



First Presbyterian
Church | Kerrville



December 31, 2023
First Sunday After Christmas

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

Greensleeves

Richard Purvis

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hope has come:

Awakening us to new possibilities.

Peace has come:

Inviting us to be agents of reconciliation.

Joy has come:

Turning our hearts from fear to wonder.

Love has come:

Transforming our lives and changing the world.

We have come:

Amazed and humbled by God's grace!

†CAROL #123

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

(First and Fifth Verse)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Like a great light in a land of deep darkness,
the mercy of the Lord shines upon us.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Together, we pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, you are the light of the world. Yet, too often,
we shroud your light with our indifference.**

There is much we must confess:

When we turn a blind eye to those who suffer.

When we are silent in the face of injustice.

When we choose comfort over compassion.

When we neglect to offer grace and love.

**Give us eyes to see you in the faces of those who are vulnerable,
lonely, and afraid.**

Empower us to be your hands and feet in the world.

Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the promise of the Lord: See, your salvation has come!

You are a holy people, redeemed by God, sought out, not forsaken.

We will live as God's people, forgiven and freed.

†RESPONSE

Hymn 113

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN (11:00 AM)

CAROL #115

Away in a Manger
(All Verses)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Galatians 4:4-7

pg. 947 N.T.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:22-40

pg. 833 N.T.

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

HOMILY

The Messiah

Eldon Sheffer

†CAROL #110

Love Has Come
(All Verses)

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba,
Father. In sovereign love, God created the world good and makes
everyone equally in God's image to live as one community. We trust in
God, the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit
justifies us by grace through faith and binds us with all believers in the
one body of Christ, the Church.**

†CAROL #113

Angels We Have Heard on High
(All Verses)

PASTORAL PRAYER 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.**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY

From Heaven on High The Angels Sing

Johann Pachelbel

†RESPONSE

Hymn 606

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

†CAROL #134

Joy to the World
(Verses 1 and 4)

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE

Fantasia on In Dulci Jubilo

J. S. Bach



Bulletin Notes

Large print bulletins are available from an usher.

†Please rise as able in body and spirit.

Bold type indicates unison response.

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



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



Worship Notes

Both the *Call to Worship* and the *Confessional Sequence* are taken from "Call to Worship." The *Affirmation of Faith* is from "A Brief Statement of Faith". The cover artwork is titled *Icon, The Presentation of Jesus*.



Let Us Pray

...for our troops, especially for those serving in war-torn countries, and for refugees all over the world.



Welcome, Visitors!

For more information about our church and its missions, visit our website at www.fpckerville.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 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.fpckerville.org and it will head right to our prayer team, which meets on Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

Calendar Highlights at First Presbyterian

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

Sunday, December 31

High School Winter Retreat/Ski Trip

11:00 Worship Service—Sanctuary & Live Streamed

Monday, January 1

New Years Day

High School Winter Retreat/Ski Trip

Church Offices Closed

Tuesday, January 2

7:00 Men's Bible Study

5:30 Yoga for Community (Beginner/Mat)—Ryan Hall

Wednesday, January 3

9:00 Prayer Group—Online

10:00 Yoga for community (Chair Yoga)—Ryan Hall

7:00 Choir Rehearsal—Ryan Hall

Thursday, January 4

Friday, January 5

10:00 Grief Support Group—Ryan Hall

Saturday, January 6

12:00 HOPES Kitchen—Family Life Center

Sunday, January 7

9:30 Fellowship Coffee Time—Ryan Hall

9:45 Children's Sunday School—Room 210

9:45 Adult Sunday School—Ryan Hall, Room 204, 206

11:00 Worship Service—Sanctuary & Live Streamed

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



Thank You for Serving Today

WORSHIP LEADERS

Eldon Sheffer, Susan Montoya, Hilary Mosty, Sabrina Adrian, Bill Swart, Wes Lane

USHERS

11:00-Steve and Linda Phillips, Jean Weber

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

- Use the green giving envelope located in the pews. Drop the envelope in the offering plate.
- Use secure 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