

Morning Worship Service
Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018

11:00 A.M.

Being called to wait in faith means doing neither more or less than we are called to do. Faithful waiting requires a proper balance of preparation and trust.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Marshall McDonald & Steven Nelson

INTROIT *Angels We Have Heard on High* arr. Julian Wachner

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Gather around, you are welcome here, and you will hear Good News.

People: In a world where there are so many discouraging and negative voices it is the God of encouragement who will speak to us today. The God of Jesus Christ.

Leader: So come in, relax, let your tiredness roll away. Lift up your hearts, and listen.

* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 38 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE
Bryan, Amy, Annelise & Alice Fagan

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: The Psalmist declares that God who creates us- God who loves us, God who redeems us- searches us and knows us completely. Before a word is on our tongues, God knows it completely. And we are assured that there is nowhere we go that is separated from the presence of God. Let us now pray our prayer of confession and then hear the words of Pardon together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We have locked ourselves out, O God. Each of us, in our own way, has locked ourselves out of relationships, has locked ourselves out of opportunities, has locked ourselves out of our true home, because we are too arrogant, or too stubborn, or simply too human. We have filled our lives and our world with darkness and death, because we have, all too often, put our own judgment and desires over yours. We are lost, in need of light and hope and joy. Come, Lord Jesus; forgive us and restore us. Come, Lord Jesus; guide us and deliver us. Come, Lord Jesus; teach us and renew us. Come, Lord Jesus. (Silent prayers) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God, our kind and loving Savior God, has stepped in and saved us.

People: God gave us a good bath, and we came out of it new people, washed inside and out by the Holy Spirit. Our Savior Jesus poured out new life so generously. God's gift has restored our relationship with God and given us back our lives.

Leader: And there's more life to come—an eternity of life! Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE – No. 579 “Gloria Patri”
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM *He Is Born!* arr. Dan Forrest

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 2:17-18 (NT) pg. 58

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON **Wonder** Rev. Dr. Olin McBride

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 37 *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “The Apostles’ Creed”

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the 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 arose 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.

PASTORAL PRAYER FOR THE ADVENT SEASON

THE 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. Amen.

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY *People Look East, the Time is Near* Dale Wood

*DOXOLOGY No. 592
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord of our life, the path to you is straight, yet we waiver in our behavior like the Pharisees and Sadducees. Our hopes and dreams often are self-serving and materialistic. We rush through this season buying gifts that we hope will convey just the right message. However, you invite us to ask ourselves if we are equally as busy preparing messages that proclaim the Good News to a hurting world. Through giving, remind us again, O God, of the baptismal covenant. This Advent, may we proclaim a message that is exemplified by our generosity, our kindness, and our prayers. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN No. 53 *What Child Is This*

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* Wilbur Held

*Congregation standing as able.

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP AND WORK

SUNDAY

9:45 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship Service
5:30 P.M. Youth Christmas Party @ The Gratzs

MONDAY

8:30 A.M. Preschool & Kindergarten
2:00 P.M. Prayer Partners
4:30 P.M. Mah Jongg/Rec Room
5:30 P.M. Administrative, Christian Education, Outreach/Mission Property & Grounds Committee Meetings
7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts

TUESDAY

8:30 A.M. Preschool & Kindergarten
9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi Chih
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
11:00 A.M. Mary & Martha's Bible Study
Noon Circle 4/ Sheffield Class room
7:00 P.M. A.A. 12 & 12. Alanon

WEDNESDAY

8:30 A.M. Preschool & Kindergarten
5:05 P.M. Handbells
5:30 P.M. Supper in Fellowship Hall
6:15 P.M. Joy Gift Program
7:05 P.M. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY

7:30 A.M. Men's Breakfast (Holiday Inn)
8:30 A.M. Preschool & Kindergarten

FRIDAY

8:30 A.M. Preschool & Kindergarten
12:00 Noon A.A. 12& 12 Group Meeting

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Are you looking for a church home? After worship an elder will stand at the baptismal font at the front of the sanctuary to provide information.

Leading Worship Today: Rev. Dr. Olin McBride; Liturgist Virginia Toliver; Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris, Kristen Whitten, Cello
Ushers: Sarah Helen & Ana Morgan Beckham, Leslie & Olivia Hastings, Jim Ingram, George White
Elder at the front of the sanctuary: Richard Hastings
Greeting: Dan & Frances Brasfield

The Flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God by Judy Griffie.

The Ribbons on the wreaths on the front door are in memory of Wilson Reeder.

