



SUN 11 AM
DECEMBER 1, 2024

Worship Service for THE LORD'S DAY
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FOX CHAPEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Worship

Words printed in **bold** are for the congregation to speak in unison.

* An invitation to rise in body or spirit.

PRELUDE

Choral March

William Lloyd Webber

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND INVITATIONS

Rev. Roger Owens

INTROIT

Come Now, O God, When Our Love is Forsaken

David Bjorlin

Come, now, O God, when our love is forsaken. Come, when our bedrock of faith has been shaken.

Come, when our deepest of hopes are mistaken. Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Matthew & Robert Bartolacci

From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us, "The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah" (Jeremiah 33:14). Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land; the longing of the sun, moon, and stars; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace will receive their fulfillment.

While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God's grace already at work in our midst.

We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here—the days when God's kingdom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

Come, Lord Jesus. We wait in hope.

*HYMN 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

INVITATION TO SILENT PRAYER AND CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The wilderness will rejoice; the dry land will blossom. The people of God will return with joy and singing. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

All are invited to exchange signs of reconciliation and peace with others.

Children attending Kids' Church may meet Mrs. Patterson in the Narthex at this time.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 21:25-36 (NT, pg. 85)
Jeremiah 33:14-16 (OT, pg. 738)

Heather Delaney

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"No One Mourns the Wicked"

Rev. Rebecca DePoe

OFFERING

Please complete a connect card and place it in the offering plate.

Rev. Ginger Thomas

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Christmas Hymn

arr. Hugo Jüngst

*While by my sheep I watched at night, glad tidings brought an angel bright:
How great my joy; Joy! Joy! Joy!; Praise we the Lord in Heaven on high.
There shall be born, so he did say, in Bethlehem a child today:
How great my joy; Joy! Joy! Joy!; Praise we the Lord in Heaven on high.
There shall he lie in manger mean, who shall redeem the world from sin:
How great my joy; Joy! Joy! Joy!; Praise we the Lord in Heaven on high.
Lord, evermore to me be nigh, then shall my heart be filled with joy!
How great my joy; Joy! Joy! Joy!; Praise we the Lord in Heaven on high.*

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

This is Christ's table, and all who seek to follow Christ are welcome at this table, regardless of their age or understanding. Parents are encouraged to bring their children to participate in the sacrament. The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy...

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might. Heav - en and earth are
full of your glor - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are holy, O God of majesty...
 ...to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.



Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us...
 ...all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever...



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.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Today we will be receiving communion in our pews. We will serve the bread first. Take a piece of bread from a tray as it is passed to you, and eat, remembering that the grace of Christ is given to you personally. A server will be walking down the center aisle with gluten-free wafers. Please raise your hand and this server will pass the gluten free elements to you. When the cups are passed in the pew, hold on to your cup. Once everyone has received a cup, we will drink together at the same time, remembering that the grace of Christ is given to us collectively as a community of believers, the body of Christ.

COMMUNION HYMNS

HYMN 88	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	VENI EMMANUEL
HYMN 92	While We Are Waiting, Come	WAITING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice, righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation. Strengthen us with this heavenly food as we seek to serve your holy realm. Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 105	People, Look East	BESANÇON
------------------	-------------------	----------

***BENEDICTION**

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	He Came Down <i>He came down that we may have hope; Hallelujah forever more.</i>	<i>Traditional Cameroon Melody</i>
------------------------------	--	------------------------------------

*POSTLUDE	Fugue in A Minor	B. Cernohorsky
------------------	------------------	----------------

+++++

Participants Today

Rev. Ginger A. Thomas, Co-Senior Pastor (ginger@fcpc.us)
Rev. Dr. L. Roger Owens, Co-Senior Pastor (roger@fcpc.us)
Rev. Rebeca DePoe, Designated Associate Pastor (rebecca@fcpc.us)
Matthew & Robert Bartolacci, Advent Candle Lighting and Reading
Heather Delaney, Lay Scripture Reader
Richard Pickerton, Guest Organist
S.C. Toe, Minister of Music (sc@fcpc.us)
Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir
Howard Havlicsek, Audio Engineer
Jenny Clark, Livestream Producer (jenny@fcpc.us)
Don Moyer, Caretaker (don@fcpc.us)

For Children and Families during 11:00 AM Worship

Children of all ages are welcome to remain in worship with their families, and we provide the following opportunities for children and families:

Children age 3 to 5th grade are invited to sign up for Kids' Church prior to worship near the entry to the Sanctuary. Children may join Pastor Lori at the front of the Sanctuary for a Children's Message during worship (except on the first Sunday of the month). Following the Children's Message, children are led to the Lowest Level, where parents/guardians can pick them up following worship.

Nursery care is available for ages 0-3 in Room 109 (near the main entrance).

The Comfort Space is available in Room 107 (next to the Nursery) to comfort or feed a child and watch the worship service via livestream.

HEARING DEVICES are available in the Sanctuary. Ask an usher for assistance.
If you have a hearing aid that has the T-Coil activated, please ask for a T-Coil neckloop receiver.

LICENSES CCLI License # 1238538; Streaming License # CSPL091436; One License # 737738-A
