



Morning Song

December 23, 2018

8:45am Fogartie Hall

Welcome!

First Presbyterian Church is a community of
believers committed to
"Glorifying God and Sharing Christ Together
through Word and Deed."

FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent

Opening Music

Opening Prayer and Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Love

One: A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,

All: and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

One: The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

**All: the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.**

One: On that day the root of Jesse
shall stand as a signal to the peoples;

**All: He will raise a signal for the nations, and will assemble the
outcasts of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from
the four corners of the earth.** (Isaiah 11:1, 6, 10, 12)

Unison Prayer

**Almighty God, we thank you for your gift of love shown perfectly
in Jesus Christ. Your love never fails, transforming all those who
give and receive it. Your command to love is so simple, yet often
so hard to put into practice. As we continue our Advent journey,
forgive our failures to love and help us to share your great love
with each other. Amen.**

Congregational Response

Children's Time
Sacrament of Baptism: Emmett Steven Chastain
Son of Erin and Matt Chastain

Who Are You in the Christmas Story?
...A Girl Named Miriam

Luke 1:26-38

Rev. Christí O. Brown

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.

Song

Prayers

Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

Benediction

Participating in Today's Service

Rev. Christi O. Brown

Rev. L. Craig Foster

Dr. and Mrs. J. Gilmour Agnew (Crista)

Mr. Phillip R. Bridges, Elder

Today's Scripture

Luke 1:26-38 (NRSV)

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Today, December 23:

Regular Worship and Sunday School Schedule.

December 24:

Worship at 4:00pm (Family) and

6:00&11:00pm (Candlelight).

See insert for more details.

December 30: Worship together as a Church Family at 11:00am in the Sanctuary.
All other services and classes will not meet.

MISSION THAT SERVES OUR NEIGHBORS AND OUR GOD

*Our congregation serves God and our neighbors at home and abroad
with these local and international missions.*

LOCAL MISSIONS

Poverty: Monthly Hunger Offering; Mobile Meals; Winter Warmth; TOTAL Ministries; Spartanburg Interfaith Hospitality Network (SPIHN); Habitat for Humanity; The Haven; CAST Program; Neighborhood Meal Ministry

Healing: Angel Tree; St. Luke's Free Medical Clinic; Children's Advocacy Center; HOPE Center for Children; SAFE Homes/Rape Crisis Network; Thornwell Home for Children; Presbyterian Communities of SC; Disaster Relief: One Great Hour of Sharing, Disaster Response Action Team; Kairos Prison Ministry; MLK, Jr. Celebration; Refugee Relief; Mental Health Advocacy

Education: Pine Street Elementary Tutoring; Boys & Girls Clubs; Spartanburg Presbyterian Student Association (UKIRK); Arcadia Outreach Ministry; Presbytery Unified Funds; The Shepherd's Center; Adult Learning Center

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

Missionaries: Support for missionaries - **Jo Ella Holman**, *PCUSA liaison for the Caribbean*; **Mark Hare and Jenny Bent**, *mission co-workers in Haiti and the Dominican Republic*; **Mission Workers** *serving with Kurds*; **Mission Workers** *Serving in the Middle East*

Dominican Republic: Clinica Cristiana; Center for Christian Education & Development (CCED School); Sponsorship of CCED School Children; Infant Nutrition Program

Cuba: Iglesia Presbiteriana Reformada in Santa Clara partnership

Haiti: Haiti Outreach Ministries; Haiti Reforestation Project (CODEP)

Philippines: Precious Heritage Ministries orphanage and feeding program for street children

India: Set Free Alliance

Witness Season

Bread for the World

Staff: **Dr. Tom Evans**, Senior Pastor; **Rev. Craig Foster**, Associate Pastor, Discipleship and Communications; **Rev. Joanne Hull**, Associate Pastor, Congregational Care; **Rev. Christi Brown**, Pastoral Associate for Missions; **Holt Andrews**, Pastoral Musician; **Marcia Andrews**, Associate Director of Music and Organist; **Mark Ashby**, Director of Youth Ministries; **Cesily King**, Interim Director of Children's Ministries; **Beth Cecil**, Parish Nurse; **Colleen Darrall**, Recreation Director; **Jane Mullins**, Hospitality Director

MorningSong Musicians: Lisa Cunningham, *piano/vocals*; Kolby Carrouth, *drums*; Cooper Cecil, *bass*; Landon Hammett, *keyboard/vocals*; Anna Harkey, *violinist*; Jeff Key, *acoustic guitar/bass*; Leigha Pace, *vocals*.

Need to Step Out During the Service? If possible, please use the door in the back of Fogartie Hall.



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