



First Presbyterian
Church | Kerrville



December 3, 2023
Communion Sunday
First Sunday of Advent
Sermon Series: "Fully Divine, Fully Human"

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! Please fill out the black Friendship Pad located on the pew so that we might welcome you to our FPC community.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

PRELUDE

Divinum Mysterium

Richard Purvis

†CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to light the first candle of Advent.

We kindle this light with hope, affirming how God breathed life into us from the beginning, made us wonderfully in God's own image, and called this world and us good.

Friends, what do you hope for?

We hope for a world where there is enough food for everyone.

We hope for a world where strangers become friends.

We hope for a world where love is more real than hatred.

We hope for a world where God's grace breaks through the pain we cause one another, offering us a community to belong.

On this first Sunday in Advent, we will dream and proclaim a different future that is emerging and flourishing, for we are witnesses to hope.

†HYMN 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

CALL TO CONFESSION

As we await the birth of Christ, let us keep alert and open our hearts with profound vulnerability and hope. We recognize that we have sinned, but also believe that there is mercy for those who call on the name of the Lord. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins. Together, we pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Restore us, O God of hosts.

Let your face shine so that we may be saved.

Save us, O Lord, from traps of our own creating:

from fear that blocks the way of love,

from worry that blocks the way to joy,

from the isolation that blocks the way of relationship,

from structural injustices that keep the world bound.

Forgive us, O God of hosts,

until the stars fall from heaven

and we live as people transformed.

Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain is made low.

Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

This is the good news of the gospel!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God! Amen.

†RESPONSE

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Hymn 113

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN (11:00)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 139:13-18 pg. 503 O.T.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 1:26-38 pg. 831 N.T.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON A Vulnerable God Jasiel Hernandez Garcia

SILENT REFLECTION

†HYMN 92 While We Are Waiting, Come

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY Amid the Cold of Winter Rhoades

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.**

BREAKING AND POURING

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

†HYMN 100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*You may remain seated and enjoy the postlude or politely exit and
visit with friends in the Narthex.*

POSTLUDE Toccata on Veni Emmanuel Andrew Carter



Thank You for Serving Today

WORSHIP LEADERS

Jasiel Hernandez Garcia, Susan Montoya, Julie Dunlap, the Youth, Sabrina Adrian, Seth Lafler, Wes Lane

USHERS

11:00-Darlene Bannister, Angela Greene, Ralph Kutzer, Nancy Mallory, Ed and Nancy Wallace

MUSICIANS

Chancel Choir



Families in Worship

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship. Special Children's Worship Bags are available in the narthex. Parents are encouraged to use the things found in the Worship Bags to help their children prepare for and participate in worship.

Many of our young children participate in worship until after the Conversation with Children. After the Conversation with Children, a member of our child care staff will meet the children in the narthex and take them to the appropriate room.

Childcare is available for infants through children who are in kindergarten in Room 504, in the Family Life Center. An usher can direct you to these rooms.

Easy ways to give to the ministries of FPC

- Join the members who are using online giving to First Presbyterian. Sign up today at www.fpckerrville.org and click on the giving tab.
- You can also "text to give" right from your phone. Simply text to **45777** and type in **KERRFPC**. Follow the prompts. It is secure and convenient.

Contact Mary Stone at the church office with any questions.

First Presbyterian Church

Staff and Worship Leaders

Pastors:

Rev. Jasiel Hernandez Garcia, Sr. Pastor/
Head of Staff
Rev. Susan Montoya, Parish Associate
Eldon Sheffer, Commissioned Ruling Elder

Support Staff:

Mary Stone, Business Administrator
Alicia Martin, Asst. Administrator
Wes Lane, Media Specialist

Ministry Staff:

Dr. Sabrina Adrian, Organist
Seth Lafler, Choir Director
Shannon Tuschak, Care Coordinator
Audrey Mitchell, Dir. of Children's Ministry
Emily McAllister, Dir. of Youth & Young Adult Ministry
Alysse O'Brien, Children's Music Director
Scott Russell, Children's Corner Director
Ann Reynolds, YES Center Director
Ministers — All Our Congregation

Calendar Highlights at First Presbyterian

For a full listing of church events, log on to
www.fpckerrville.org and click on "Calendar".

