

First Presbyterian Church

Christ is Preeminent

November 29, 2026

582 Southwood Drive, Eden, NC, 27288
www.fpceden.org | 336-623-3962

IN PREPARATION

As the saints in the Old Testament longed for the Messiah in His First Advent, so too do we long with expectant hope for Jesus' Second Coming. We long to see His loving eyes and His glorious face. We long for our mortal bodies to finally be freed from sin. Do you, with great hope, desire for the Son's return this morning? Let us never grow weary of waiting for the One who has loved us from everlasting to everlasting.

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Welcome, Announcements, & Congregational Greeting

Gospel Greeting

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to whoever will come – this church opens wide her doors
and offers her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Scripture Meditation: *Romans 8:24-25* *(Recite in Unison)*

For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Introit & Silent Preparation

* Call to Worship: *Psalm 130:7-8*

Leader: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

All: And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

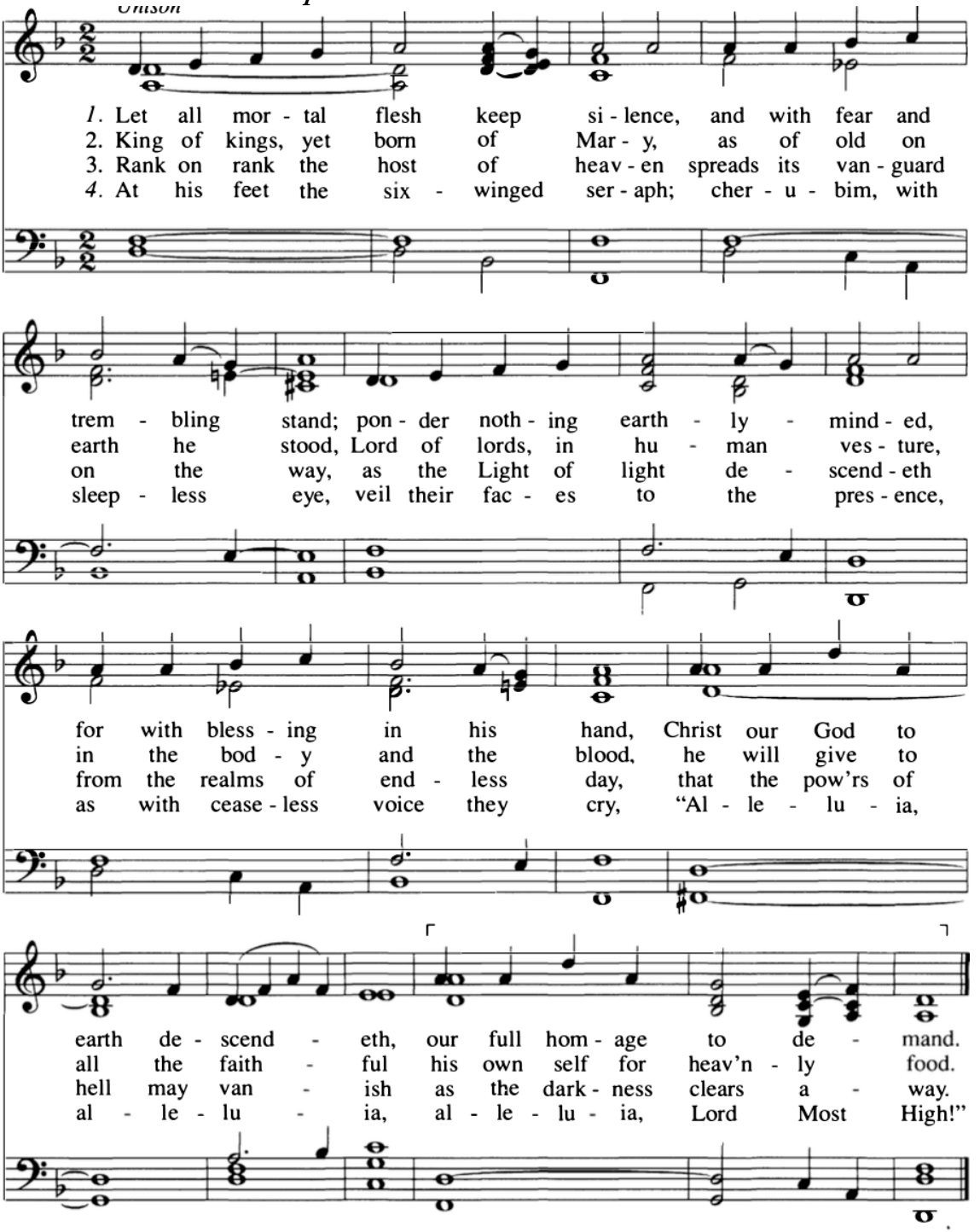
* Prayer of Invocation

* *Doxology*

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.

