

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
310 Plantation Road Perry, FL 32348  
2nd Sunday of Advent  
11:00 am December 10, 2023

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WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" M. Drischner

PRAYER (TO BE PRAYED SILENTLY UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY)  
**From Ephesians 4:2- 4: Father, please help us to walk in a manner worthy of You and Your call to us. Give us a spirit of humility, gentleness and patience that we may show tolerance for one another in love. Help us to be diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Amen.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF FRIENDSHIP PADS

SESSION SHARING Cindy Brown

INTROIT "Show Us, O Lord, Your Steadfast Love"

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

Leader: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. ---Isaiah 35:1

**People: The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the calf and the lion and the fatling together and a little child shall lead them.----Isaiah 11:6**

Leader: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. ---Isaiah 35:1

**All: Let us walk in the light of our Lord.**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us come before the Lord with open hearts,

**People: Let us bring our broken dreams, our conflicts and our griefs.**

Leader: For God is good and out of sorrow will come new gladness.

**People: The Lord will fill us again with power to sing with joyful hearts!**

\*HYMN "Once in Royal David's City" No. 155  
(Red Hymnal)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Minister: Lord Jesus, you were sent to heal the contrite heart:  
Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Minister: Lord Jesus, you came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Minister: Lord Jesus, you are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Minister: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**All: Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI No. 623(Red Hymnal)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

ANTHEM "Come, Blessed Promised One" Music by Franz Schubert Edited and Arr. By Tom Fettke Sung by Juanita Ratliff & Kristie Harper

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

\*HYMN "What Child Is This?" No. 137  
(Red Hymnal)

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-20

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Glory to God in the Lowest Dr. Don McGarity

\*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.

\*HYMN "Jesus, Remember Me" No. 227  
"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." (sung twice) (Purple Hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" R. Lind

\*DOXOLOGY No. 624 (Red Hymnal)

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison)

**O God, who hast so greatly loved us and mercifully redeemed us, give us grace, that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills, and our works, a continual thank offering unto thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN "Angels We Have Heard on High" No. 132  
(Red Hymnal)

\*BENEDICTION

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Minister: May Almighty God bless you the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Minister: Go in peace.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

\*HYMN "Threefold Amen" No. 628 (Red Hymnal)  
**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE "Noel Suisse" L. Daquin

**\*Those who are able, please stand.**



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PERRY, FLORIDA**

We warmly greet all who have come to worship God. Your presence will enhance our worship experience and our fellowship together. Sincere thanks to each of you for your participation in the service. Glory be to God!

**Leading Worship:** Dr. Don McGarity, Minister;  
Marilyn Culpepper, Liturgist; Leah Metzger, Accompanist & Director; Dr. Mark Coffey, Guest Organist

## **Notes & Announcements**



The flowers this morning are dedicated in honor of Dr. Don McGarity, by Tom and Marcey Fletcher, for the care and devotion he has shown and continues to show our church since he has been in our pulpit .

- Administration Committee meeting Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm
- Christian Education Committee meeting Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am
- Finance Committee meeting Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm
- **Ushers** for December 17<sup>th</sup>: Warren Gregory, Polly Kincaid, Betty Culbreath, Tuckie Maulsby, Rachel Poppell
- **Liturgist** for December 17<sup>th</sup>: Nancy Bell
- FPC website [www.firstpresperry.org](http://www.firstpresperry.org)



***“Come and Worship”***

*First Presbyterian Church, Perry, FL  
December 17, 2023, 5:00 pm  
Livestreamed at [www.firstpresperry.org](http://www.firstpresperry.org)*



***Christmas Card Exchange***

Would you like to send out greetings to other members for Christmas? The First Presbyterian Post office boxes are open! (In the Narthex) Just Fill out your cards with the recipient’s name and place it in one of the slots with their last name initial on it and DONE no need for a Stamp!!! A wonderful way to express season greetings to each other. Remember to check the mail by Christmas Eve!

***Session Committee leaders***

Administration-Joey Ratliff, Martha Davis, Chuck Eckel  
Christian Education-Martha Davis  
Clerk-Cindy Brown  
Congregation Care-Nancy Bell  
Fellowship-Sandi Hilgendorf  
Finance-Chuck Eckel  
Mission/Outreach-Marne Helberg, Rachel Poppell  
Worship/Music-Marilyn Culpepper

Pastor Nominating Committee members: Emaley Gentry, Jamie Poppell, Juanita Ratliff, Randy Speas, and Shona Whiddon

***Prayers Of and For The People  
First Presbyterian Church***

*Jim & Margie R  
Donna & Lee Clifton, daughter Amy  
Heather, Helberg’s daughter  
Lori Small’s brother, Jim 1/4 surgery  
Praise for 6 pots of Soup for Soul  
Carusos  
Sandonatos  
Cheryl Everett  
Robin  
Amalia  
All Holiday travelers  
Harpers  
Knowles  
McGarity family  
Israel  
Poppells  
Session  
Christine Lutz  
Judy Neal  
Our PNC  
All who are homebound  
Amen*