Christian Sympathy is extended to Jim and Olin McBride on the death of her mother, Maxine Dunn, December 1.

Christian Sympathy is extended to Sarra and Mac Godwin on the death of her father, Allan Cooney, December 3.

Nursery Care is available for newborns through 4- years-olds. Please ask an usher for directions to the nursery if you are visiting for the first time.

After the children's sermon, pre-kindergarteners through second graders are invited to attend "**Wee Kirk**" with Heather Crotwell in our Extended Session room (very end of hall from nursery). This is a time of age appropriate lessons, songs, and games intended to prepare our children to fully participate in worship. However, all children are welcome in worship! If you excuse yourself and your child, you can hear the service over speakers in McFadden Hall (directly behind the Sanctuary).

Ritual of Friendship – Members and Visitors: Please sign the black attendance register every Sunday and pass it down your pew. Please read the names, greet one another, and meet new members and visitors.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

As a courtesy to those around you, kindly turn off or silence cell phones and personal communication devices.

Sermons are available by Podcast at www.firstprestupelo.org/podcast

Compact Discs of the service are available through the church office.

TV Broadcast of the service is the following week on Christian Network Television at 9:00 a.m. Sunday; and at 8:00 p.m. Monday on Channel 4 Comcast, Channel 49 Dish and antennae, and Channel 20 MaxSouth. Service is live streaming on youtube.com search *first pres tupelo*

Large print bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers. They also have devices to amplify the service.

PRAYERS

Cancer Treatments: Aimee McDonald Burrow, Julie Seiler, Judy Armentrout, Thaine Batte, Becky Franklin, Leslie Geoghegan

Homebound: Mary Evelyn Loden, Virginia Mills, Flo Shultz

College Students: Caroline Burleson, Jackson Caldwell, Mamie Clark

We care about you as we care about each other. If you would like to submit a prayer request, you may use the blue cards in the pews or in McFadden Hall.

UPCOMING EVENTS

“Young Adult” Christmas Party -None of us really know what a Young Adult is, but if you think you are one and would like to join us for our Christmas party, we'd love to have you! You are invited to the home of Bryan and Amy Fagan (1531 Sunflower Circle) tonight at 6:30 p.m.! Bring a "White Elephant" gift to swap and BYOBeverage!

WEDNESDAY SUPPER December 12 at 5:30 p.m. Baked Italian Spaghetti, Pizza, Chicken Tenders, Green Beans, Corn Pudding Spoon Casserole, Tater Tots, Turnip Green Casserole, Full Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Congealed Salad, Rolls, Assorted Desserts **Use the form on the Attendance Register**, the web site, or call the Church Office at 842-5681 by noon **Tuesday** for reservations or cancellations. **Reservations required.**

Christmas Party for College Students -Our College Students are almost home for Christmas which means we need a party! The Burlesons will host our College Students Sunday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and fellowship! We hope your college student can make it!

Keep Tupelo Warm! Please join First Presbyterian Women's Ministry in helping to keep our neighbors warm during the cold days of winter. Please bring warm mittens, scarves, gloves, and hats to place on the Christmas tree in the breezeway. These items will be distributed to local schools and our neighbors at Saint's Brew and Tree of Life Clinic. Thank you for your help in this much needed ministry.

Sparkle Boxes! If your child did not receive a Sparkle Box book on Wednesday night, please take one to share with your family. They are located in the breezeway near the coffee.

FPC has moved to one service at 11:00 a.m. until January 6. Sunday School time will not change. This will allow Olin a bit more recovery time.

The Session

Clerk of the Session, Cindy Faucette

Class of 2019

Doyce Deas
Lori Dickerson
Rick Jones
Jimmy Milam
Lucy Nash
Judy Thomas
Mike Thomas
Rochelle Wallace

Class of 2020

David Carlisle
Vivian Fleming
Julie Gibens
Toni Martin
Rud Robison
Chris Rogers

Class of 2021

Mark Burleson
Sally Kate Collins
Ann Godwin
Richard Hastings
Glenn Thomas
Joel Zimmerman

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Olin McBride, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Ron Richardson, Parish Associate for Pastoral Care

Dr. Bob Taylor, Director of Music

Dr. Ray Harris, Organist

Melissa McDuffie, Interim Youth Director

Heather Crotwell, Children's Church Director

Allison Neal, Communications Director

Danielle Frerer Ratliff, Director of Elementary and Youth Choirs

Nannette Comer, Church Librarian

Margaret Anne Murphey, Music Librarian

Teresa Nichols, Church Secretary

Kay Stanford, Financial Secretary

Sunny Waters, Director of Preschool

Eddie Baker, Maintenance Superintendent

Joyce Richardson, Housekeeper

Rev. M. McCoy Franklin, Pastor Emeritus

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY:

