

PRELUDE

WORD OF WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

One: What brings you joy?

All: **We wait for good news of great joy for all people**

One: What kind of news are you waiting for?

All: **A Savior will arrive who is Christ the Lord**

One: How will you know this Savior?

All: **His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace!**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dan Rhea

Leader: Rejoice, Daughter Zion! Shout, O Israel!

All: **The LORD has removed our judgment and has turned away our enemy!**

Leader: The LORD our God is in our midst, a warrior bringing victory!

All: **God will create calm with love and rejoice over us with singing!**

***HYMN**

Rejoice, the Lord is King

Hymnal #370 (Verses 1 & 3)

Verse 1: Rejoice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing, And triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Verse 3: His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n:
Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

Dan Rhea

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dan Rhea

Leader: Once we were under a death sentence because of the things we did wrong and our offenses against God. But God is rich in mercy, so let us talk with God and confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: **Holy God, there's a distance between us and You that we created. We neglect You, disregard You, even disrespect You by what we do and say. Our straying harms us and those around us. When we really turn to You, Jesus is there to deal with all of that awful, detestable stuff. How amazing that His death rescues us from that old way of so-called living, and that His life gives us all we need to start new and fresh! Help us to know this joy once again, for we pray in the Name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, AMEN.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Dan Rhea

Leader: You are saved by God's grace because of your faith. This salvation is God's gift. It is not something you did that you can be proud of. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***GLORIA PATRI**

All: **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.**

PASSING THE PEACE

Dan Rhea

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
All: **And also with you.**

ANTHEM

Glory to God

Martin/Hayes

*God took the corners of the sky and shook it with His might.
A thousand stars came tumbling down and spilled into the night.
Like diamonds on a velvet cloth they shimmered in the height.
The angels could not help but sing God's praises at the sight.*

*Gloria, Gloria, glory to God! Glory to God on High!
Gloria, Gloria, glory to God! A Child is born tonight!
Peace on earth, Good will to all! Hear the news we bring!
Gloria, Gloria, glory to God. Let earth receive her King!*

*The voices of the angels sang to herald Jesus' birth.
The music danced across the stars and hung above the earth.
God shook the heavens once again; the song began to ring
like bells across the mountains and valleys in between.*

*Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Gloria
in excelsis Deo! Gloria! Gloria! We sing Gloria!*

FAITHFUL FRIENDS

Children ages 5 through 8th grade are dismissed at this time for children's worship.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:46-56

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

SERMON

"Magnificat"

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

***HYMN**

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

Hymnal #754

Verse 1: Lo! He comes, with clouds descending, once for favored sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! God appears on earth to reign.

Verse 2: Now the Savior, long expected, see in solemn pomp appear!
And His saints, by man rejected, now shall meet Him in the air.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! See the day of God appear!

Verse 3: Yes, amen! Let all adore Thee, high on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory, claim the kingdom for Thine own;
O come quickly! O come quickly! Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.*

CALL FOR OFFERING

Dan Rhea

Leader: Let us thank God with our offerings.

OFFERTORY

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Arr. Wagner

*DOXOLOGY

The Old Hundredth

All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

*HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hymnal #244

Verse 1: Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;
dear Desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Verse 2: Born Thy people to deliver, born a Child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

*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.....Dan Rhea
Greeters.....Nancy & David Noel
Ushers.....Denna & Don Grogan, Dana & Mike Lamb
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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sanctuary Flowers this week are given in honor of Joe Ben Willson's quiet ministry serving others with humility and grace, focusing on the needs of individuals without seeking recognition or acclaim. His exemplifies the belief that true service comes from the heart, often working behind the scenes to uplift others and nurture their spiritual journeys.

2025 Stewardship Campaign Update: The Seeds of the Spirit are surely blooming here at FCPC! Thanks to your generosity, we have exceeded last year's pledge totals. If you have not been able to submit a pledge card, you may still fill one out and submit it to the church office or visit the stewardship page on our website.

Sleeping Bag Donations Needed: With the drop in temperatures, many of our neighbors experiencing homelessness are exposed to the conditions without shelter. Consider donating your old sleeping bag- in good condition to help warm our neighbors in need. Donations may be brought to FCPC or by contacting Tony Mosley.

Christmas Cookie Swap: Join us for a sweet time of holiday cheer after church! Hopefully, you brought a batch of your favorite homemade Christmas cookies or desserts to share, and are ready to leave with a delicious assortment of treats.

Christmas Eve at FCPC: We will offer two services at 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm. Our 5:30 service will be geared toward the youngest members of our congregation with the telling of the story of Jesus and carol singing. The 7:00 service is our traditional candlelight service. We hope that you and your family will join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Finance Committee will meet this Tuesday at 6:00 PM.

The Davis Center Christmas Program will take place on Wednesday, December 18th in the sanctuary.

JAHRZEIT

May their memory be for a blessing

12/15/80 George Ogden, 12/20/80 Sam Godsey, 12/16/81 Frank Ogden, 12/16/87 Jenna deVente,
12/19/89 Edward Reeverts, 12/17/90 Mary Watkins, 12/16/91 William Blair, 12/21/09 Ruth Wallace,
12/17/10 Dick Johnson, 12/15/23 Wendell Wyrick

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

11/15 Laurismar Wrinkle, 12/18 Daniel Bales, 12/19 Ralph Hickman, 12/19 Roxie Williams, 12/20 Karen Riehl



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Our Clergy and Staff

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Ashton Hicks, *Office Administrator*
Bob Eubanks, *Choir Director*
George Hill, *Organist*
Nancy Wells, *Pianist*