

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

November 28, 2021

10:00am

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GATHERING

PRESERVICE MUSIC

“We Gather Together”

“Steal Away to Jesus”

“Wait for the Lord”

“Now Thank We All Our God”

“My Lord! What a Morning”

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

“More Love to Thee, O Christ”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF PRAYER REQUESTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION Christmas Joy Offering (Margo Fullinwider)

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE (Mary & Isaac Hubbard)

Jesus says: I am coming soon.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. As the Lord has promised, in days to come the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks;

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord. **Amen.**

CHIMES

PRELUDE

“Thanks Be to Thee” (Handel)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeremiah 33:14–16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord when I will fulfill my promise to my people.

Justice and righteousness will fill the land and all will live in peace and safety.

***OPENING HYMN #420**

“Lord, to You My Soul Is Lifted” (Bourgeois)

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Holy One, you have promised us that the day of our salvation is near. Keep us faithful in love and watchful in prayer, so that we may stand with confidence and joy at the coming of Christ, our redeemer and Lord. **Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said, Do not let your hearts be weighed down by the sins and worries of this life, but watch and pray for the grace of God, who will save you in your time of trial. With confidence in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news:

In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God our salvation, there is wisdom, peace, and joy for those who keep your Word. By the power of your Holy Spirit, lead us in your truth and teach us to do your will; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Jeremiah 33:14–16

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

QUARTET

“Come to the Light” (Martin)
(Wayne Bevers, Bob Entrop, Mary Hubbard Wendy Lunsford)

(Please stand for the reading of the Gospels if you are able)

***READING FROM THE GOSPELS**

Luke 21:25–36

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

***HYMN #93** *“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”* (Musica Sacra)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

MEDITATION ON THE STEWARDSHIP OF TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (Hebrews 13:16)

The author of Hebrews speaks of giving as a discipline. Notice that he could have equated doing good with anything.

“Do not neglect to do good and to pray.”

“Do not neglect to do good and to study the Bible.”

“Do not neglect to do good and to volunteer at church.”

But he says something else — something at the heart of doing good: “Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (tithe.ly)

MUSICAL OFFERING *“All Creatures of Our God and King”* (Harris)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

God of righteousness, you have saved us from the worst the world can do and have promised to redeem the whole creation when Christ comes again. In faith and hope we offer our gifts of money and self, that we may be part of what you are doing in the world even now, as we watch for Christ’s coming in glory. **Amen.**

OUR 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 and ever. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN #97** *“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”* (Parry)

***MOMENT OF SILENCE TO PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH**

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE** *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

*Please stand if you are able where asterisks are printed.

Words in **bold print** are spoken by the congregation.