

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

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Pastor: Rev. Kennedy M. McGowan

Director of Music: Jerry W. Myers

Church Office: (954) 923-8209

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**Morning Glory Worship Service — Chapel - 8:30 A.M.**

**Classic Worship Service — Sanctuary – 11:00 A.M.**

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**Welcome!**

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

**December 22, 2019**

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*\*Please stand if you are able.*

**WELCOME & (11 a.m. only) CALL TO REFLECTION**

(11 a.m. only) **PRELUDE** – *Angels We Have Heard on High* ..... Dale Wood

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF LOVE**

**\*HYMN – Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** ..... # 31

**PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS** ..... Adapted from Gelasian Sacramentary (c. 500)

**Stir up your power, Lord, and with great might come among us; and because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us: through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.**

**A TIME OF SILENCE**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE (# 28, verse 3)**

Good Christian friends, rejoice, With heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all, To gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

(11 a.m. only) **Anthem - The First Nowell** ..... arr. David Willcocks  
Westminster Choir

(11 a.m. only) **A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**THE NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY**

**SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 1:18-25 (New Testament, Page 1 in pew Bible)**

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

**Wake Up and Smell the Jesus!**

*Waking up to Trust*

**THIS WE BELIEVE - (IN UNISON)** ..... Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; and we know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

(11 a.m. only) **\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT – O Lord, How Shall I Meet You? ..... # 11**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.)*

(11 a.m. only) **Offertory – Mary, Did You Know?** ..... arr. Jack Schrader  
Jasmine Williams, soloist

(11 a.m. only) **\*THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE – DOXOLOGY (#592)**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*OFFERING OF PRAYER (in unison)** . . . . . Adapted from Gelasian Sacramentary (c. 500)

**Stir up our hearts, we beseech you, to prepare ourselves to receive your Son.  
When he comes and knocks, may he find us not sleeping in sin, but awake to  
righteousness, ceaselessly rejoicing in his love. May our hearts and minds be so  
purified, that we may always be ready to receive his promise of abundant life.  
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

**\*HYMN – Angels, from the Realms of Glory** . . . . . **# 22**

**\*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.**

(11 a.m. only) **\*POSTLUDE – Joy to the World** . . . . . arr. Fred Bock

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**Visitors, following worship, please join us on the patio for refreshments.**

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(11 a.m. only) **Lay Reader – E. C. Burleson**

**web site at: [fpcoh.org](http://fpcoh.org)    [facebook.com/fpcoh/](https://www.facebook.com/fpcoh/)**

**Church office e-mail: [landerson@fpcoh.org](mailto:landerson@fpcoh.org)**

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**Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>**

**One Worship service at 11:00 a.m.**

(The 8:30 a.m. Worship service, WaumbaLand — (Sunday school for ages 4-10),  
and the 10:15 a.m. Bible Study will return January 5<sup>th</sup>.)

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## **WELCOME VISITORS!**

**It is our hope that you will feel invited, welcomed, and loved 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 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, *WaumbaLand*, gathers at 10am in the sanctuary (September through May). **FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**, in the lobby we have large print hymnals and a limited number of pew cushions available.

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## **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) >  
text waumba 555888**

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## **CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP —**

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

**Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>: 9:00 a.m. – Noon**

**Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 a.m. – Noon**

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## **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!

**Monday – 1:30 to 4:30 PM**

**Tuesday – Christmas Eve Preparations**

The rest of the week and next Sunday, I will be traveling to Canada to spend time with my wife's family there. I will return to the pulpit January 6<sup>th</sup>.

If you want to see me this Monday, please try to call beforehand so I can put the kettle on, and to make sure that the schedule hasn't unexpectedly changed.

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**Our doubts are traitors, And make us loose the good we oft might win,  
By fearing to attempt.**

*William Shakespeare*

**Courage is not the absence of fear,  
but rather the conviction that something else is more important than fear.**

*Ambrose Redmoon, Writer*

**Fear is a question: what are you afraid of, and why? Just as the seed of health is in  
knowledge if you explore them.**

*Marilyn Ferguson*

**Fear is not a bad place to start a spiritual journey. If you know what makes  
you afraid you can see more clearly that the way out is through the fear.**

*Kathleen Norris, Dakota: A Spiritual Geography*

**The oriental shepherd always walked ahead of his sheep. He was always out  
in front. Any attack on the sheep had to take him into account first. Now God is  
out in front. He is in our tomorrows, and it is tomorrow that fills people with fear.  
Yet God is already there. All the tomorrows of our life have to pass through God  
before they can get to us.**

*F.B. Meyer, Streams in the Desert*

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## 2019 Holiday Schedule

December 22<sup>nd</sup> — Worship - 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

WaumbaLand Worship - 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study - 10:15 a.m.

December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve rehearsal - 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5:30 p.m.

December 25<sup>th</sup> Merry Christmas!!

*And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of  
cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them  
in the inn. Luke 2:7*

December 29<sup>th</sup> — One Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

December 31, 2019/January 1, 2020 — Church & Learning Center offices closed

January 5<sup>th</sup> — Worship - Communion - 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

WaumbaLand Worship - 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study - 10:15 a.m.

