

The First Presbyterian Church *in the City of New York*

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Service for the Lord's Day

November 28th, 2021 | 11:00 a.m.

The Session and members of First Church extend a sincere welcome to all persons regardless of race, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services, and service as an officer of the church.

GATHERING

PRELUDE "Two Preludes on 'Sleepers, Wake!' A Voice Astounds Us" Lionel Rogg
and J.S. Bach

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH Cody and Jenny Bennett

Watch and wait for Christ's coming!
We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.
We light this candle in hope.

Hear God's promise of hope from Isaiah 2:
In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills.

May the God of hope shine in this world.
Let us walk in the light of the Lord.
Let us worship God!

HYMN 82 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" HYFRYDOL
Please stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION based on Psalm 25

To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls.
We put our trust in you, O God.
Teach us your ways, O God and guide us in your paths.
We bring to mind these things for which we are ashamed.

**Forgive us, O God.
Cleanse our hearts and minds of all that prevents us from loving you
and loving our neighbor.
Mark our lives for your service...**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good - will,
to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.
In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day
when your re - newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER AND 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,
the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM

Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from Him who freed us from our sin. Who loved us all, and shed his blood that we might saved be. Sing holy to our Lord, the Lord, almighty God. Who was and is to come; sing holy Lord. Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein. Rejoice on earth, ye saints below. For Christ is coming soon. E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come. And night shall be no more. They need no light, no lamp, nor sun. For Christ will be their All!

—Ruth Manz, based on Revelation 22

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

pew Bible, New Testament page 85/large print, New Testament page 104

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from Philippians 2:5-11

Please stand in body or spirit.

**Christ Jesus,
though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

OFFERTORY

André J. Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh. Children, don't get weary 'til
your work is done. Christian, journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

—African-American spiritual, based upon Matthew 25:1-13

RESPONSE

OLD HUNDERETH

Please stand in body or spirit.



Traditional Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Him, all crea - tures
Inclusive Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple



here be - low; praise Him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host;
here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;



praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.
praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SENDING

HYMN 348

“Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending”

HELMSLEY

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Rhapsody on ‘Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending’”

W.L. Webber

*The congregation is invited to continue worshiping through the postlude,
which is offered as a thanksgiving to God.*

The cross is dedicated in memory of all those who died from AIDS in our church and community.
Our cross-bearer today is Meg Harper.

LEADING THIS MORNING

Hannah Faye Allred, M.Div., *Staff Associate for Mission and Social Justice*

Emma Gritsch, *Seminary Intern*

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Pastor/Head of Staff*

Audrey Webber, M.Div., *Associate for Hospitality and Visual Arts*

The First Church Choir

Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

Welcome to First Church!

We are so glad you are here.

Scan to give your tithe or offering.



Join us for Coffee Fellowship on the North Lawn
after the Postlude to meet one another, say hello
to new faces, and enjoy refreshments.

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