

# First Presbyterian Church

*For Christ in the Heart of Charlotte*

*Founded in 1821*

## Order of Worship

*First Sunday in Advent  
November 28, 2021  
11 a.m.*

### Preparation

Prelude

Rhosymedre

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Words of Welcome

The Reverend Robert Galloway

Chiming of the Trinity

### Adoration

Lighting of the Advent Candle

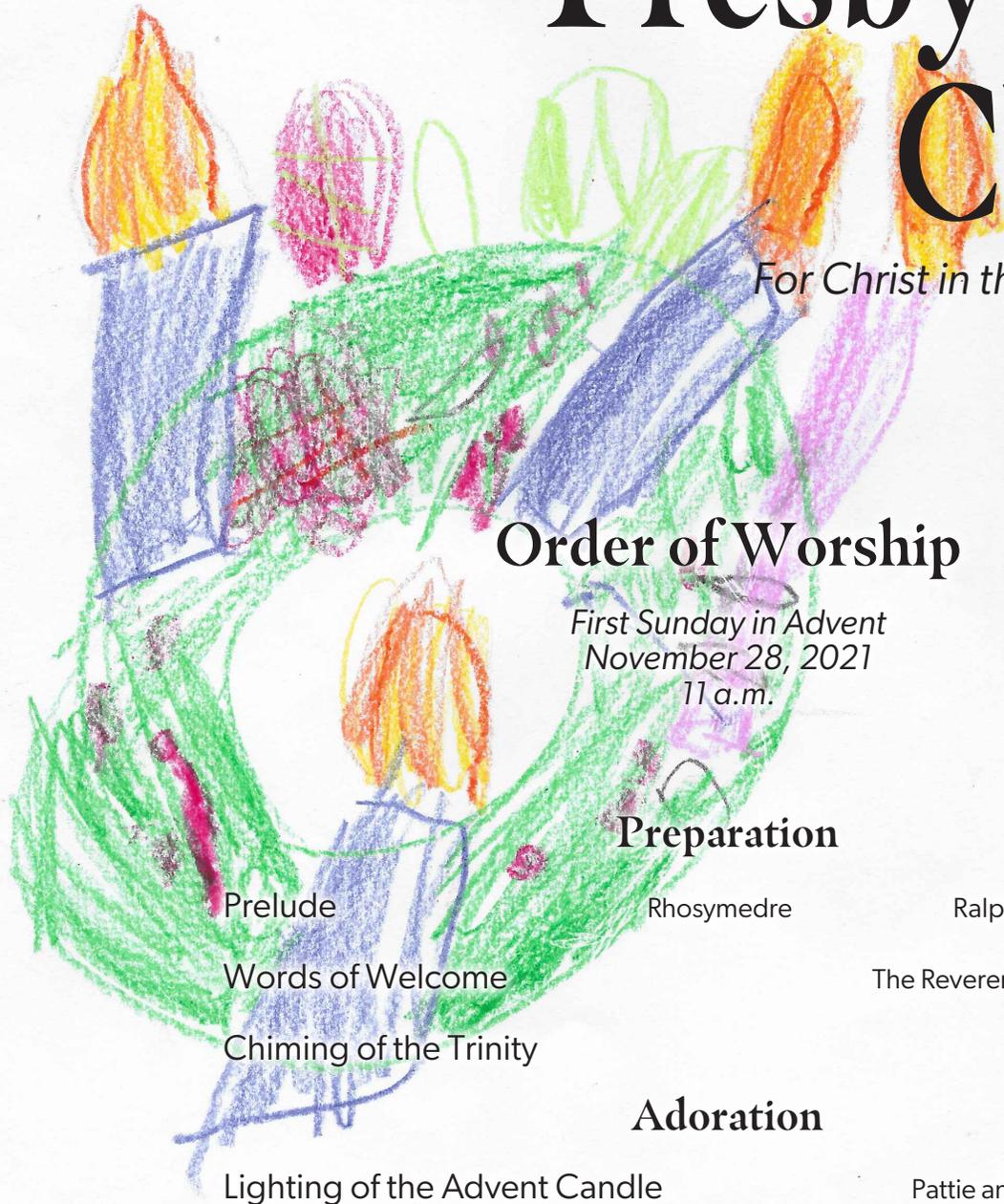
Pattie and Morris Spearman

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**All: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them, light has shined.**

