

* Confession of Sin Dr. Randy Kirby
**God of Advent hope,
You took on flesh and came into the world
for such a time as this,
yet we do not trust your timing.
We rush through the joy of your birth
and hurry to exact our will on your world.
We struggle to wait, and watch, and listen.
Slow us down. Quiet our hearts.
Help us to be still and know that you are God.
Amen**

* Assurance of Forgiveness

* Musical Response
Angels We Have Heard on High
words and music by Chris Tomlin | James Chadwick

Children's Message Rev. Lara Musser Gritter

Scripture: Matthew 26:36-38

Scripture: Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:17-19

Sermon Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

* Affirmation of Faith
The Apostles' Creed
**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right
hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he
shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Announcements & Celebrations

Offertory *Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song)*
words and music by Amy Grant | Chris Eaton

* Doxology *Doxology (BRING A TORCH)*
words by Thomas Ken & Ken Bible | music from a French melody |
arr. John Stafford

Sacrament of Holy Communion
Invitation to the Lord's Table
Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Communion of the People
**"The body of Christ, given for you."
"The blood of Christ, shed for you."**

Music during Communion
While We Are Waiting, Come
words by Claire Cloninger | music by Don Cason
You are invited to sing as Communion is served.

* Prayer after Communion

* Song *Even So Come (Come, Lord Jesus)*
words and music by Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Jess Cates

* Benediction

Postlude

*Those who are able are invited to stand.
Bold indicates words spoken in unison.

**The flowers today are given to the glory of God
and in memory of their dear mothers,
Jennie Norman and Ruth Thabet,
by Jim and Barbara Norman**

Joys and Concerns this week:

Steve and Donna Ashley, Bob Cook, David Potts, Sue Hayworth,
Acey Worthy

Vaughn and Eva Nelson on the birth of their granddaughter,
Whitley Clare Schappel, on November 17. Whitley's parents are
Matt and Erika Nelson Schappel

Continuing Concerns:

Myrna Crocker, Lois Boyd (Ellie Grover's mother), Maria Hudson,
Jan Kichefski, Rocky Mead (Chris Mead's father), Tom Overcash,
Mike Purser (Kathy Sanborn's brother), Sharon Whittington

Church Life

Actors Needed - Actors for "Christmas On Church Street" are
needed for the following parts: Angels & Shepherds (adults &
older youth for both roles), and sheep (young children). It will not
be necessary to learn any dialogue, and costumes will be
provided. **Wednesday, November 30, is the last day to let
David Carmichael know if you would like to help with this
project at jdcarmichael2@gmail.com** or 704-640-4417.

JOY (Just Older Youth) Christmas Celebration Sunday,
December 11, 4:00-6:00 at The Gables at Kepley Farm clubhouse,
210 River Birch Drive. Christmas Casual. Bring a large appetizer
(finger food) to share and adult beverages (optional). JOY will
provide other beverages. RSVP to the church office by December
8 and indicate if you need a ride. (It is a ten-minute drive from
the Church.)

New Swing set for Overton – Thank you, thank you, thank you
to one and all. We surpassed our goal! Soon Overton will have new
swings for special needs children!

New Sunday School Class – Are you looking for a Sunday
School class? Outlook is a new discussion-based class meeting
temporarily in the Confirmation classroom upstairs in the
Education Building. The main curriculum for the class will be *The
Presbyterian Outlook*, our denominational magazine, which deals
with current denominational, national, and world issues. Recent
editions have dealt with such topics as life after prison, LGBTQ
issues, and issues related to race. All adults are welcome to join
or visit. The class will be facilitated by Kia Creamer, Trish Dunn,
Barrie Kirby, Jenn Gardner Selby, Kathy Vestal, and other class
members who wish to help lead.

Don't assume we know - Your pastors and congregation want to care for you through prayer, visitation, letters, and more, but we can't do that unless you tell us something is going on. Let us love you.

Commitment Challenge Update
 196 hearts (including 20 commitments from kids & youth!)
 95 hands – \$959,486

We are at 78% of our goal for our cake and ice cream party and
 80% for our goal of at least 120 hands!

This Week's Events		
Nov 27	8:30	Worship – Lewis Hall
	9:15	Advent Gathering
	9:45	Countdown to Christmas
Nov 29	10:00	Staff
Nov 30	7:30	Contemplative Prayer w/Lara
	9:00	Randy's Bible Study
	9:30	Prayer Warriors on Zoom
	5:30	1 st Kids Club
	5:30	Handbells
	7:00	Choir Rehearsal
Dec 1	6:30	LCW Rehearsal

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Advent & Christmas 2022

Advent Gatherings begin on Sunday, November 27 - Our Adult Sunday School classes will take turns providing a lovely breakfast each Advent Sunday from 9:15-10:00 in Fellowship Hall. Many thanks for their hospitality!!!

November 27 – 1st Sunday of Advent
 8:30 & 11:00 – Worship with Communion
 9:15 – Advent Gathering
 9:45 – Countdown to Christmas (No children's SS)

December 4 – 2nd Sunday of Advent
 8:30 & 11:00 – Worship
 9:15 – Advent Gathering
 9:45 – Elementary & Pre-Teen Sunday School
 9:45 – Karl Hales Stories of Christmas

December 11 – 3rd Sunday of Advent
 8:30 & 11:00 – Worship with Lessons & Carols
 9:15 – Advent Gathering
 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages

December 16 – Christmas on Church Street
 6:00-7:00 pm – Walk on Church St to hear the Christ child's story
 7:00-8:00 pm – Gather in Bell Tower Park for singing

December 18 – 4th Sunday of Advent
 8:30 & 11:00 - Worship
 9:15 – Advent Gathering
 9:45 – Happy Birthday Jesus Party (No children's SS)
 5:00 pm – Family Christmas Extravaganza
 Fun, games, fellowship, and dinner!
 A-F: Dessert N-S: Potato/rice side dish
 G-M: Vegetable side dish T-Z: Rolls/bread
 (fried chicken & ham provided)

December 20 - Longest Night Service
 7:00 pm - in Lewis Hall
 A time of reflection, healing, and hope.

December 24 – Christmas Eve
 4:00 pm - Family Christmas Eve Worship Service
 Worship & the Children's Pageant
 Lewis Hall
 9:00 pm – A Service of Candlelight & Communion
 In the Sanctuary
 8:30 pm – Prelude begins

December 25 – Christmas Day
 11:00 - Unified Worship & Hymn Sing
 (No Sunday School Classes)

First Presbyterian Church

November 27, 2022

8:30 am

1st Sunday of Advent



Missional Priorities

Spirit-Centered Discipleship	Friendship Across Difference
Hands-on Local Mission	Embracing the Unchurched

Worship of the Living God

Prelude

Welcome

Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

* Lighting of the Advent Candle
 Jared, Meredith, Teague, & Dempsey Rowland

Let us pray:

**Lord as we look to the birth of Jesus,
 grant that the light of your love for us
 will help us to become lights in the lives
 of those around us.**

**Prepare our hearts for the joy and gladness of your
 coming, for Jesus is our hope. Amen.**

* Song *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*
 with *Sooth Our Weary Souls*
 words and music by Charles Wesley | Rowland Prichard | Toby Baxley