

First Sunday of Advent: Hope
Sunday, November 27, 2021



Starry Night on the Rhone, oil on canvas
Musée d'Orsay, Paris France
Vincent Van Gogh (1853-1890) Netherlands

Welcome to worship at Faith Presbyterian Church! We are glad you are joining us this morning. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubt, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you. As we begin our time together, take a few deep breaths and settle in, to make the transition from getting here to being here, and to prepare your mind and body for worship.

Faith Presbyterian Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich

Joys and Concerns **

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

**Please rise in body or in spirit; unison parts are in bold.*

***Call to Worship**

Paula Burger

Good people, have faith!

The desert will sing and rejoice, the wilderness will blossom with flowers.

Good people, have courage!

They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks.

Good people, stay awake!

Christ is coming to make all things new.

***Hymn 82** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy one, have mercy on us! We are not ready for your arrival. We are bound by sin, as though justice were not possible. We are beholden to fear, as though there were no grace. You urge us to keep awake, yet we persist in our slumber. Forgive us! Open our eyes to the signs of your coming; that we might make room for your wondrous love in our hearts and our world. Hear now our silent prayers of confession...

Kyrie 90 *Wait for the Lord*

WAIT FOR THE LORD

Assurance of Grace

***Gloria 109** *Blest Be the God of Israel*

MERLE'S TUNE

1 Blest be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free;
who vis - its and re - deems us, who grants us lib - er - ty.
The proph - ets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease;
God shall ful - fill that prom - ise and bring the peo - ple peace.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A Moment with Faith Kids

Lighting the Advent Candle

The Wallace Family

Creative Prayer for Advent

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 2: 1-5

In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

Music

Gospel Reading Matthew 24:36-44

'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

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.

This is the word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn 103** *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

O-SO-SO

Minute for Mission Advent Giving and the Advent Festival

Invitation to the Offering

If you wish to contribute online, please scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to Faith's online giving site.



Offertory

Prayers of the People and Our Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

***Hymn 384** *Soon and Very Soon*

SOON AND VERY SOON

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, *Pastor*

Vivian Slacum, *Guest Organist*

Paula Burger, *Elder of the Day & Liturgist*

The Wallace Family, *Candlelighters*

Kristin Herber, *Zoom Moderator & PowerPoint*

Andy Fuller, *Audio/Camera*

****Joys and Concerns:** We are a community who prays with and for each other. There is a book in the narthex where you may write your joys and concerns, to be included in the Prayers of the People and shared in our weekly prayer chain email. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain email: faithchurchbalt@gmail.com.

This week we pray for:

Ann Scheck

Faith's homebound members

The people of Ukraine

Victims of gun violence

WELCOME to Faith Presbyterian Church! If you are visiting with us this morning, we hope you found our worship to be meaningful - your presence enriches our community. If you are seeking a church home, we hope you will return soon so that we might get to know you better. To learn about ways to get engaged in the life of Faith, check out our website, www.faihpcbalt.org, and speak with our pastor, Rev. Cat Goodrich, cgoodrich@faihpcbalt.org.

KIDS are welcome at Faith! Our PRAYGROUND at the front of the sanctuary is for children 6 and younger during worship. There are books and quiet activities to keep hands busy so ears can listen, and it's close to the action so that our youngest members can experience the beauty of worship in a space that's just for them.

Faith Kids will rehearse for the Christmas pageant during worship through December 11. Plan to come to worship on December 18 when the pageant will be the proclamation of the word!

The Forum *Sundays at 9:15 in Woodbourne Room*

The Forum will begin an Advent study on December 11, looking at the birth of Christ through the lens of each Gospel.

Advent Festival *Sunday, December 4 following worship*

Celebrate Advent starting with a festive luncheon served in the Fellowship Hall. Shop for friends and family at the alternative gift table; the proceeds go to the Deacon's Hands of Faith fund, there are activities for children and adults.

Calling all crafters, bakers, knitters, and creative souls

The Deacons once again will have the Hands of Faith alternative gift table at the **Advent Festival** on December 4th to raise funds for the mission work of the church. We are asking for donations of your amazing creations for the table. Please see Dawn Shirey for details. Thank you in advance for generously giving of your handiwork.



Advent

Faith Presbyterian Church

Advent Study: Dec. 11&18, 9:15

The Forum will reflect on the the birth of Christ through the lens of Matthew & Luke

Advent Festival: Dec. 4 following Worship
Festive Luncheon, Alternative Gifts
and Activities for Everyone

Third Sunday of Advent
A Service of Lessons & Carols

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christmas Pageant

*What's It All About? by Susan Johnston
Presented by the Children and Youth of Faith*

Hops & Hymns, Dec. 18, 6:00PM
Christmas Carol Sing-a-long at Full Tilt Brewery

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 6:00PM
A Service for the Longest Night
Worship in the Chapel

Christmas Eve 5:00PM
Worship with Communion & Candlelight

Christmas Day 11:00AM
A Casual Service with Carols & Scripture,
followed by a Luncheon