One: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

**All: to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.**



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the  
2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a  
3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is  
tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
thee; here, Lord, a - bid. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.  
heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

# Confession

Call to Confession

FUPC Elder Donna Fair

Prayer of Confession (adapted from Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church)

**Loving and faithful God, as we begin the season of Advent, we celebrate that Jesus has come, and that he promises to come again. Jesus came to bring light and hope, but our hearts are often shrouded by darkness and despair. Jesus came to bring joy and peace, but our hearts are often encased by sorrow and turmoil. Jesus came to bring life and love, but our hearts are often hardened by resistance and contempt. As Jesus entered the world to conquer sin and death, we open our hearts in confession to be cleansed from our sinfulness and to be restored to the image of Jesus. We give thanks, O God, that you so loved the world, that you gave your son so that we might know you, draw near to you, and live eternally with you. In the Name of Jesus, We pray, Amen.**

Response to Confession (Hymn No. 90)

Jacques Berthier

**Wait for the Lord, his day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!**

*(congregation sings three times)*

Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, believe the good news.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\*Response to Pardon (Hymn No. 100)

CANTICLE OF THE TURNING

**My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn? My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!**

Time with Children

*Children age 3 through first grade may leave for First Church. They will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn.*

*Older children are encouraged to stay and worship with their families.*

## Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Jeremiah 33:14-18

*The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'*

*For thus says the Lord: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, and the levitical priests shall never lack a man in my presence to offer burnt-offerings, to make grain-offerings, and to make sacrifices for all time.*

Anthem

"E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"

Paul Manz

*Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins, who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be. Sing "Holy, Holy" to our Lord, the Lord Almighty God, who was and is and is to come; sing "Holy, Holy, Lord!" Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein; rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon. E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more; they need no light, nor lamp, nor sun. For Christ will be their all!*

## Scripture

Luke 21:25-36

*"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."*

*Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."*

*"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."*

## Sermon

The Reverend Robert Galloway

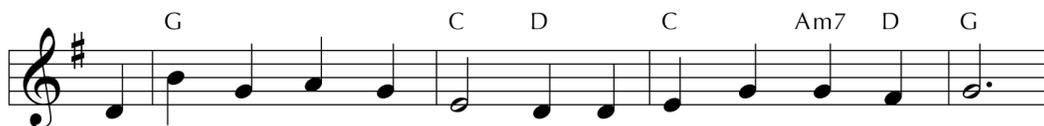
### \*Hymn No. 378

"We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom"

MERLE'S TUNE



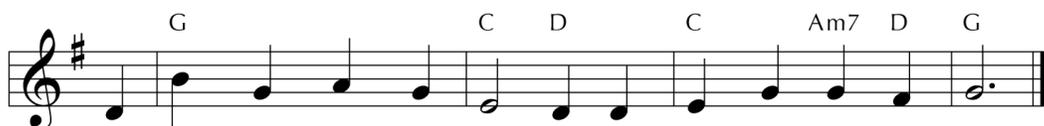
1 We wait the peace-ful king-dom, when wolf and lamb shall lie  
2 Where is the peace-ful king-dom? When will this new day start?  
3 When wars of des-o-la-tion and hate come to an end,  
4 That lit-tle child shall lead us to walk the cho-sen way,



in gen-tle-ness and friend-ship with-out a fear or sigh,  
We long for peace and com-fort to reign with-in each heart.  
when na-tion meets with na-tion and calls the oth-er "friend,"  
to share the peace-ful king-dom, to greet God's new-born day.



when li-on shall be graz-ing, when snake shall nev-er strike;  
Yet not in our lives on-ly, nor sim-ply in our home:  
still peace in all its full-ness will on-ly have be-gun:  
The child born in a sta-ble is sent to break our chains,



a lit-tle child shall lead us both strong and weak a-like.  
we pray that all cre-a-tion will one day find sha-lom.  
sha-lom for all cre-a-tion be-gins with jus-tice done.  
to bring through word and ta-ble the day when jus-tice reigns.