Worship 11:00 - 190

Weekly Budget \$15,418

Offering Amount Received 12-2-18 \$ 19,091

YTD Budgeted Income \$ 897,095

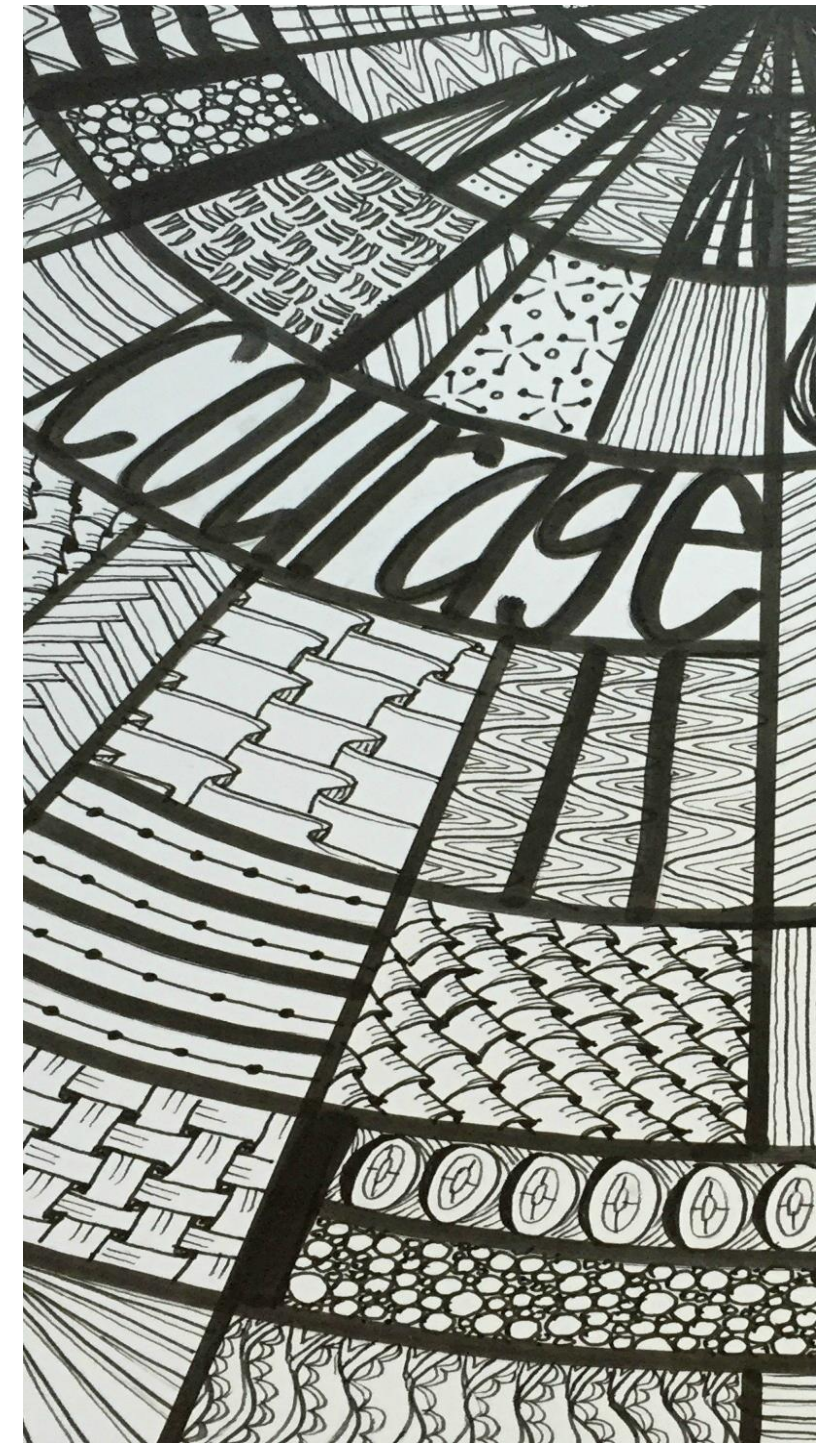
YTD Income Received \$ 781,732

2019 Stewardship Update

123 Pledges Totaling \$ 810,796

If you have not turned in your pledge card, please do so at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your faithfulness.



First Presbyterian Church

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www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurch.tupeloms

