



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of Sumter

November 27, 2022



Hope.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Away in a Manger

Setting by Douglas E. Wagner

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

Dan Spencer

* LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

Barry Gholson and John Dunn

Leader: Advent is upon us, a season of wondering, watching, and waiting.
We look for signs of God's presence around us, waiting for God to come in new ways.

People: We wait with hope, peace, joy, and love during this holy season.

Leader: This morning we light the Advent candle of hope. And we pray that our faithful God, whose promises stand unshaken through all generations, would renew us in hope. May we be awake and alert, watching for the glorious return of Jesus Christ.

People: Renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love.

Leader: Wait with expectant hearts for the coming of the Lord!

* HYMN 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

CALL TO CONFESSION

This is the time for us to wake from sleep; salvation is near to us. We have sinned, not one of us is clean; but there is mercy for all who call on the name of the Lord. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful Lord, you have entrusted us with your creation and commanded us to keep watch. But our eyes have become heavy, and our weary bodies ache. We fall asleep and slumber through the hurt of our world. We turn from your will because we don't want to give up our own control and comfort. Sometimes we opt to serve ourselves rather than others. Forgive us. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Help us to live out the hope you have given us in Jesus Christ. Awaken us to joyful obedience and to the expectation of your glorious return. We bring our needs to you in prayer.

(Silence for Personal Confession)

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, hear the good news. Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Know this day that you are forgiven and be at peace.

People: Thanks be to God! May we pray without ceasing, and may we seek the Lord in all things.

* GLORIA PATRI 113

GLORIA

(Congregation) Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jesus Loves Me!

Flury Wilson

(Children come forward during singing.)

Following the Children's Moment, children preschool through 2nd grade are invited to Children in Worship. Parents can pick up their children from the third floor after worship.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 2:2-4

Riley Berger

(Pew Bible, pg. 631, Old Testament)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 24:36-44

Flury Wilson

(Pew Bible, pg. 27, New Testament)

SERMON

"No One Knows"

Flury Wilson

* **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.

* **HYMN** 92

While We Are Waiting, Come

WAITING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Call to Giving

Offertory Anthem

Christ, Be Our Light!

Setting by Joel Raney

Choir and John Michael Osteen, Baritone Solo

* **Song of Dedication**

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

*What can I give Him, Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a Lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him: Give my heart.*

* **Offertory Prayer**

* **HYMN** 88 (V. 1 and 6)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

* **BENEDICTION**

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

VENI EMMANUEL

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying

Arr. by Benton Price

* **Please stand as you are able**

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We welcome Flury Wilson to our pulpit this morning. She is a 1993 graduate of Winthrop University with a major in Elementary Education. While teaching, she furthered her studies and earned a Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Nova Southeastern, and a Specialist and Doctorate Degree from South Carolina State University. Flury also earned a Master of Divinity at Union Presbyterian Seminary. Flury is a member of Friendship Presbyterian Church, USA. She is married to Darren G. Wilson and resides in Clarendon County with their five children: Olivia, Flury Dariann, Alicia, Isaiah, and Darren, Jr. We thank her for leading us in worship and proclaiming the gospel today.

WELCOME!

We especially welcome those of you who are guests today. We invite you to fill out a Welcome card found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate as it is passed. We look forward to meeting you. If you have particular questions, please speak to Rev. Brearley.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Elders: Dan Spencer, Glenn Woodrum
Assisting in Worship: Dan Spencer
Deacons: Gary Bratton, Virginia Hutchens
Youth Liturgist: Riley Berger
Jr. Ushers: Harry Berger, Caroline Thames

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Ann Geddings, Gus Blum
Assisting in Worship: Ann Geddings
Deacons: Jim Alexander, Suzanne Wates
Youth Liturgist: John Land
Jr. Usher: Millie Davis

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE

Advent Devotionals are available from tables outside the sanctuary and church office. These were written by Rev. Kate Buckley, daughter of Mary Ann and Bob Brearley.

HELP AN ANGEL FLY

Angels are now available for pickup on tables inside the Fellowship Hall. When choosing an angel, please remember to sign the sheets provided. Wrapped gifts must be returned to the church no later than **Monday, December 12**. Please be sure to tape the angel to the top of the wrapped gift. Gift cards should be enclosed in a sealed Christmas card envelope with the angel taped to the top of the envelope. Please do NOT wrap gift cards as a present. There is a special box in the Fellowship Hall for gift card envelopes.

IT'S TIME TO ORDER POINSETTIAS

First Presbyterian will again decorate the Sanctuary with poinsettias this year. Order forms can be found outside the church office. All orders must be received no later than **Thursday, December 1**. Please note that no phone orders will be accepted.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PROCESSING CENTER

This year our church has signed up to bring volunteers to the Processing Center in Charlotte. We will go on Saturday, Dec 3rd, working from 2:00-6:00 PM. Transportation is being coordinated unless you want to travel independently. A sign-up sheet is on a clipboard outside the church office. Please call Karen Ingram (803-983-6299) or Ashley Blum (803-847-4406) with any questions.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Wednesday, December 7

We will meet at the West Building and leave at 3:45 pm. to start our singing at Covenant Place at 4 p.m. We will then return to the West Building to have a light meal and then go in designated groups to homes of church members who could use some Christmas cheer. A light dinner will be provided and hot chocolate and apple cider and yummy sweet treats will await our returning carolers.

ONLINE GIVING



Online giving can be accessed from the FPC website, fpcsumter.org (press the red "Give" button), also from your mobile device (text FPCS to 73256). Follow the online instructions. You can also give online by using the QR code and your smartphone. Just hover over the QR code with the camera or scanner on your smartphone or tablet and click on the link that appears.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Home: Milo Abbott (Grandson of Norma Abbott), Wanda Casker,
Priscilla Dickey, Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Marie Mills on the death of her sister, Melissa Ridgeway, who died November 20.