



December 21, 2025
9:00 a.m.



What do
you fear?

WHEN YOU'RE AFRAID,
GIVE ME YOUR HAND

4th Sunday in Advent

This service is being recorded by video and audio means.

*BabySteps (Nursery) is available for infants to children 2 years of age
Kids ages 3-4 meet in Room D prior to the beginning of Worship for KidsQuest
K-5th Graders will be dismissed to KidsQuest during Worship*

~ We Gather ~

Prelude

Emmanuel (God With Us Forever)

Worship Team

CCLI Song # 7044185 Anthony Skinner | Bryan Torwalt | Katie Torwalt | Kyle Lee
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Advent Candle Lighting

Mindy & Peyton Houlihan

Call to Worship

Here in worship –
we pray together,
we stand together,
we sing together,
we listen together.

Here in worship – we are not alone.

So when life gives you reason to grieve, to fear, or to worry, remember this moment.

We are not alone. Let us worship our with-us God.

*We invite you to stand as able.

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; you, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing;
beam a - far; seek the great de - sire of na - tions;
Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
yon - der shines the in - fant light: come and wor - ship,
you have seen his na - tal star:
to the e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king!

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The score consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

Glory (Let There Be Peace)

Verse 1

One star
Burns in the darkness
Shines with the promise Emmanuel
One child
Born in the stillness
Living within us Emmanuel

Verse 2

One voice
Speaks for the voiceless
Hope for the hopeless Emmanuel
One love
Brings us together
Now and forever Emmanuel

CHORUS

4 We're sing-ing Glo ry, Glo ry. Let there

8 be peace. Let there be peace. Sing-ing Glo ry, Glo ry. Let there

be peace. Let it start in me.

The musical notation is for a chorus in 4/4 time. It consists of three staves. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. This is followed by a half note D5, a quarter note E5, and a quarter note F#5. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note G5, a quarter note F#5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note D5, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The third staff continues with a quarter note F#4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, and a quarter note F#3. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Chris Stevens, Matt Maher, Rachel Taylor Popadic CCLI Song #7071972 © Meaux Mercy; Moody Producer Music; Be Essential Songs; I Am A Pilgrim Songs; Rachel Taylor Music
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*Prayer of Confession

Courageous God, you invite us to live into our call. You invite us to act, to serve, and to trust. Instead of responding with a resounding "yes," we often hide our face. We dig our heels in. We look for someone else to volunteer. Spark courage in us. Remind us that every person is capable of making a difference. Remind us that even when we're scared, we are not alone.

(please continue in silent prayer)

*Declaration of Forgiveness

*The Peace

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

Kids grades K-5 are invited to meet at the front of the church to travel to KidsQuest together (in Room D)

~ We Proclaim ~

Prayer for Illumination

Eva Quinley Lynch

Immanuel, we turned off alarm clocks. We poured cups of coffee. We slipped shoes onto our feet and combed back fly-away hairs. We traveled to this room and settled into this space, all in hopes of drawing closer to you. So as we hear your Word read aloud, help us to feel your presence in our midst. For we are reaching out our hands. We are reaching out our hearts. Speak to us now. With hope we pray, amen.

Scripture Readings: Matthew 1:18 ~ 25
Isaiah 41:5 ~ 10

[Pew Bible pg. 1]
[Pew Bible pg. 669]

Sermon

“When You’re Afraid, Give Me Your Hand”

Rev. Matt Nieman

~ We Respond ~

Affirmation of Faith

We have seen the valley. We have seen a sky without stars. We have seen the longest night, and *still* we believe. We believe in a with-us God. We believe in the hope of tomorrow. We believe that good news is louder than fear. We believe this good news is for all people. So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us, we will hold onto that good news. We will reach for each other. We will look for God in our midst. We will sing songs of joy. We will proclaim: *Unto us, love is born*. We have seen the longest night, and we have seen unimaginable love. So *still*, we believe. Amen.

