



December 4, 2022, 9:00am

## **Welcome!**

Thank you for joining us for worship in the FPC Sanctuary and welcome to those of you worshipping with us online.

Learn about activities and ministry opportunities in the Announcements section and on the church's website.

Sign up for our Email Updates at [www.fpcsd.org](http://www.fpcsd.org)



**First Presbyterian Church**  
S A N D I E G O

**320 Date Street, San Diego, CA 92101**  
**619-232-751**

## The Lord's Supper Instructions

We observe the Lord's Supper every week in worship. This communion meal is meant to unite us to Jesus Christ as well as each other. In it, we reaffirm the promises of our baptism and recommit ourselves to love and serve God and neighbor. We prepare to celebrate the Lord's Supper by putting our trust in Christ, confessing our sin, and seeking reconciliation with God and one another.

*While we are being served communion at the table, the pastor will bring both bread and cup to all who are seated and cannot come to the table.*

*At the end of all being served, a deacon will come to the table and take from the table some bread and cups, and exit up the aisle.*

*Later that day and during the week the deacons will take these to our members who could not attend worship, thus extending the communion to all our members.*

If you are not a Christian, please consider using this communion time to pray with one of the following printed prayers:

### Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

*Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.*

### Prayer of Belief

*Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.*

# First Presbyterian Church of San Diego

## Worships God

by

Gathering around the Word

Hearing the Word

Responding to the Word

**Advent**

December 4, 2022, 9:00am

### **Gathering Around the Word**

**Singing Our Praise**

*O Come O Come Emmanuel*

**Being Called to Worship: The Lighting of the Advent Candle**

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Advent means coming.

**We are preparing ourselves for the days when  
the wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.**

*from Isaiah 11:6*

**Singing Our Praise**

*People, Look East, #12*

**Announcing the Gospel**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

It extends to our children and our children's children.

It is new every morning.

Great is his faithfulness.

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,

that we may receive mercy

and find grace to help in time of need.

**Confessing our Sin**

**Merciful God,**

**Although Christ is among us in love,**

**we are a people inclined to apathy – love's opposite.**

**We want attention but are too self-absorbed to give it,**

**we want help, but are too competitive to offer it,  
we want care, but are too hurting to dare it.  
We think it's all about us, or at least should be.  
We have forgotten that you came for others.**

(silence for further individual confession)

**Gracious God,  
Love us while we learn to love.  
Convince us again of your love.  
Prevent us from offering anything less to others.  
Help us to receive and give love.**

**Amen.**

### **Declaring God's Pardon**

The Scriptures say:

This is a reliable statement and is to be universally accepted:  
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

While we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

Friends:

Your sins are forgiven. Know this and be at peace.

### **Offering Our Lives in Gratitude**

**My soul will magnify the Lord,  
and my spirit will rejoice in God my Savior.  
For he that is mighty has done great things,  
and Holy is his name.** *Luke 1:46-49*

### **Passing the Peace**

Because Christ has established this peace for us with the Father,  
so too ought we be at peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be with you.

**and also with you**

Let's stand and greet one another in this way.

*(Children may come forward to the front pew for Telling the Story)*

**Singing Our Praise** *Living Hope*

**Offering Our Music** *Light One Candle*

**Offering Our Prayers**

## **Hearing the Word**

### **Telling the Story & Praying the Lord's Prayer**

Joseph and Mary Go To Bethlehem

Luke 2:1-7

*(After this, children may leave for Kidz Worship)*

**Offering Our Music**      *O Come, Emmanuel*

### **Praying for Illumination**

**Reading the Word**      Ruth 1

**Declaring the Word**      Waiting with Naomi and Ruth in Famine

## **Responding to the Word**

### **Presenting God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

**Offering Our Music**      *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

### **Celebrating the Lord's Supper**

**Singing Our Praise**      *Cornerstone*

### **Receiving the Charge & Blessing**

### **Being Sent**

### **Postlude**

## **Servant Schedule**

Lighting the Advent Candle: Keter Thornton & Ray Thornton

Liturgy Pastor: Jeff Myers

Preaching Pastor: Jerry Andrews

Offering our Prayers: Kirk Rogers

Offering our Music:

Worship Leader: Adam Michel

Director of Westminster Choir: Rodney Girvin

City Tree Christian School Choir Director, Andrew Michel

Piano, Jan Feher

Cello, Erica Erenyi

Organist: Pam Monroe

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Today! Advent Academy of Faith Class**

*The Incarnation of God and Human Culture.* Pastor Jerry Andrews teaches three Sundays in Advent on how, and to what effect, God becoming human and having a human body had on West Art. Bring your cookies and curiosity to the West Room on December 4, 11, and 18<sup>th</sup> following the worship service.

