

**Worship of the Living God**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

Prelude

Welcome Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

\* Call to Worship  
Cory, Katie, Stuart, Merritt, and Knox Menees  
We hope for a world where all are fed.  
**We hope for a world with more bridges than walls.**  
We hope for a world with wide open doors.  
**We hope for a world with contagious laughter.**  
We hope for a world where trees grow tall and creeks run clean.  
**We hope for a world where all people feel at home—in their bodies, in the church, in their physical homes.**  
We hope for that world.  
**We long for that world.**  
We are homesick for the world God promises.  
**So today we light the candle of hope, because God keeps our hope alive as we wait.**  
God is here. God is still creating.  
**We are close to home. May we carry hope with us. Amen.**

\* Song *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*  
with *Soothe Our Weary Souls*

\* Confession of Sin Rev. Lara Musser Gritter  
**Gracious God,**  
**We find ourselves with two options every day—**  
**to stay homesick for the world you had in mind,**  
**or to allow cynicism to win.**  
**Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel?**  
**Do we insist on a better world,**  
**or do we assume it's impossible?**  
**Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins.**  
**Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt**  
**instead of using it to fuel a better world.**  
**Kindle in us a hope that won't let go.**  
**Gratefully we pray, Amen.**

\* Response *Angels We Have Heard on High*  
(chorus)

Prayer for Illuminaion

Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-12

Scripture: Isaiah 40:29-31

Sermon Rev. Josh Musser Gritter

\* Affirmation of Faith  
*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.**

Prayers of the People

Announcements & Celebrations

Minute for Mission Evangelism Committee

Offertory *Mary Did You Know*

\* Doxology *New Doxology*

Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Invitation to the Lord's Table  
Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer  
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Communion of the People  
*"The body of Christ, given for you."*  
*"The blood of Christ, shed for you."*

\* Prayer after Communion  
\* Song *Even So Come (Come Lord Jesus)*

\* Benediction

Postlude

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\*Those who are able are invited to stand.  
**Bold** indicates words spoken in unison.

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**Nursery Available**  
We are happy to have God's children of all ages attend worship. However, we have a fantastic nursery located in the Family Life Center building if you desire. Use the stairwell closest to the parking lot to get to the lower-level children's floor, then ring the doorbell to alert the nursery attendant.

**The flowers today are given to the glory of God**  
**and in memory of their dear mothers,**  
**Jennie Norman and Ruth Thabet, by Jim and Barbara Norman**

**Joys and Concerns this week:**  
Wanda Huntley, Luke Bryan, Danny Fisher

Scott Hay and family on the death of his niece, Christine Corrington

Carol and Acey Worthy on the birth of their great-granddaughter, Beatrix Elizabeth Enriquez, on November 19

**Continuing Concerns:**  
Keith Corriher (Jan Corriher Smith's cousin), Lois Boyd (Ellie Grover's mother), Mike Farris, Scott Hay, Maria Hudson, Martha Lassiter, Steven Lescoe, Jan Lewis, Rocky Mead (Chris Mead's father), Judy Rochelle, Sean Walker, Acey Worthy

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### Pictorial Directory!

Please stop by our FPC photo booth and have your family's picture taken (no sales, no long wait, no appointments) on Sundays, November 21, 28, and December 5. Our booth will be set up after both worship services—Lewis Hall foyer at 9:15 and on the Parking lot sidewalk at 12:00. If the weather does not permit us to be outside, it will be set up in the Lewis Hall foyer. The staff hopes everyone will make this a priority. We want to have everyone pictured in the upcoming in-house directory!

### Rowan Helping Ministries Food Sunday

Please remember to bring in your shelf-stable donations next Sunday, December 5, to help restock the RHM pantry shelves.

### Commitment 2022

As of November 23, we have received 169 pledges totaling \$891,303 toward our 2022 budget. It is with deep gratitude and thankfulness that we thank all those who have turned in their commitment cards. However, we as a congregation still have a financial challenge. We still need \$233,966 in pledges to meet our budget for next year. The session cannot complete the budget process without hearing from you.

#### 2021 Giving Update

As of October 31, 2021	
YTD Budgeted Giving	\$869,686.67
YTD Giving	<u>\$855,304.93</u>
Short	\$14,381.74

### Music and Art Credit

Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed |  
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus with Soothe Our Weary Souls*  
words and music by Charles Wesley | Rowland Prichard | Toby Baxley  
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*Angels We Have Heard on High*  
words and music by James Chadwick | Chris Tomlin  
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*Mary Did You Know*  
words and music by Mark Lowry | Buddy Greene  
© 1991 Word Music, LLC and Rufus Music

*While We Are Waiting, Come*  
words by Claire Cloninger (1986) | music by Don Cason (1986)  
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*Even So Come (Come Lord Jesus)*  
words and music by Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Jess Cates  
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## First Presbyterian Church

Salisbury, North Carolina



HomeSick  
First Sunday of Advent

### FPC Missional Priorities

**Spirit-Centered Discipleship**  
**Hands-on Local Missions**  
**Friendship Across Difference**  
**Embracing the Unchurched**

Sunday, November 28, 2021

8:30 am

[www.salisburyfirstpres.org](http://www.salisburyfirstpres.org)