

**Welcome!**  
**We are so glad you are here.**

**December 3, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.**

**A bird does not sing because he has an answer.**

**A bird sings because she has a song.**

*Joan Walsh Anglund*

**I have seen a fraction of God's glory, and it is awesome.**

*Bernard of Clairvaux, On the Song of Songs*

**'Advent' means 'coming,' of course, and the promise of Advent is that coming is an unimaginable invasion. The mythology of our age has to do with flying saucers and invasions from outer space, and that is unimaginable enough. But what is upon us now is even more so – a close encounter not of the third kind but of a different kind altogether. An invasion of holiness. That is what advent is about.**

*Frederick Buechner, Listening to Your Life*

**The Gifts of Christmas**  
***The Gift of Song***

**Luke 1:46-55**

**The First Presbyterian Church**  
1530 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, Florida 33020-5240

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

Pastor: Rev. Kennedy M. McGowan

Director of Family Ministries: James M. Potts  
December 3, 2017  
Sanctuary - 10:00 A.M.

Director of Music: Dr. Robert Remek  
Church Office: (954) 923-8209  
Fax: (954) 923-8200

CCLI #1836693; CRL034941; CVL503735603

**\*Please stand if you are able. Please, no applause during the worship service**

**WELCOME** — Please date, fill out, and pass the red Friendship Register to your neighbor.

**PRELUDE** - *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* ..... arr. Rebecca Johnson

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE**

**\*HYMN** – *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* ..... # 9

**PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS - (IN UNISON)** ..... Adapted from The Exeter Book, c. 950

**O just and faithful King, you can unlock the prison-house of fear and all that draws us away from You and let us out into the glorious freedom of your love....Open the gate of this prison, and lead us to your kingdom, which is our true home. Come now, high King of heaven. Come to us in flesh and bone...Seek us out, who are lost in the darkness...Impart to us all your everlasting joy, so that we, who are fashioned by your hands, may praise your glory. In your name we pray. Amen.**

**A TIME OF SILENCE**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*GLORY BE TO THE FATHER (#577)**

**Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.  
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**THE NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY**

**ANTHEM – *Joy Arising* . . . . . arr. Joseph Martin**

**THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:  
We praise You for the radiance That from the hallowed page,  
A lantern to our footsteps, Shines on from age to age.**

**SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 1:46-55** (New Testament, Page 57 in pew Bible)

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD . . . . . Rev. Kennedy M. McGowan**

**The Gifts of Christmas  
The Gift of Song**

**THIS WE BELIEVE - (IN UNISON) . . . . . Psalm 100, The Message**

**On your feet now—applaud GOD! Bring a gift of laughter, sing yourselves into his presence. Know this: GOD is God, and God, GOD. He made us; we didn’t make him. We’re his people, his well-tended sheep. Enter with the password: “Thank you!” Make yourselves at home, talking praise. Thank him. Worship him. For GOD is sheer beauty, all-generous in love, loyal always and ever.**

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT – People, Look East . . . . . # 12**

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

*(Visitors, in the pew rack you will find a Guest Information card.  
Please complete the card, then place it in the offering plate.)*

*The anthem is a prayer. Please, no applause.*

**Offertory Anthem – A Procession of Hope . . . . . arr. Joseph Martin**

**\*THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE – DOXOLOGY ( #593)**

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

**\*OFFERING OF PRAYER (in unison)** . . . . . Adapted from Frank Colquhoun, 1909-1997

**Our heavenly Father, as once again we prepare for Christmas, help us to find time in our busy lives for quiet and thought and prayer; that we may reflect upon the wonder of your love and allow the story of the Savior’s birth to penetrate our hearts and minds. So may our joy be deeper, our worship more real, and our lives worthier of all that you have done for us through the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. In His name we pray. Amen.**

**CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**Congregational Response:**

**God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
With a Shepherd’s care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.**