Remove Christmas decorations/Pot Luck lunch following worship

**CALENDAR**

**Sunday, December 22 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

- Morning Glory Worship Service – Chapel ..... 8:30 a.m.
- Bell Choir ..... 9:30 a.m.
- WaumbaLand Worship – Sanctuary ..... 10:00 a.m.
- Westminster Choir ..... 10:00 a.m.
- Bible Study – Sanctuary ..... 10:20 a.m.
- Worship - Sanctuary ..... 11:00 a.m.
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel ..... 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

**Monday, December 23**

- A Time of Prayer – Chapel ..... 9:00 a.m. – Noon

**Tuesday, December 24 — Christmas Eve**

- Rehearsal – Sanctuary ..... 4:00 p.m.
- Candlelight Service – Sanctuary ..... 5:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 25 — Christmas Day**

- Church and Learning Centers' offices closed

**Thursday, December 26**

- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel ..... 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**Friday, December 27**

- A Time of Prayer ..... 9a.m. – Noon

**Saturday, December 28**

- Christ Jesus College and Seminary – Sanctuary & Chapel ..... 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

**Sunday, December 29 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas**

- Morning Glory Worship Service – Chapel ..... 8:30 a.m.
- Westminster Choir ..... 10:00 a.m.
- Worship - Sanctuary ..... 11:00 a.m.
- Word of God Bible Church – Chapel ..... 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

## A WORD FROM KENNEDY

### WHO IS GOING TO SIT BESIDE YOU?

Have you shared your card yet, those “sit beside me” cards the ushers handed you as you came in or the ones you got last Sunday? I shared some with the folks in my book group, and my wife shared it with one of our neighbors, and our housecleaner. Who have you shared your cards with? If you haven’t yet, no worries; you still have time. Who are you going to invite to sit beside you this Christmas Eve? **Share the card today!** Let’s pack the house on Christmas Eve! And as we reach out to invite and welcome others into God’s amazing love, here’s a way you can help that vision grow.....

### POLAR EXPRESS HELPED US REACH 30 KIDS AND OVER TWENTY FAMILIES — AND ONE OF THOSE FAMILIES WAS IN CHURCH TWO DAYS LATER! HELP US REACH MORE!

It was amazing; family after family called the evening magical, wondrous, and so fun. **Jason Charles** played the train conductor, **Brian Sokolowski** played Santa, **Daniel Williams** made the best hot chocolate ever, and yours truly played the Hobo. And over the course of two hours, we visited with family after family as their children watched this new Christmas classic. One of those families then showed up for WaumbaLand that very Sunday. This week I wrote personal text messages to each family and added them to our group text list that now has over 50 families connected. God is working in significant and powerful ways through these acts of love and blessing to our community. That is why above and beyond our regular giving, our family is giving \$300.00 in this year’s Christmas offering. For this Christmas, **one third** of your Christmas gift will help us to continue to do not only these outreaches to families, but even more such events to invite, welcome and love our community. But the impact doesn’t stop there!

When I mentioned to our Learning Center families at our annual Christmas shows that the Christmas offering we collected that night would go to help kids not be arrested for minor offenses, but instead go into a diversion program; that it would protect seniors in nursing homes, and help mentally ill folks find the housing they need, the families actually applauded! And all those things we are doing because we have partnered with 24 others churches in our county through the organization **Bold Justice**. Because of work such as this, our church is becoming known as a church that cares, that stands up for the elderly, for children, for the

vulnerable. And that, too, makes an impact not only in our community but also in changing people's perception of what a church can be! A **third** of your offering will go to support that crucial work.

And the final **third** will go to simply support the daily needs of this church, keeping the lights on, so-to-speak, so these two powerful outreaches can happen. Our goal this year is **\$4,500.00, with a challenge goal of \$6,000.00**. With \$4,500.00 we will be able to underwrite close to another year of outreaches such as Polar Express, fund our minimum commitment to Bold Justice, and provide crucial financial support to sustaining this church's overall work. **And with \$6,000.00**, what could we do? We could underwrite a whole year of outreaches, match our commitment to Bold Justice from last year, and provide even more crucial support to our church's basic financial needs. **Please give generously in this year's Christmas giving campaign.**

**THANKS TO SUE HUFF, BOB'S SECRET SANTA!**

**Bob Roddy, our facilities chair, has been doing amazing work to beautify our grounds, and he has been able to do it because Sue Huff has been his secret Santa, providing the needed funds. If you want to help Bob in this way, and be another secret Santa, talk to me or Bob today!**

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## POINSETTIAS

The poinsettias in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God,  
and in memory or in honor of the following:

### Given by

Ted Beutner	In loving memory of my wife Donna, and my children.
E. C. Burlison, Jr.	In memory of loved ones.
Rich Ferrara	In loving memory of Mom and Dad, Thomas and Mae Ferrara
Judy Gensel	In loving memory of Jerry Gensel
Anna and Dan Henrich	In loving memory of Emma Isabella Clark, from her loving daughter Anna & son-in-law Danny
Becky Hunkins	In loving memory of Dwain Hunkins
Polly Jenness	In memory of loved ones
Penny Johns and Karl Hupp	In honor of Elsie Johns and Dorothy Hupp
Helmi Koedam	Aplonia and Cornelus Koedam
Linda Krysiak	In loving memory of Edward Krysiak, Mary Krysiak, and Mildred W. Pohle
David and Pam Landen	In honor of Madeline Kitson
Robert & Sue Ann McCarthy	In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Wensel Estess and Mr. & Mrs. Winnie McCarthy; In honor of our loving parents
Kathy & Ted Meyer	In loving memory of our parents: Margaret & Charles, Vivian & Myron
Pat & Betty Miller	In honor of our 60 <sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, which we celebrated this year

**Given by**

Joe and Carolyn Moniz      In loving memory of Susan Rust

Larry & Candy Sheaffer & family,      In loving memory of Carl & Betty Hanna;  
and Pete & Renee Hanna & family      In honor of the loving members of First Presbyterian  
Church

Steven and Cynthia Silvestro In honor of Mary entering dental school

Ellen Yamrick                      In loving memory of John and Carolyn Eckerson,  
Ed Eckerson, & Patti McNally

Leslie Young                      In loving memory of Carl Young;  
In honor of my family.