

***Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church***  
*Please join us for fellowship and refreshments at “Coffee Hour” in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.*  
*(✦ Latecomers may be seated.)*

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**AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**November 29, 2015 10:30 A.M.**

**THE APPROACH**

PRELUDE

*Prelude in G Major*

**Felix Mendelssohn**  
Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please sign the red “friendship pads” found at the end of each pew by the center aisle. Note the names of those worshipping around you as you pass the pad back. We encourage you to greet each other after the service.)

INTROIT

*“Lord, I cry unto Thee”*  
*(Ps. 141: 1-2)*

**Donovan Klotzbecher**  
The Chorale

CALL TO WORSHIP

The days are coming, says the Lord,  
**when the promise will be fulfilled.**  
Heaven and earth will pass away,  
**but God’s word will stand forever.**  
Let us worship God.

HYMN #2 (Hymnal)\*

*“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)\*

**Eternal God, we confess that we resist your holy realm. You seek justice and righteousness, but we pursue selfish agendas. You promise us salvation, but we trust in our own strength. Forgive us, God of grace. Lead us in your way of truth so that we may be ready to see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON\*

HYMN #579 (Hymnal)\*

*“Gloria Patri”*

THE PEACE\* ✦

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

The Mavoides Family

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 7:14

Pew Bible pg. 636

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the virgin is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.”

CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY

L: Christians around the world begin today to await the arrival of Christ. We join with a joyful and hopeful throng in lighting Advent candles, symbols of faith and signs of God’s love.

**P: We gather as a people of hope.**

L: Christian people around the world stand today in anticipation, as we look forward to celebrating the miracle of Christ’s birth, the good news that astounds us anew each year.

**P: Our hope springs anew from God’s beautiful vision.**

L: As we light the first Advent candle, let it stand for hope, based not on wishful thinking, but on deep conviction. We believe, we have seen, we have perceived God’s promised Son and his great gift. Therefore, in the midst of darkness and imperfection, we hope.

**P: We gather expectantly, joyfully, and with deep commitment, for we trust that the promised One will return again. God is among us, and soon we will see a new creation on earth. We thank God for making us a people of hope.**

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5: 3-12

Pat Demers  
Pew Bible pg. 4

ANTHEM

*“Behold, the Lord hath proclaimed”*

**Jean Berger**  
The Chorale

SCRIPTURE

Luke 6: 20-26

Pew Bible pg. 64

SERMON

“Blessed Conclusions”

Louis Mitchell

## THE RESPONSE

HYMN #5 (Hymnal)\*      *“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH      Litany of the Beatitudes      (see insert)

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)

**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.**

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory      *Elevation*      Dom Paul Benoit  
Organ

Hymn #592 (Hymnal)\*      *“Doxology”*  
Prayer of Dedication\*

HYMN #49 (Hymnal)\*      *“Once in Royal David’s City”*

RESPONSE\*      *Choral Amen*      The Chorale

BENEDICTION\*

POSTLUDE\*      *Plein Jeu & Fugue*      François D’Agincour  
Organ

**\*ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

**“I am the resurrection and the life.  
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,  
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.”**

**William J. Keller, Jr.**

**August 17, 1934 - November 20, 2015**