**\*POSTLUDE - Toccata on “Veni Emmanuel”** . . . . . James Denton  
~ ~ ~

**Visitors, following worship please join us on the patio for coffee and juice.**  
~ ~ ~

**LAY READER – Ellen Yamrick**  
~ ~ ~

**The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Dee Olive  
in memory of Dorothy Dilworth and Emily Olive.**

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

It is our hope that you will encounter God as you worship with us. First Presbyterian Church is a family of faith committed to families, peacemaking, and mission. There are educational offerings for all ages, as well as fellowship groups for members and friends of the church. All are welcome. (For information, visit us at our web site at: [fpcoh.org](http://fpcoh.org))

**CHILD CARE for infants is provided in the nursery, located in the Narthex/ Lobby of the church. Children’s worship kits** are also available for younger children. Please ask an usher for assistance. Our **children’s Sunday school, Good News Kidz (GNK)** gathers at 10am in the sanctuary (September through May,)

**FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS,** in the narthex we have large print hymnals and a limited number of pew cushions available.

~ ~ ~

**A Memorial Service remembering Betty Hanna will be held in our sanctuary this afternoon at 2pm; a reception in the Rice Room will follow.**

### **OPPORTUNITIES**

**<The bulletin announcements serve as reminders of church activities.**

**Please check our website: [fpcOH.org](http://fpcOH.org)  
for the monthly newsletter and church calendar.  
Church office e-mail: [landerson@fpcOH.org](mailto:landerson@fpcOH.org) >**

~ ~ ~

### **BOARD OF DEACONS —**

**A Deacons Fund offering will be received today.**

These gifts will go to help members of our church and community when they face financial distress, or to help folks in need who God places in our path. Please use the envelope provided in your bulletin.

Just a reminder, **we continue to collect non-perishable food items, hygiene supplies and gently used or new sneakers and blue jeans** for the Jubilee Center. You may place these items in the narthex area.

### **CHILDREN AND YOUTH —**

**Good News Kidz (GNK) — (Sunday school for ages 4-10), 10:00 a.m., sanctuary**

**Boy Scout Troop 420, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Education Building**

**Learning Center chapel — December 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m., sanctuary**

**Early Learning Center chapel — December 6<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m., West Wing**

**After Care Center chapel — December 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m., sanctuary**

### **CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP —**

**Breakfast and the Bible — Sundays, 9:00 – 9:45 a.m., chapel – A study focusing on the scripture of the day.**

**A Time of Prayer, in the chapel**

**Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 a.m. – Noon**

**Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 a.m. – Noon**

### **MEETING —**

**Staff meeting – December 4<sup>th</sup>, Noon, church office**

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW) —**

**Circle 1, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m., Chapel**

**It's Christmas bake sale time.**

Ladies and Gentlemen, get your recipe cards out and **bake some goodies**. Deliver your homemade treats to the chapel prior to worship on **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**.

**And while you are there**, don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets! 3 tickets for \$10. If you win you will own a one of a kind handmade afghan, made by our own Amy Richel.

**WORSHIP —**

**The Westminster Choir will present the cantata *God With Us!* on Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> at the 10 AM service.** *God With Us!* is a compilation of anthems by six arrangers including Pepper Choplin, Mary McDonald, Victor Johnson, Jay Rouse, Lloyd Larson, and Mark Hayes. The cantata delivers the Advent and Christmas message with fresh and highly inventive arrangements. We hope that you can join us for this special event.

**LOOKING AHEAD.....**

**Presbyterian Women's Gift Fair and Cookie Sale – December 10<sup>th</sup>**

**The Angel Tree gift deadline: December 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Christmas food donation deadline: December 10<sup>th</sup>**

~ ~ ~

## **DROP BY FOR COFFEE OR TEA WITH KENNEDY THIS WEEK**

Here are the unscheduled times this week where  
I am available for y'all to come by for a visit!

### **Sunday – 1 to 4:30 PM**

(worship and Bible study take up the rest of the day.)