### **Sunday Morning Children's Ministry**

*Infants and preschoolers*

- "The Nest" (0-4 yrs old) opens at 8:45am and continues through the 10:30a-11:30a education hour.
- Follow signs from the back of the Sanctuary to The Nest

*Elementary students*

9am

- Children attend worship with their parents in the Sanctuary
- During "Passing the Peace" they move to the front pew for the Children's Story
- After the Children's Story, students attend "Kidz Worship"- a Bible time for K-5th graders.
- They are returned to their parents in the Sanctuary before Communion

10:30a-11:30a

- "The Flock" (K—5th grade) meets in the Geneva Room in the Christian Education building
- Children study the Bible, memorize scripture, play games and visit the memory Store
- Follow signs to The Flock

**Jazz Vespers – Sundays, 4:30pm – 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Chapel**

Archie Thompson's Archtones and our pastors lead us in worship with jazz, blues, and gospel, prayers, preaching from the Word of God, and communion.

**FPC Children's Ministry** partners with the **San Diego Rescue Mission** to provide Christmas gifts for the children of their Preschool and Women & Children's program: **Haven of Hope**. Please sign up to provide a gift for a child:

<https://fpcsd.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1504703>

**Christmas Concert, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Sanctuary.**

Westminster Choir presents: Saint-Saens *Christmas Oratorio* & Heather Sorenson's *Carols*. The *Christmas Oratorio* premiered on Christmas 1858. The 10 movement work is an adoring affirmation of the Deity of Christ. Composer Heather Sorenson's *Carol Cantata for Congregation and Choir* was published in 2022 and includes eight carols.

**Christmas Eve Service, Lessons and Carols 5pm, December 24th**

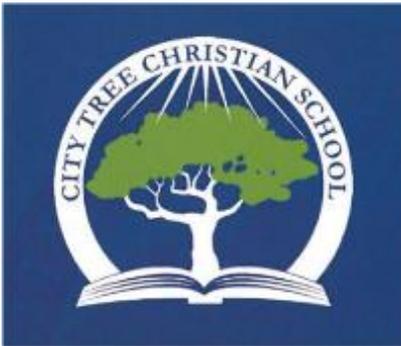
Please join us for our Lessons and Carols Christmas Eve Service. December 24th at 5pm in the Sanctuary.

**Serve at Ladle this Christmas Day:** Give of your love and time to our neighbors this Christmas day at the Ladle Fellowship, serving a meal for the community. Families are invited to serve with children over 10 years old, accompanied by a legal guardian. City Tree parents earn 3 volunteer hours. Sunday, Dec 25th, 1-4pm. Email [john.savidge@fpcsd.org](mailto:john.savidge@fpcsd.org) for more information and to sign up.

## FPC MINISTRIES



Our **FPC Mission Partners** share the good news of God's love with people around the world. Please pray for them throughout the year as they come alongside people in the difficult places where God has called them, in San Diego and beyond. Pray that we will all learn more about what it means to make mission our life's purpose and the purpose of the church. Read about our mission partners and see how you can pray, give, and go where God calls. For more info, contact: [missions@fpcsd.org](mailto:missions@fpcsd.org) or visit us at [www.fpcsd.org/missions](http://www.fpcsd.org/missions)



**City Tree Christian School**, an outreach ministry of First Presbyterian Church of San Diego, is dedicated to academic excellence integrated with the teachings of Jesus Christ found in the Bible. Children will excel academically, be good citizens, and know God when provided educational experiences, needed care and protection in a loving Christian environment. Founded in 1976, City Tree began as a preschool and has grown to now serve infants through 8th grade. [www.citytree.org](http://www.citytree.org)



## LADLE FELLOWSHIP

**Ladle Fellowship**, a ministry of FPC since 1983, now *Beyond a Soup Kitchen*, lovingly addresses the needs of the poor and those experiencing homelessness. We serve meals and provide clothing for those in need on Sundays at 2:00pm and Wednesdays at 5:00pm. Our San Diego Street Choir rehearses each week and our medical ministry, Street Corner Care, provides medical care for the poor and individuals suffering on the streets. We have partnered with "Walk With Me" – a new approach to mentoring our vulnerable neighbors experiencing homelessness through the gift of friendship. [www.ladlefellowship.org](http://www.ladlefellowship.org)