in a decline in her health. Please pray for Teresa, and family as they seek strength, wisdom, and peace during this time.
- Rev. Karen Summers appreciates our continued prayers. From Shirley Solberg.
- Update: My friend Ida has died. Please pray for her family. From Lisa Comstock.
- Please pray for Willard who has stage 4 cancer. From Lisa Comstock.
- Please pray for Lillian who has serious cardiac issues. From Lisa Comstock.
- Please pray for Genny Heuer. Thank you for your prayers. From Jimmy Sharp.
- Larry O'Donnell still amazes us – PTL! Thank you for your continued prayers for his energy level improvement. From Annette King.
- Update: Wes's shortness of breath is still a concern. We appreciate your continued prayers. From Annette King.

Continued Prayers for FPCE

- Prayers for members and friends during our time apart.

- Family of Dale Good
- Family of Dean Copeland
- Family of Ethel Geniesse
- Family of Scott Morrow
- Family of Roy Gresham
- Florence Day
- Family of John Moir
- Family of Lucille Hofer
- Robert Henry
- Carol Gresham
- Family of Liz Lombard
- Paul & Joyce Richardson
- Doug Paine – friend of Marilee Richards
- LaMara Halstrom and Jane McMahon – Steve and Nancy Torrence
- Pat Weakley Hein – sister-in-law of Jan Weakley
- Matt McCoy, Grandson of Annette King
- Clyde and Judy Pitcher
- Robby as he continues to heal and for Monica helping every step of the way – from Martha and Mike Clemans
- Cindy Rowlands
- Prayers for Jan Geibel – Clyde and Judy Pitcher’s daughter
- Bob Salinas, brother of Rose and Sam Capetillo
- 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 for Suzan, Judy Kutz’s sister and Janet Good.

Poinsettia Order Form

Red Poinsettias are a beautiful addition to our Christmas Décor in the Sanctuary. If ordered, your poinsettia can be picked up after the Christmas Eve Service.

Please fill out the form below and enclose \$12.00 per Poinsettia. Drop it in the Collection box during Worship or at the Church Office no later than December 15th. Only the amount purchased by December 15th will be ordered.

Please print clearly

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Your Name _____

Phone _____

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

308

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.

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO 6.6.7.7.8.5.5

German folk tune, 14th century
Harm. David Hugh Jones, 1953

Medieval Latin

Trans. and para. John Mason Neale, 1853; alt.

1. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice With heart, and soul, and voice;
2. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice With heart, and soul, and voice;
3. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice With heart, and soul, and voice;

Give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
Now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
Now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

Ox and ass be - fore Him bow, And He is in the man - ger now.
He hath o - pened heav - en's door, And we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all To gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN 7.7.7.7 D with refrain

Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.

Arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major). The melody is primarily in the soprano part, with the other parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King.
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
 *3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!

CHRISTMAS

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of the vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all He brings, Risen with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die,

With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

*Descant and alternate harmonization for stanza 3, 32