



First Presbyterian Church

Norman Fowler, Pastor November 29, 2020 10:30 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

PREPARING OURSELVES TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude

“Verset”

León

Abigail Silverberg, pianist

Welcome and Announcements

Please feel free to leave a message in the chat section as a way of greeting one another this morning.

Stewardship Spotlight

Congregational Care

Celeste Brown

ENTERING INTO GOD’S PRESENCE

Call to Worship/Lighting of Advent Candles

Nealon Family

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!

People: **Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Leader: O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people’s prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. You

make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

People: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Leader: But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself. Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

People: Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Opening Song “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” Hymnal #88, vs 1, 2, 6

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And Ransom Captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
who orderest all things mightily:
to us the path of knowledge show;
and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Words by John M. Neale. Music by Thomas Helmore. Public domain.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord, in our darkness we turn to you for light. As we pass through this darkest time of the year, we feel the darkness, the press of a pandemic, the anger and fear that clouds our relationships, our struggle with different perspectives, the racism that has never been exorcised from our experience, and the reality of natural disasters. As we live and move and have our being, we notice the ease with which we go astray. Forgive us. “Restore us, O God, let your face shine, that we may be saved.” May we be awake to your work and your coming among us. Help us see the signs that you are near, and that you are at work. May we ever be ready to do your will. This we pray in the name of Jesus, the Christ.

(silent confession and personal reflection)

Assurance of Pardon

Response to Forgiveness “Shine On Us”

Lord, let Your light, light of Your face shine on us.
Lord, let Your light, light of Your face shine on us,
that we may be saved, that we may have life
to find our way in the darkest night.
Let your light shine on us.

Lord, let Your love, love with no end, come over us.
Lord, let Your love, love with no end, come over us
that we may be saved, that we may have life
to find our way in the darkest night.
Let Your love come over us.

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Prayers of the People and Placing of a Poinsettia

*If you have prayer requests, please contact the church office
office@fpcmoscow.org, or Pastor Norman fpcpastornorman@gmail.com*

Placing of a Wreath

HEARING GOD'S WORD FOR OUR TIME AND PLACE

Gospel Reading

Mark 13:24-37

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Stay Awake” Pastor Norman Fowler
(placing of a Chrismon)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Silent Reflection

Sermon Response

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Hymnal #347, vs 1, 3, 4

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the shadows clear away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord most high!”

Text: from Liturgy of St. James, 4th cent.; trans. Gerard Moultrie, 1864, alt. Music: French melody; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906 (PICARDY). Public domain.

Offering

*Please mail your offerings to the church office, 405 South Van Buren St.,
Moscow ID 83843 or give online at this link: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=982246>*

Song of Gratitude (Doxology)

Hymnal #608

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

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Dedication of our Tithes and Offerings

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

Closing Hymn

“Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

Hymnal #107, vs 1, 3, 4

Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
he opens wide the heavenly door
and lives now inside us forever.

In darkest night his coming shall be,
when all the world is despairing,
as mourning light so quiet and free,
so warm and gentle and caring.
Then shall the mute break forth in song,
the lame shall leap in wonder,
the weak be raised above the strong,
and weapons be broken asunder.

Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night.
Though dark the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light;
be strong and loving and fearless.

Love be our song and love our prayer
and love our endless story;
may God fill every day we share
and bring us at last into glory.

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Charge and Blessing

Postlude

“We Gather Together”

arr. Victor Labenske

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning.

Worship Leader – Celeste Brown
Music Minister – Thomas Pearson
Accompanist – Abigail Silverberg
Praise Team – Mary Read, Kathy Pendegraft
Video – Jeremiah Nealon
Sound – Matthew Mikami



We are a **MATTHEW 25** church
pcusa.org/matthew25



**First Presbyterian is a
Stephen Ministry Congregation.**