



FOUNTAIN CITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2025 | 10:30 A.M.

PRELUDE

WORD OF WELCOME

Rev. Susan Balfour

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

The Snow Family

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Psalm 122 & Isaiah 2

Jack Thomas

Liturgist: I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

All: **Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,**

Liturgist: that we may learn God’s ways and walk in God’s paths.
Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

All: **Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!**

*HYMN

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Glory to God Hymnal #106

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

Please sign and pass the friendship register located on the center aisle under the pew in front.

CALL TO CONFESSION

from Romans 13

Jack Thomas

Liturgist: You know what time it is:

All: **Now is the time to wake from sleep.**

Liturgist: Salvation is near!

All: **Let us confess our sin.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

from Romans 13

All: **God of night and day,
there is no shadow that can conceal our sin from you
and no secret that you will not bring to light.**

**For our reveling and drunkenness,
forgive us, O God.**

**For our debauchery and licentiousness,
forgive us, O God.**

**For our quarreling and jealousy,
forgive us, O God.**

**O God, forgive us our sins,
renew us in love,
and teach us to live in a way
that brings honor and glory to your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Rev. Susan Balfour

Minister: Beloved, in our baptism we were bathed in light and clothed with grace. Therefore, put on the Lord Jesus Christ! Know that we are forgiven and live in peace.

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory to God Hymnal #582

All: **Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

PASSING THE PEACE

Jack Thomas

Liturgist: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

ANTHEM

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Helmores/Parker/Shaw

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.*

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

*O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.*

*O come, Thou Key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.*

FAITHFUL FRIENDS

Children ages 5 through 8 are invited to children's worship.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: **O God of our people and Lord of every nation, let your Word ring out from the mountains and your Spirit shine forth in the earth, so that all may hear your teaching and all may do your will; through Jesus Christ our peace. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Minister: The Word of the Lord

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14

All: **Thanks be to God**

Matthew 24:36-44

SERMON

"Keep Awake"

The Rev. Susan Balfour

*HYMN

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Glory to God Hymnal #582

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Ecumenical Apostles Creed

All: **I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended to the dead; the third day He rose again; he ascended into heaven, and he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; 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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Ecumenical Version

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, and we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Christmas Joy Offering

Jack Thomas

CALL FOR OFFERING

from Isaiah 2 & Psalm 122

Jack Thomas

Liturgist: Come with gratitude and joy to the table of the Lord. Bring the works of your hands and the gifts of your lives as an offering of praise.

OFFERTORY

Forest Green

Traditional | Arr. Leatherman

*DOXOLOGY

Glory to God Hymnal #606

All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

from Psalm 122

All: We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have built us up in faith and bound us together in love. By your grace, may all that we do show the glory of your name and serve the good of your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN

While We Are Waiting, Come

Glory to God Hymnal #92

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION

All: Make us one, Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let Your love flow so the world will know, we are one in You.

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist Jack Thomas
Greeters Brett Miller, Susan Espiritu
Ushers FCPC Youth
Music FCPC Chancel Choir
Tech Team Mac Holland, Thomas Rader, Brett Miller, Debbie Hawkins
Faithful Friends (Children's Worship) Susan Espiritu, April Lamb
Nursery Laurismar Wrinkle, Laura Marquez

OUR CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor The Rev. Susan Balfour
Church Administrator Ashton Hicks
Director of Music Bob Eubanks
Accompanist Nancy Wells
Nursery Staff Laura Marquez & Laurismar Wrinkle

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we prepare the way for the leaders of our Church—past present, and future. 50% of our gifts soothe the path for current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need. 50% of your gifts prepare students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Learn more by scanning the QR code below.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sanctuary Flowers this week are given to the glory of God in honor of Darlene Miller, Debbie Hawkins, Dan & Paula Rhea and everyone who worked to prepare our sanctuary for Advent.

Women of Hope will begin a new Bible study for Advent. They meet every Tuesday at 10:00 AM in the library. Contact Susan Espiritu if you have any questions.

Free Community Pancake Breakfast: Join us for pancakes on Saturday, December 6th at 8:00 AM before the Fountain City Christmas parade until 10:30 AM. Come eat before, during or after the parade and as always, invite a friend!

Advent & Christmas Cantata: Each year the Fountain City Presbyterian Church Chancel choir presents a selection of beautiful music to ring in the Christmas season. Join us on the Second Sunday of Advent, December 7th at 10:30 AM for this musical celebration.

Christmas Cookie Swap: Join us for a sweet time of holiday cheer after church on Sunday, December 7th! Bring a batch of your favorite homemade Christmas cookies or desserts to share and leave with a delicious assortment of treats from others. It's a fun way to celebrate the season and enjoy some festive fellowship. Signup by scanning the QR code above.

Women's Fellowship: Please join us at 1:00 PM, after the cookie swap on December 7th for snacks, great conversation, hysterical trivia and just general relaxation before the "crazy season " starts.

Longest Night Service: For many, the holidays can be difficult. This year FCPC will offer a Longest Night service on Sunday, December 21 at 4:00 PM. Come experience the love of God during the coldest and darkest time of year.

Yuletide Tales and Treats: Join us on December 19 from 6-8 PM in the Fellowship Hall for a festive, fun-filled evening geared toward kids and presented by our Youth. Come dressed in your comfiest pajamas and enjoy a night of games, singing, pizza, and the heartwarming story of Jesus. It's the perfect way to celebrate the season with good times and great company!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will take place on Wednesday, December 24th at 5:30 PM. This year FCPC will offer one service designed for all ages- O come, all ye faithful!

JARZHEIT

12/5/84 Donald Hileman, 12/1/95 Golda Austin, 12/1/05 Charlie Cowan

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

12/1 Barbara Smith-Manis, 12/6 Sue Wheeler, 12/3 Brett & Amy Nutter