Sunday, December 3

Communion Sunday

All Church Retreat Ends at Mo-Ranch

- 9:30 Fellowship Coffee Time—Ryan Hall
- 9:45 Adult Sunday School—Ryan Hall
- 9:45 Advent Craft Time—Family Life Center
- 11:00 Worship—Sanctuary & Live Streamed

Monday, December 4

- 1:00 Juniper Extended Communion—Juniper
- 4:00 Planning & Training Committee—Room 204

Tuesday, December 5

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study—Room 207
- 10:00 CCP Chapel with Audrey—Sanctuary
- 5:30 Kerrville Ministerial Alliance Christmas Walk
—Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 6

- 9:00 Prayer Group—Zoom
- 11:30 Men's Luncheon—The Lake House
- 5:15 Officer Training Session Examination—Room 208
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room

Thursday, December 7

Friday, December 8

Saturday, December 9

- 12:00 HOPES Kitchen—Family Life Center

Sunday, December 10

- 8:30 Worship—Sanctuary
- 9:30 Fellowship Coffee Time—Ryan Hall
- 9:45 Parents' Fellowship Hour—Room 206
- 9:45 Children's Sunday School—Room 210
- 10:00 Youth Sunday School—Family Life Center
Youth Room
- 11:00 Worship—Sanctuary & Live Streamed
- 4:00 All Youth Christmas Party—Family Life Center

Building a Community of Disciples Growing Towards

God-centered Worship

Christ-centered Service

Spirit-led Lives



First Presbyterian Church

800 Jefferson Street * Kerrville, Texas 78028
Phone (830) 257-3310 * Fax (830) 257-3393
amartin@fpckerrville.org * www.fpckerrville.org



Bulletin Notes

Large print bulletins are available from an usher.

† Please rise as able in body and spirit.

Bold type indicates unison response.

Please take time to silence your cell phones so we may all be fully present in this time and space.

To view past worship services please visit
(<http://fpckerrville.org/worship/video-archive>).



A Stewardship Update

As of Tuesday, Nov. 28th, we have received 106 pledges totaling **\$614,450.00**. If you have not submitted your pledge yet, there is still time! We are counting on your support and generosity.



Let Us Pray

In life and in death we belong to God

Jack L. Groff

October 27, 1925 ~ November 30, 2023

Jack has been a member since 1964.



Worship Notes

The communion elements are gluten free bread and grape juice.

The cover artwork is titled "Annunciation" by artist, Scott Erickson.



Welcome, Visitors!

For more information about our church and its missions, visit our website at www.fpckerrville.org. If you would like to be contacted by phone or email, please submit a contact request form on our website, or call the church office. You may also fill out the Connect Card located in the sanctuary pew pocket, or the Friendship Pad (located at the end of each pew). Please place the Connect Card in the offering tray or give it to an usher.

Prayer or Praise Request? Prayer request cards can be found in the pews, or you may complete your request on our website at www.fpckerrville.org and it will head right to our prayer team, which meets on Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

Announcements

- **Tuesday, December 5, 5:30p.m. Kerrville Ministerial Alliance Christmas Walk:** Make plans to celebrate this Christmas season by joining us on a unique night of Christmas services in five downtown Kerrville churches beginning at First Baptist Church on Washington Street. Walking paths to and from each church will be illuminated for visibility and safety. There is no cost for this event.
- **Wednesday, December 6th, 11:30a.m. Men's Luncheon:** Join us at the Lake House restaurant. Please RSVP to LeRoy Schlechte at leroy02@sbcglobal.net, or joyceleroi@hotmail.com, or the church office amartin@fpckerrville.org.
- **Thursday, December 14, 6:00pm, Sanctuary, Children's Corner Christmas Program:** Please join us for a very special Christmas program celebrating our wonderful CCP children, followed by a reception in the Family Life Center.
- **FPC Grief Support Group:** Grief affects us in different and varied ways. Sharing stories in a safe and welcoming environment can be one way to navigate this challenging time. Our Grief Support Group is led by a skilled professional in a safe, confidential and supportive environment. Participants are encouraged to attend according to need, with no fixed time commitment or agenda. The group meets on the first and third Fridays of every month in Ryan Hall at 10:00am. Please call Pastor Susan Montoya or the church office at 830-257-3310 for more information.
- **December 3, 9:45, Advent Sunday School Class, Ryan Hall:** Pastor Jasiel will lead a four-week class following the book "Honest Advent" by Scott Erickson. This book powerfully reflects on what it means to be human (and how we make sense of the messiness, beauty, and complexities we all encounter in this world) as we seek to encounter a God who gave up everything to become flesh and bones in order to understand our humanity and redeem us. You may purchase your own book via amazon or your preferred bookstore. If you need help getting it, let the church office know.

Advent Family Devotionals: The Adult Education committee is providing 75 Advent devotionals for households to take home. "Come, Emmanuel" includes daily devotions for the first Sunday of Advent (December 3) through Epiphany (January 6). The devotional booklet also offers household blessings and prayers to enrich your preparations and celebrations. We also have a very limited supply of Large Print ones. These are first-come-first-serve and will be available at the church office and in the Narthex on Sundays.

Advent Publication: FPC's latest seasonal publication, "First Press," will be available after Thanksgiving break. This first issue will include the various fellowship activities, worship schedule, resources, and theme for the Advent season. These will be available in the Narthex, church office, digitally, and will be mailed out to our home-bound members.