

# First Presbyterian Church

New Haven, Connecticut

## *1st Sunday of Advent*

November 26, 2017

10:45 a.m.

Prelude *Come Now, Our Redeemer* (two settings) Pachelbel/Bach

Introit *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending* Olivers

Call to Worship/Candle Lighting The Dinkler Family

We are those who listen and look for a message from God.

**We await a message of hope, of friendship, of help.**

In this season of Advent, we keep awake and seek out those who are messengers of the Good News.

**We light this candle to illumine the path of the messengers,  
that they will find their way to us and to all those in need of hope.**

Let us worship God, who sends messengers with glad tidings for us and the world.

\*Hymn 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

Call to Reconciliation

Silence is kept.

Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, giver of life and forgiver of sin, we come to you now with hope –**

**Hope that you will always love us,**

**Hope that you will not hold our sin against us,**

**Hope that you will turn us around from what is evil,  
and lead us toward what is good.**

**Walk with us in this holy season, and help us to look clearly at our lives  
and the world, that we may embrace all with love.**

**Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, this Good News is for all the world: Christ was born, lived and died, and rose again that we would be freed from sin and death. Know that indeed you are forgiven, and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God!**

\*Song of Praise

*All Earth is Hopeful*

TODA LA TIERRA

\*The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

(Before sitting, please greet those around you with words of Christ's peace.)

Words of Welcome

Please sign the black friendship pad and pass to others in your pew.

Children are welcome to participate in the Children in Worship program.

Moment for Mission

Response

*Awake, O Israel*

Watson

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Isaiah 64: 1-9 (pp. 694-695)

Psalm

Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19

*(read responsively)*

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!

**Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

**Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself. Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

**Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Second Lesson

Mark 13: 24-37 (pp. 50-51)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

*Keep Awake*

The Rev. J.C. Cadwallader

\*Hymn 83

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

STUTTGART

\*Affirmation of Faith

from "A Brief Statement of Faith"

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equal in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.**

**Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

*O Jesus, Grant Me Hope and Comfort*

Walther

\*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

\* Prayer of Thanksgiving

**God of Hope, you gave your Son to a free and lost world. You give your Spirit to comfort and encourage. You give us hope for a future with you. In gratitude, we bring you our time, talents, and tithes. May our gifts be used so that many others will know the goodness of your love. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People  
The Lord's Prayer

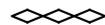
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*Hymn 107                      *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*                      REJOICE, REJOICE

\*Benediction

Postlude                                      *God's Son Will Come*                                      Buttstedt

\*Those who prefer to do so may remain seated.



**Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of New Haven.** We are glad you are here. We seek to be a warm and welcoming community of Christian people. If you are new to this congregation, please introduce yourself to others sitting around you, and to the pastor, so that we may welcome you personally. During the Words of Welcome, add your name to the Friendship Pad. Please plan to stay for the Friendship Hour following the service.

**Participating in worship leadership this morning are:**

Liturgist: Jim Whitney  
Ushers: Anita Shaffer, Paula Burkard  
Friendship Hour Hosts: Pat Wales

**The Reverend J.C. Cadwallader** may be reached at her email: [PastorJC@fpcnh.org](mailto:PastorJC@fpcnh.org) or the church phone (203) 562-5664. Mondays are her day off.

**Advent Communion:** During the Sundays of Advent, the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be offered each week. A brief service led by the Reverend Arthur Shippee will follow the postlude this morning. All are welcome.

**Stewardship Campaign:** Thank-you to all who have already returned your stewardship pledge card. If you've forgotten, you can drop it in the morning's offering plate (pledge cards are available on the Welcome Table), mail it to the church this week or email a note *in confidence* to: [firstpreschurchstewardship@gmail.com](mailto:firstpreschurchstewardship@gmail.com). Your prompt response enables Session's preparation of a budget to accomplish our bold hopes and dreams to serve God in our lives, church and community.

**Abe's Tent is coming!** Abe's Tent is coming! Our church will be hosting 12 men from Columbus House starting Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> (Martin Luther King Jr. observance day) until Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the white boards in the Miller Gathering Hall starting next Sunday. We seek people to host, provide dinner, stay overnight and/or greet the men. Your participation is encouraged and greatly appreciated! Any questions, please contact Brian Gray at [brian\\_gry@yahoo.com](mailto:brian_gry@yahoo.com).

**Signup for Christmas Potluck:** Please signup by next Sunday, Dec 3rd to let us know what you plan to bring to our Christmas Dinner potluck on December 10th. We will gather together after the Christmas music service to eat, sing carols and delight in one another's company. We will need food of every kind on the table: turkey, ham and vegetarian main dishes, and potatoes and green beans and salad too! Sides of cranberry relish, of course. And lots of dessert! Sign up sheets are on the Welcome Table.

**Adult Sunday School in December:** To get ready for Christmas, you are invited to read through daily devotionals from Richard Rohr's Preparing for Christmas. Daily, on our own, we will read the scripture and reflections provided in his book. Then, starting next week, we will gather at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday to share our thoughts, discoveries, and prayers for the season, guided by Pastor JC. If you are interested in participating, please place your order for a book by signing up at the Welcome Tale or sending an email to [PastorJC@fpcnh.org](mailto:PastorJC@fpcnh.org). The cost for the book is \$5.