### **Monday – 10:30 to 11:30 and 2:00 to 3:00**

(staff mtg., and Learning Center Board take up the rest of the day)

### **Tuesday – 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 1:30 to 3 PM**

(Preschool walk-around, and Rotary take up the remaining time.)

### **Wednesday – 3 PM to 7:00 PM**

(chapels, lunch. and mtg. w. James Potts take up the remaining time)

### **Friday – 10:30 to 11:30 AM**

(sermon preparation and chapel take up the rest of the day)

Please try to call beforehand so I can put the kettle on, and to make sure that the schedule hasn't unexpectedly changed for a hospital visit or some other concern.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### **Sunday, December 3 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

- Breakfast and the Bible – Chapel ..... 9:00 a.m.
- Worship – Communion - Sanctuary ..... 10:00 a.m.
- Good News Kidz (GNK) - Sanctuary/ Education Building/Patio ..... 10:00 a.m.
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel ..... 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Memorial service for Betty Hanna – Sanctuary ..... 2:00 p.m.

### **Monday, December 4**

- A Time of Prayer – Chapel ..... 9:00 – Noon
- Staff meeting – Church office ..... Noon

### **Tuesday, December 5**

- Circle 1 – Chapel ..... 5:30 p.m.
- Boy Scout Troop 420 - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Education Building ..... 7:00 p.m.

### **Wednesday, December 6**

- Learning Center Chapel - Sanctuary ..... 10:30 a.m.

### **Thursday, December 7**

- Westminster Choir ..... 5:15 p.m.
- Westminster Ringers Bell Choir ..... 6:30 p.m.
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel ..... 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

### **Friday, December 8**

- A Time of Prayer – Chapel ..... 9:00 a.m. – Noon
- After Care Chapel - Sanctuary ..... 4:00 p.m.

### **Saturday, December 9**

- Christ Jesus College and Seminary – Sanctuary & Chapel ..... 7:00 – 10:00 a.m.
- Our Lady of Hope Orthodox Catholic Church – Chapel ..... 5:00 p.m.

### **Sunday, December 10 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

- Breakfast and the Bible – Chapel ..... 9:00 a.m.
- Worship – Sanctuary ..... 10:00 a.m.
- Good News Kidz (GNK) - Sanctuary/ Education Building/Patio ..... 10:00 a.m.
- Bake Sale & Fair ..... following worship
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel ..... 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Memorial service for Ollie, the pit bull – Sanctuary ..... 2:00 p.m.



## A WORD FROM KENNEDY

### DO YOU WANNA JOIN UP?

If you are new to First Church or even not so new but ready for the next step, then this little ole' column is for you. So, how do you become part of this church family that we call First Presbyterian of Hollywood?" It all begins with what we call a *newcomers' seminar*, that is coming up in two Sundays from today on December 17<sup>th</sup> right after worship. We'll serve you a nice lunch (and childcare if you need it also), give you a tour of the church's campus (including some nooks and crannies that you normally don't see), and give you a full run down on our church's story, along with a little primer on the Presbyterian tradition. As you go through this experience, you'll get to know not only myself better, but also other folks who are going through the seminar with you. Now, even if you are not sure about officially joining, the seminar is still for you, as it gives you the information that you'll need when that time comes.

So if you're interested in joining or simply curious to learn more about First Presbyterian, then this seminar on the 17<sup>th</sup> is made for you! Sign up today on the form in the bulletin or simply drop me an e-mail at [kennedym@fpcoh.org](mailto:kennedym@fpcoh.org). Don't be surprised, if you have been coming for a while, if I don't reach out directly, as I want everyone to hear more about what Jesus is doing here, and how you could be involved! What a perfect Christmas gift you could give yourself this year in becoming part of this very special church family!

**ALSO LOOK FOR INFORMATION NEXT WEEK ON OUR CHRISTMAS OFFERING, AND HOW YOUR GIFT WILL GO TO HELP HURRICANE RECOVERY IN PUERTO RICO AND MAKING IMPROVEMENTS TO SENIOR CARE RIGHT HERE IN BROWARD.**