The 11 a.m. service is televised over WAXN-TV, Channel 64 this morning and streamed live at [www.firstpres-charlotte.org](http://www.firstpres-charlotte.org) and on Facebook Live.

**Part of our offering today goes to the Ten-Cents-a-Meal program**, a hunger relief and at-risk youth ministry of the Presbytery of Charlotte.

# Response

\*Affirmation of Faith

The Reverend Pen Peery

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 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 and 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.**

Stewardship of Life

Offertory Anthem

"Every Praise"  
FUPC Praise Team

Hezekiah Walker

\*Doxology (Hymn No. 606)

OLD HUNDREDDTH

**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.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

# Sending Forth

\*Hymn No. 82

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Is-rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Postlude

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Johann Walther

We are glad you are worshipping with us today!

We welcome all to First Presbyterian Church as we worship together, knowing that each of us is a beloved part of the body of Christ.

## Our Pastors

Pendleton B. Peery  
Senior Pastor  
ppeery@firstpres-charlotte.org

Anna R. Dickson  
Associate Pastor for Congregational Care  
adickson@firstpres-charlotte.org

Robert L. Galloway  
Associate Pastor for Christian Formation and Young Adults  
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Mary Margaret Porter  
Parish Associate  
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Charles C. Williamson  
Parish Associate  
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William P. Young, III  
Director of Music Ministries  
wyoung@firstpres-charlotte.org

Are you interested in joining our church?

Contact Jane Ives  
Membership Coordinator  
jives@firstpres-charlotte.org

Pastor on call  
If you have a pastoral emergency outside of regular church hours, dial 704.927.0256 for the on-call voicemail. Your call will be returned promptly.

200 West Trade Street  
Charlotte, NC 28202  
[www.firstpres-charlotte.org](http://www.firstpres-charlotte.org)  
704.332.5123

## First Presbyterian Church Announcements

**Advent Sunday Classes, November 28 - December 5, 10 a.m., P206 and via Zoom**  
For more information, email [gkeesler@firstpres-charlotte.org](mailto:gkeesler@firstpres-charlotte.org).

**Advent Poinsettia Orders, now through December 1**  
Poinsettias are \$12 and wreaths for the church doors are \$35. | To order, visit [bit.ly/fpcwreath2021](http://bit.ly/fpcwreath2021).

**Singing in the Season, December 5, 5:30 p.m., Wood Fellowship Hall**  
Join your church family and friends for an evening of musical fun, Christmas cookies, and hot chocolate and cider. | Register at [bit.ly/2021SITS](http://bit.ly/2021SITS).

**Holiday Giving for Westerly Hills Families and Staff, December 12, 11 a.m.**  
Unwrapped gifts may be dropped off at the church or collected during worship on December 12. Volunteers are needed to help with gift organization, delivery, and distribution on Saturday, December 18. | For more information, email [hherring@firstpres-charlotte.org](mailto:hherring@firstpres-charlotte.org).

**The Willard Lecture: Father Greg Boyle "The Power of Extravagant Tenderness", January 9, 5 p.m., Wood Fellowship Hall**  
Sponsored by the Willard Endowment and the Catherine S. Grier Community Building Initiative. | Register at [bit.ly/FPCGregBoyle2022](http://bit.ly/FPCGregBoyle2022).

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TEXT GIVING – You can quickly donate to the church through TEXT GIVING. See the example below.

- Text to 73256
- Content of the text needs to be – givetofpc followed by a \$ and the dollar amount.
- You will be prompted to enter your payment information.
- You will receive an email receipt of payment.