Musical Reflection

My Spirit Rejoices
Worship Team

CCLI Song # 7253091 Andrea Thomas | Andrew Ferguson | Ben Batalla | Greg Boudreaux | Lizzy Boudreaux | Sophie Salopek © 2024 Vigil Publishing

Call for Giving



You can use the QR code to give online or place your offering in the baskets located at the Sanctuary doors. Thank you for your gifts.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.

~ We Go Out Into the World ~

*Closing Song

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

Verse 1

Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With th'angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Verse 2

Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail th'incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Verse 3

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace
Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

*Charge and Benediction

Prayers and liturgy by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Today's Worship Team:

Sandra Bohlken, piano & vocals ~ Charles Needham, bass
LisaKay Matchen, Eva Quinley Lynch, Whitney Sharp, Bruce Wilson, vocals

Ushers ~ Eiffert Family

A/V Team ~ Ken Ladrach, David Long, and Mason Warren

Please use one of the methods below to record your attendance with us today:



Scan this QR code and click on the generated google doc link, or

- Go to <https://tinyurl.com/record-FPC-attendance>, or
- Email the office at office@fpctn.org, or
- Sign the pew attendance pad.



Members

Bob Alexander, Pat Dail, Marilyn Felts, Dean & Lucy Fleming, Frank Guess, Beth & Jimmy Loyless, Ann McAnally, Debby McKinney, Maria Medina, Irma McGuffey, Tami Newsom, Donna Phillips, Jan Seiler

Looking for ways to be involved in Worship?

Sign-up to be an usher, scripture reader, or communion server!

All ages are invited to sign up.

Please go to: <http://tinyurl.com/FPCvolunteerSignUp> and sign up in the appropriate available time slot. If you have any questions, contact Mikie Lancaster, Ken Ladrach, or the church office (865/966-9547).



Farragut
Presbyterian
Church
FPC
LOVE AND LEARN

Pastor.....	Rev. Matthew Nieman
Director of Spiritual Formation.....	Rev. John Sharp
Director of Family Ministries.....	Mason Warren
Director of Music.....	Dr. Angela L. Batey
Associate Director of Music.....	Tami Newsom
Music Leader for Casual Worship and Office Administrator.....	Sandra Porter Bohlken
Bookkeeper.....	Lori Corbett
Treasurer.....	John Begovich
Financial Secretary.....	Tom Koch
Clerk of Session.....	Lisa Gary

209 Jamestowne Blvd. ~ Farragut, TN 37934
865/966-9547 ~ www.fpctn.org



<http://tinyurl.com/FPCe-giving>

WHAT'S HAPPENING...

WEEK OF
DECEMBER 21. 2025

Our Advent and Christmas theme this year is provided by



*What do
you fear?*
INSISTING ON HOPE THIS ADVENT

A Sanctified Art

Join us Sundays as we travel through this
season of hope together.

You may also use the Advent devotional link.

Graphic design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | Photography by
Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONAL

Our friends at A Sanctified Art have provided a special
e-reader version of this year's Advent devotional, which
you can access on your computer and mobile devices:

online.flippingbook.com/view/361593675/

In order to protect their work, please refrain from sharing
this link or posting it on social media.

If you prefer a printed copy, please let the church office
know, and we can print one for you.

Christmas Service of Worship and Remembrance

Christmas is often difficult for people grieving loss this time of year—loss of a loved one, loss of a
relationship, loss of employment, or even loss of good health. Join us for a special, quieter service of

Christmas joy on

Tuesday, December 23, at 4:00pm in Room A.

We will light candles, read scripture, and sing together—all the while seeking God's healing grace and the
assurance that God Incarnate is with us even as we grieve.

All are welcome.

Christmas Eve Services

Candlelight Casual Worship Service with Communion

Special Music beginning at 2:30 p.m.

Worship begins at 3:00 p.m.

Candlelight Traditional Worship Service with Communion

Begins at 7:00 p.m.

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

One worship service next Sunday, December 28 at 10:00 a.m.