**Sunday school for children and youth** includes Bible Stories class and Prayer & Preaching class. We're on a hiatus now, and we're using our usual Sunday school timeslot to prepare to lead our annual Children's Advent Service from start to finish on December 17th! Block 2 of our classes will resume in January.

**Craft Sale, Sat, Dec 2, 1-4 p.m.:** The IRIS Refugee Women's Sewing group will be holding a craft sale in our Miller Gathering Hall. Come help support and empower women who have recently been resettled in the New Haven area.

**Goody Bag Sunday, Dec 3:** You are invited to bring home-baked or store-bought treats for the students who worship with us and students from our congregation who are away at school. Herbal tea, mints, gum, hard candies, popcorn, energy bars and home baked treats are all good options to consider for the 54 bags we plan to distribute. It's like a Friendship Hour in a bag!

**CT Folk Concert Friday, Dec 1 at 7:30 p.m.** Performing: The Niels, sisters Nerissa and Katryna, are well into their third decade as musical partners. First Presbyterian Church receives ten complimentary tickets; contact the church office to reserve yours.

**Food Donations for Needy:** Pick up an extra item at the grocery store to help fill the green wheelbarrow in the Copeland Room. At the end of each month the food is delivered to Christian Community Action's emergency food pantry. These are the items most in demand at CCA's food pantry: Top: white (not brown) rice, cereal, canned fruit (fresh fruit on last Sunday of the month), peanut butter and jams/jellies.

**The December Inklings Deadline** will be tomorrow, November 27th. Please send your notices and articles to the church office at [firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com)

**Next Sunday, December 3 after worship: Free Trade and Locally Produced Gifts** for holiday giving will be available from The New Haven/Leon Sister City Project. You will be supporting preschool and after school programs, a women's program that focuses on teaching women their rights, including how to respond to domestic violence, and much more.  
Prayer for Illumination

**Sewing Supplies needed by Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS):** The women's refugee sewing group is an important program for IRIS because it gives women with very little education a motive to be with others for a social time that comes with some assimilation. The sewing group is looking for donations of thread, material and scissors. Also needed are jewelry making supplies such as beads, tools and findings. If you have any of these items at home that you would like to donate, please place them in the labeled box in the Copeland Room.

**Volunteers really needed!** Signup sheets for ushering and Friendship Hour through the end of the year are on the Welcome Table. Why not partner with someone who's new, or new to you, and sign up as a team? If you're unsure about how to do the task, ask any of the Welcome Table Hosts for more info.



## Christmas Poinsettias

If you wish to give flowers for the Christmas display of poinsettias and greens for the sanctuary, clip this order form and return it to the church with your check by next Sunday, Dec 3rd. The cost is \$12.

Number of Poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

or

In Thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

Given by  
(as you would like printed in the bulletin) \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you would like to take a plant home on December 24th \_\_\_\_\_

**In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. (Philippians 4:6)**

When you pray, offer prayers for ...

Our country and its leaders.

Church members and friends who seek God's healing grace, including Ken Haynam, at Benchmark Senior Living in Hamden.

For Jeff Miller, brother of David, who is continuing cancer treatments.

For Stewart Fritts, who is struggling with health issues.

Prayers for those who suffer from gun violence.

Prayers for those who do not have enough to eat.

Prayers for people who are lonely.

Andrew McCloskey, serving with the Peace Corps in Mozambique.

James Smit and Patrick Copeland, who are serving in the armed forces.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis.

Prayers for other people and situations in need of our supplications.

**This Week**

Sunday, November 26	9:30 a.m.	Advent Activities for all ages
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Friendship Hour
Monday, November 27	7:15 p.m.	Session
Wednesday, November 29	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Friday, December 1	7:30 p.m.	Folk Concert
Saturday, December 2	9:30 a.m.	Women's AA
	1:00 p.m.	IRIS Craft Sale
Sunday, December 3	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	10:45 a.m.	Worship & Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Friendship Hour

**The Session of First Presbyterian Church**

Class of 2017	Lynn Autry	Candice Gray
	Jane Hindenlang	Bruce Peabody
Class of 2018	Gary Cline	John Dinkler
	Phillip Phiri	Robert Williams
Class of 2019	Lucy Ambach	Rona Johnston
	Fiona Scott Morton	Mary Porterfield
Clerk	Tim McCloskey	
Treasurer	Mike Spicer	

First Presbyterian Church of New Haven is a More Light Congregation and part of Presbyterian Promise. Both organizations are dedicated to the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and questioning individuals.

**The Staff of First Presbyterian Church**

Pastor:	The Reverend J. C. Cadwallader
Music Director:	Patrick McCreless
Church Administrator:	Martha Smith
Christian Educator:	Kimberley Fais
Nursery Care Provider:	Emily Landino

**The church office welcomes your announcements** and prayer requests for the bulletin. Please send the copy to [firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com) by Wednesday before noon to be included in the Sunday Bulletin.

**Please remember that parking is available** at the Hooker School on Sunday mornings when lawn or street parking is unavailable.

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