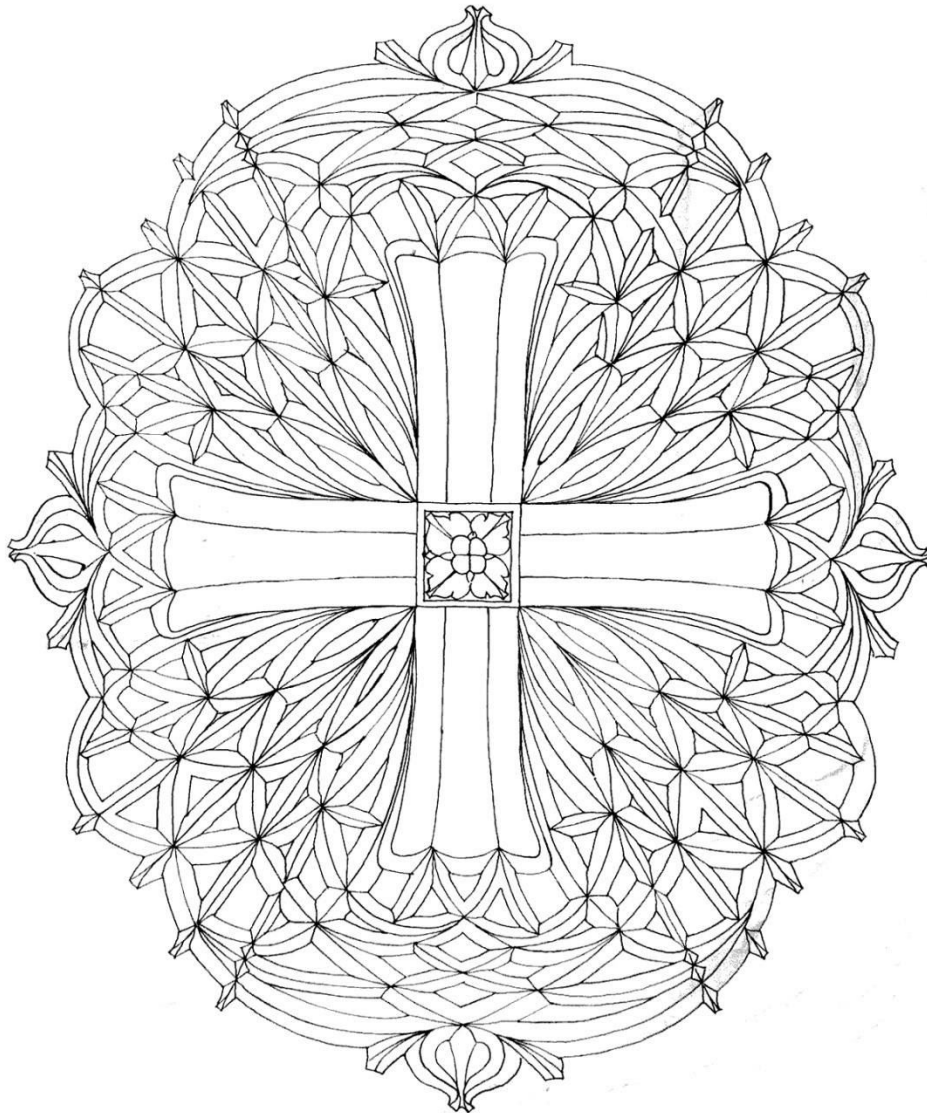


# First Presbyterian Church

November 29, 2020

First Sunday of Advent



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH of Raleigh

*Serving Christ from the heart of the city to the ends  
of the earth with love, faith and action.*

## We Gather in God's Presence

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*"Wexford Carol"*  
Margaret Garriss, violin

arr. Catherine McMichael

Call to Worship

Say to those who are fearful, "Be strong and do not fear! Behold, your God has not forsaken you!  
With saving mercy, the Lord your God comes to redeem and rescue you! Rejoice and be glad!

**We light this candle as a sign of our hopeful waiting,  
and our faith in the Lord our God.**

Hymn

["O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"](#)

No. 88

Prayer of Confession

Laurie Taylor Weicher

**We confess, O God, that we have not always acknowledged our need of you, as we pretend to be self-sufficient and strong. The truth is that we are neither, and when our frailties are revealed, having wandered so far from you, we are not sure you can find us. But the gospel assures us that you can, that having come all the way to where we are, choosing not to be God-at-a-distance, but God-with-us, our deep fears are met by your steadfast presence, and our waywardness by the long reach of your love. Receive our thanks, O God, for mercy undeserved, for grace upon grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Hear now our particular confessions, offered in silence before you...**

Kyrie | Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Response to Pardon

Friends in Christ, in response to this gift of God's grace, how then shall we live?

**With gratitude, following after the Lord Jesus Christ, who calls us to love  
God with heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves.**

This is the way of Jesus, in whom we find life!

## We Celebrate our Life Together

Moment for Mission

Christmas Joy Gift

Phil Kraemer

Joys and Concerns of the Church Family

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession and 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.**

## We Listen to God's Word

A Moment for Children

Katy Schafer

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 64:1-9; John 14:27

Sermon

"Yet..."

Ed McLeod

## We Respond to God's Word

Hymn

["Comfort, Comfort Now My People"](#)

No. 87

An Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

*"Creator of the Stars of Night"*  
Andy Eaton, Baritone; Margaret Garriss, violin

arr. Carol Browning

Invitation to the Lord's Table  
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts,

**We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

Partaking of the Elements

Prayer of Dedication

## We Bear God's Word into the World

Hymn

["All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"](#)

No. 509

Charge and Benediction

Benediction Response

**Go with us Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,  
that in Your Spirit, strong and true, our lives may be our gift to you.**

Postlude

*"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*

arr. Wilbur Held

The Advent stand is given in memory of Dr. W. C. Pressly by his family.

Communion (1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Drive-Thru in the church parking lot)