SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

As the music plays, you are invited to pause, reflect, and pray silently as we prepare for worship.

We rejoice in you, O God, for you are faithful.
You strengthen us to face the day,
you guide us when we are surrounded by competing voices,
you empower us to live faithfully.
Hold us up when we begin to lean,
and remind us we belong to you.
We ask in the name of the One who is coming,
making your vision plain.
Amen.
~ adapted from a prayer written by The Rev. Teri Peterson

PRELUDE

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Please sign the Friendship Pad found on the center aisle of each pew and pass it to your neighbor.

VOLUNTARY

***LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**

Hymn 92, verse 1, sung twice
While we are waiting, come. While we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Leader: While we are waiting,
the world around us rushes on
shouting despair,
scorning hope,
insisting that all is lost;
but God still has hope to share with this whirling world.
So God calls us to wait, to watch,
and to go and tell the world:
All: God's salvation is on the way!

***HYMN 104** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are weary, O God, and we are tempted to think that violence, hatred, and despair are the final word. Forgive us and renew our hope. Give us vision to see your gospel promise. Give us courage to share that good news with a waiting world, in Jesus' name. Amen.
[*Time for silent confession follows.*]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***HYMN OF PRAISE 583** *Glory to God* GLORIA
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia! (Repeat)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION lay reader, Harrison Entwistle

FIRST LESSON Psalm 118: 1, 21-27a, 29 pew bible, page 565
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON Habakkuk, selected verses pew bible, page 871
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Ellen Crawford True

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 88** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI

***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

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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes* Mark Burrows
(Sanctuary Choir)
Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by any din of drums, nor the manner of his airs, nor by anything he wears; thou shalt know him.
Not by his crown or his gown, but his coming known shall be by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee. Thou shalt know him when he comes.

***DOXOLOGY 606** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**
Giving God, accept our offerings and use them to make your vision of hope plain to your beloved world. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 82** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *Amen in F* Yost
(Sanctuary Choir)

POSTLUDE

**Those who are able, please stand.*
CCLI License #11219393

Worship Notes: The Apostles' Creed: "Although not written by the apostles, the Apostles' Creed reflects the theological formulations of the first century church…In a time when most Christians were illiterate, oral repetition of the Apostles' Creed, along with the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, helped preserve and transmit the faith of the [church]…By the eighth century, the creed had attained its current form." --from the preface to the Apostles' Creed in the PC(USA) *Book of Confessions*.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! We are so glad you are here. You are invited to join us for study, service, education, and fellowship in addition to worship. If you have questions or would like to learn more about this community, please speak with one of the pastors following worship.

Sanctuary Safety—In our ongoing efforts to care for all who work, play, and worship on our campus, we are being intentional about access to buildings throughout the week and on Sundays. All sanctuary doors are locked after worship begins on Sunday mornings, with the exception of the main doors leading to the narthex. Worshipers are free to exit by any of the doors at any time. To re-enter, please come through the doors to the narthex.

Children are always welcome here. We have a wonderful nursery and childcare for infants through preschool each Sunday in the Will Young Building. Worship bags for young children are available in the narthex near the front doors. Please speak with an usher for assistance. In order to comply with our Child Protection policy, we ask that a parent/caregiver accompany children under 12 to the sanctuary restroom.

Offering our Talents, Time, and Treasure: In response to the Good News of God's saving love in Jesus Christ, we are invited to give of ourselves and our resources. If you are seeking ways to share your time and your talents, please speak to one of the pastors. Financial contributions may be placed in the offering plate or donated by texting 704-288-7459 or by using the "Give" button on the church's website (firstpresconcord.org).

Large Print Hymnals, printed copies of the sermon, and a hearing assistance system are available. We have an AED Machine in the Narthex. Please speak to an usher for assistance with any of these items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Poinsettia forms in honor or memory of a loved one are in the narthex, Fellowship House lobby, and online in the Banner. Completed forms with payment, are due to Suzanne Russell by this Tuesday, December 1.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Later Today

5:00 PM	Tree Lighting (Front Lawn)

Monday, November 30

7:30 AM	Men's Bible Study (off campus)
9:00 AM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
12:00 PM	Narcotics Anonymous (Commons)
6:00 PM	Cub Scouts (Davis Hall)
7:00 PM	Boy Scouts (Youth Room)

Tuesday, December 1

9:00 AM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
6:00 PM	Christian Ed Mtg (Fellowship House)
7:00 PM	Board of Deacons (Library Conference Room)
7:00 PM	Al Anon Mtg (Commons)

Wednesday, December 2

9:00 AM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
12:00 PM	Narcotics Anonymous (Commons)
2:00 PM	Staff Meeting (Fellowship House)
5:30 PM	Joy Dinner (Davis Hall)
7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, December 3

9:00 AM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
6:00 PM	Girl Scouts (Ed Bldg)

Friday, December 4

9:00 AM	First Kids Preschool (Will Young Bldg)
12:00 PM	Narcotics Anonymous (Commons)

Saturday, December 5

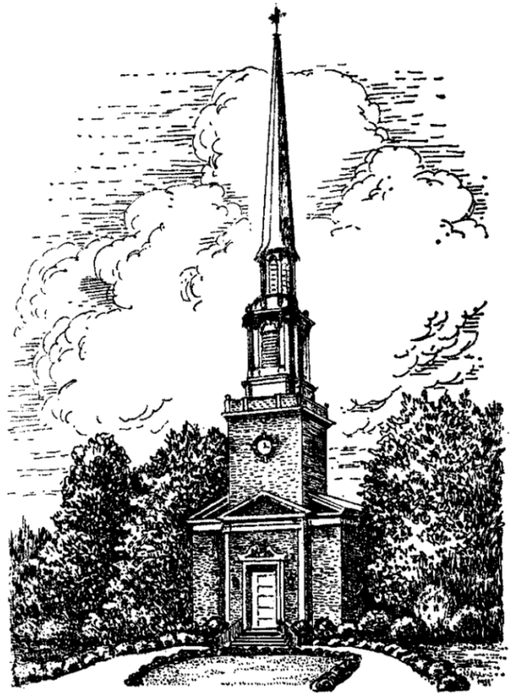
2:00 PM	Funeral for Candy Ellis (Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 6

9:30 AM	Children's Choir (Children's Choir Rm)
9:45 AM	S & D Class (Fellowship House)
9:45 AM	Todd Hobbie Class (Davis Hall)
9:45 AM	Journey Class (Library Conference Room)
10:30 AM	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
11:00 AM	Worship (in person and live streamed)
5:00 PM	Youth (Sanctuary)

Rev. Ellen Crawford True, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Casey Aldridge, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Jodi Martin, *Associate Pastor for CE & Youth*
Rev. Bryan Hovey, *Parish Associate*
Dr. Jacqueline Yost, *Director of Music and Organist*
Dr. Jeffrey W. Price, *Choirmaster*
Kirby Sheridan, *Clerk of Session*
Bill Poitevint, Moderator, *Board of Deacons*
For a comprehensive list of officers, visit the church website:
www.firstpresconcord.org

First Sunday Of Advent



First Presbyterian Church
70 Union Street North
Concord, North Carolina

Sunday, November 29, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CONCORD

www.firstpresconcord.org