2025 Year-End Giving Reminders

1. To be counted as a 2025 contribution:

- Checks or cash must be received at FPC or mailed items postmarked by 12/31/25.
- Donations by credit card are deductible in the year the donor makes the charge (transaction posting date).
- ACH, EFT, stock transfers or other online donations are deductible in the year the bank transfers the stock or funds to FPC. Please make sure your online giving is initiated by Friday, Dec. 26th in time for the transaction to post on Wed., Dec. 31, 2025. The donation confirmation page on our website will confirm the date your account is debited for online giving transactions.

2. Don't file your 2025 tax return before receiving your FPC 2025 year-end giving statement, so that you have IRS-compliant documentation of any gifts of cash or checks to FPC that are \$250 or more.

3. Year-end donation statements will be mailed and emailed by Jan 31st, 2026.

CHILDREN.YOUTH & FAMILIES

We would like to thank everyone who helped make this past Sunday's Advent Gift-Making Workshop such a success. From the families who joined us to the dedicated volunteers who made it all possible, your time and support truly made a difference.

A very special thank you to Cheyanne Feldhausen for her hard work organizing the event, and to Jeanie Oakley for serving as our volunteer coordinator this year. To all of our volunteers, thank you for being part of what has become a wonderful Advent tradition here at FPC. We are deeply grateful!



VMC

Thank you to all who served at the Volunteer Ministry Center throughout 2025! Pictured are our December volunteers from the Men's Bible Study.

L to R: Scott McKinney, Matt Nieman, Wayne Walls, Thom Haig, Kirk Morris

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE - THANK YOU

Sunset Gap

Delivery crew pictured from L to R:

Steve & Jan Darnell, Carol & Greg Kraft, Kathy Emmerson, Kimberly & Earl Platt, MaryAnne Walls, David & Debbie Long, Kelly Schueler

Thank you to all who joined in Presbyterian women's drive for warm hats, mittens, and scarves for the residents in the Sunset Gap community. Your generosity will be appreciated in the gift of warmth this winter.

A big thank you to all who participated in this year's Christmas drive for 40 children in Cocke Co. You have truly made a difference and will bring so much joy to them this year. This congregation's generosity is amazing! Thank you also to all of the volunteers who have helped in the drive, sorting/bagging and delivering to Sunset Gap. The gift of your time is truly appreciated.



SPIRITUAL FORMATION

SAVE THE DATE

NEW CLASS IN THE NEW YEAR

We're launching a new time of fellowship and learning on Thursday, January 15.

We're calling it "Lunch and Learn." We'll gather for lunch together at 11:30 at the church (in Room A or the narthex) and follow our meal and fellowship with a short study of some of the giants of our faith. St. Augustine, C.S. Lewis, Thomas Merton, Henri Nouwen, and so many other famous scholars, pastors, and writers have so much to say about faith and God's place in the world. Matt Nieman and John Sharp will lead these brief discussions on these well-known figures and their ideas that have shaped our faith. We'll limit our time to around an hour to make room for the other activities of our day, but hope you'll be able to join other members of our community in a time of relationship-strengthening and learning. The meal will be catered, and the cost is only \$10 per person.

You can sign up at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/FPCLunchandLearn> or, you can sign up in the narthex on Sunday mornings.



This Week at FPC

Sun, Dec 21

9am Casual Worship Service/Sanctuary
10am Soul Cafe/Narthex
Pastor Matt's Class/Library
KidStart/Room D
YouthQuest/Youth Rm
11am Traditional Worship Service/Sanctuary
12pm Nibbles in the Narthex

Mon, Dec 22

10am Chair Yoga/Narthex

Tues, Dec 23

4pm Christmas Service of
Worship & Remembrance/Room A

Wed, Dec 24

Office Closes at Noon
2:30pm Special Music before Worship/Sanctuary
3pm Casual Christmas Eve Worship/Sanctuary
7pm Traditional Christmas Eve Worship/Sanctuary

Thurs, Dec 25

OFFICE CLOSED

Fri, Dec 26

OFFICE CLOSED