



FOUNTAIN HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Our Vision: Growing in love for God and others we make disciples for Jesus.

Our Mission: Love God – Love People – Make Disciples.

ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE (Week 3)

December 14, 2025 – 9:00 AM

Gather

PRELUDE

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

Tune: WACHET AUF by Phillip Nicolai, Arr: Zach Unke, Dorothy Parris, Piano

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of timeless grace, you fill us with joyful expectation. Make us ready for the message that prepares the way, that with uprightness of heart and holy joy we may eagerly await the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Pastor Jim

CHORAL INTROIT

“Now Let Us All With One Accord”

Celebration Singers

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Jeff Rand & Barbara Hoverland

SONG RESPONSE

“The Candle of Hope v3”

Jospeh Martin Kraus; Celebration Singers

ADVENT PRAYER

Dean Preising

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Savior’s coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope that his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

#249

Prepare

CALL TO CONFESSION - based on Psalm 32:1-6

Dean Preising

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dean Preising

God of salvation, in Christ you have done great things— our hearts are filled with joy. By your power you lifted us out of the wasteland of sin and brought us with joy and laughter into your kingdom. Salvation is your gift to us. But we confess that often we try to replace your gift with our own efforts. We try to complete what is already perfect; we try to add to what is already full; we try to earn what we already have. Forgive us for our foolishness.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS - based on Galatians 4:4-5

Dean Preising

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. Friends, believe the good news of great joy that to you is born the Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***CHORUS OF ANGELS WE HEARD ON HIGH**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Jim

O God Most High! Everlasting Lord, mighty and lifted up! Grant to us your Holy Spirit, that in these words of Holy Scripture our hearts might be lifted up and our minds set on heavenly realities, that contemplating the reign of our ascended Lord we might long to be with him and enter into the joy of his eternal kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Hear

THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Advent Carol"

Celebration Singers, Dean Preising- Flute

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9:1-3

Pastor Jim

Respond

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** - from Our World Belongs to God, st. 1,24

As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world— which some seek to control, but which others view with despair— we declare with joy and trust: Our world belongs to God! God remembered his promise to reconcile the world to himself; he has come among us in Jesus Christ, the eternal Word made flesh. He is the long-awaited Savior, fully human and fully divine, conceived by the Spirit of God and born of the virgin Mary.

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** "Joyful, Joyful We Adore You" #271

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
LORD'S PRAYER

***CLOSING HYMN** "Joy to the World" #270, v.1,2

Follow

BENEDICTION - from Jude 24-25

Pastor Jim

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power, and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen!

***SENDING SONG** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" #273, v2

ANNOUNCEMENTS

 **WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY – EVERY WEDNESDAY**
10:00 AM | Fireside Room
6:00 PM | Fellowship Center

Our study through the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5–7) continues! Next week, **December 17**, we will reflect on **Matthew 7:7–11**, where Jesus encourages us to *ask, seek, and knock*. These verses remind us of God’s generosity and His readiness to give good gifts to those who earnestly seek Him. It’s a powerful call to trust in His goodness and approach Him with confidence in prayer.

***"The unfolding of your words gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple." - Psalm 119:130***

    **ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE – Week 4**
December 21

 **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE | 5 PM**
December 24

Join us on **December 24 at 5 PM** as we gather in worship to celebrate the birth of Christ, God’s gracious gift to the world. In the glow of candlelight, we’ll hear the good news proclaimed by heaven and earth: peace has come through our Savior. *We look forward to sharing this holy night with you!*

COMMUNITY MEAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We will be serving a meal at the Community House on **Monday, December 29**, and we still need **five more volunteers** to help. Please sign up at the **Connect Desk** after the service.

Looking ahead, our church has committed to serving meals on every **5th Monday throughout 2026**—*thank you for being part of this important outreach!*

END-OF-YEAR GIVING

As we celebrate the gift of Christ this Christmas, we invite you to prayerfully consider an end-of-year gift to support the ministry and mission of our church. Your generosity helps us continue sharing God’s love in our community and beyond. Gifts can be made online at **fhpresbyterian.info**, by mail, church office, or in the offering box. *Thank you for partnering with us in faith and service!*