*** Please stand if you are able.**

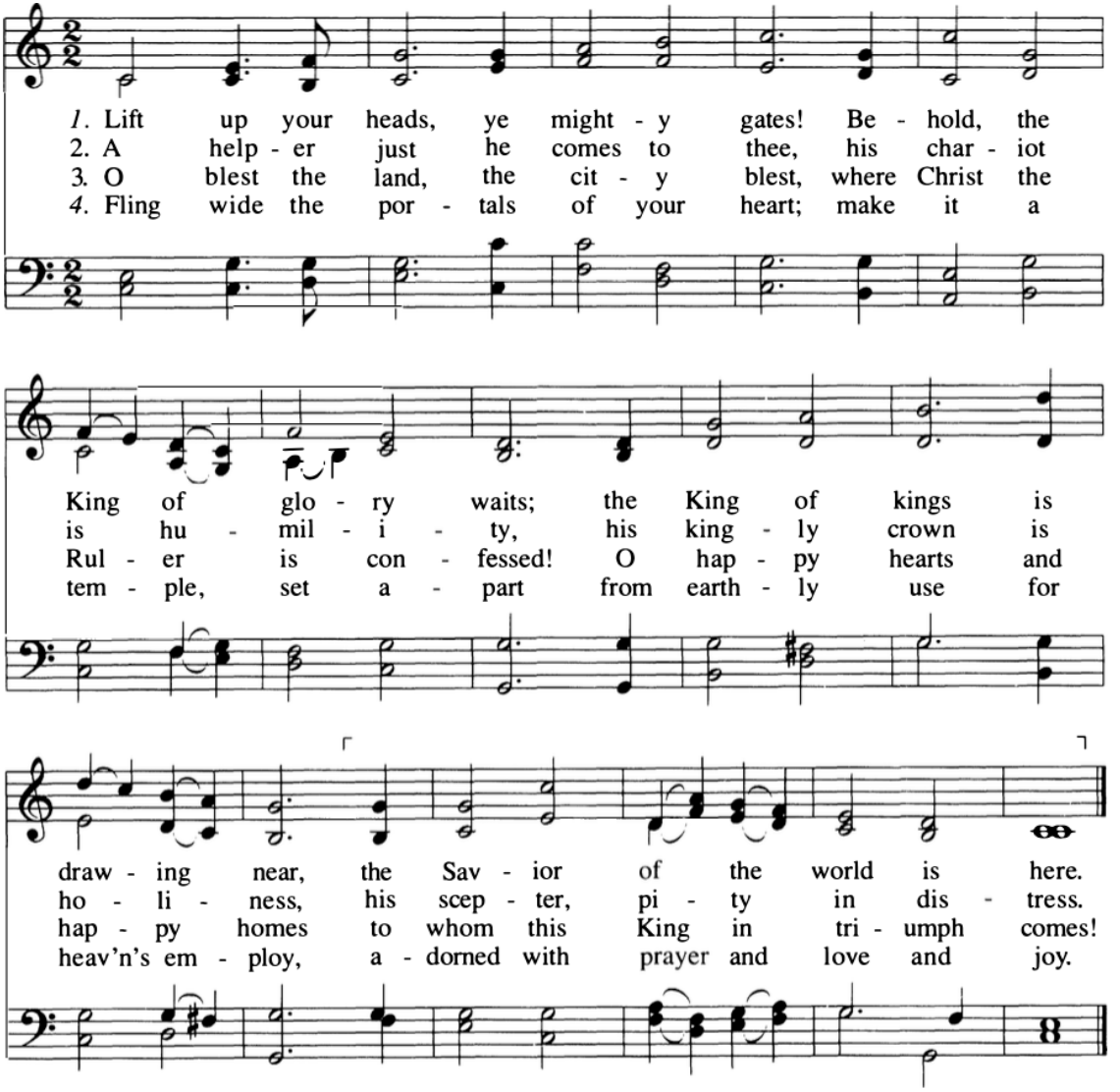
* *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*



Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.
Adapted by Gerard Moultrie, 1864

PICARDY 8.7.8.7.8.7.
French melody, 17th cent.
Arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

* *Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates*



5. Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in me reveal.

6. So come, my Sovereign, enter in!
Let new and nobler life begin!
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on,
until the glorious crown be won.

Based on Psalm 24
Georg Weissel, 1642
Tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1855; alt.

TRURO L.M.
Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

Reading of the Law: ***Deuteronomy 6:4-5***

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Corporate and Personal Confession of Sin ***(Recite in Unison)***

Father, I confess that I have not waited with expectant hope for Christ's Second Advent. I have lived like the world, giving myself over to the desires of the flesh, rather than walking by the Spirit. I confess that the hope of Christ has not filled my heart as it should. Lord, fill my heart anew, and let me cling to my Savior, my only hope in life and death. Forgive me for my treasonous sin as I wait for Jesus' return. Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: ***Deuteronomy 34:6-7a***

The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

Choir: Waiting

**** Gloria Patri***

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Advent Reading: ***Genesis 3:14-15***

The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

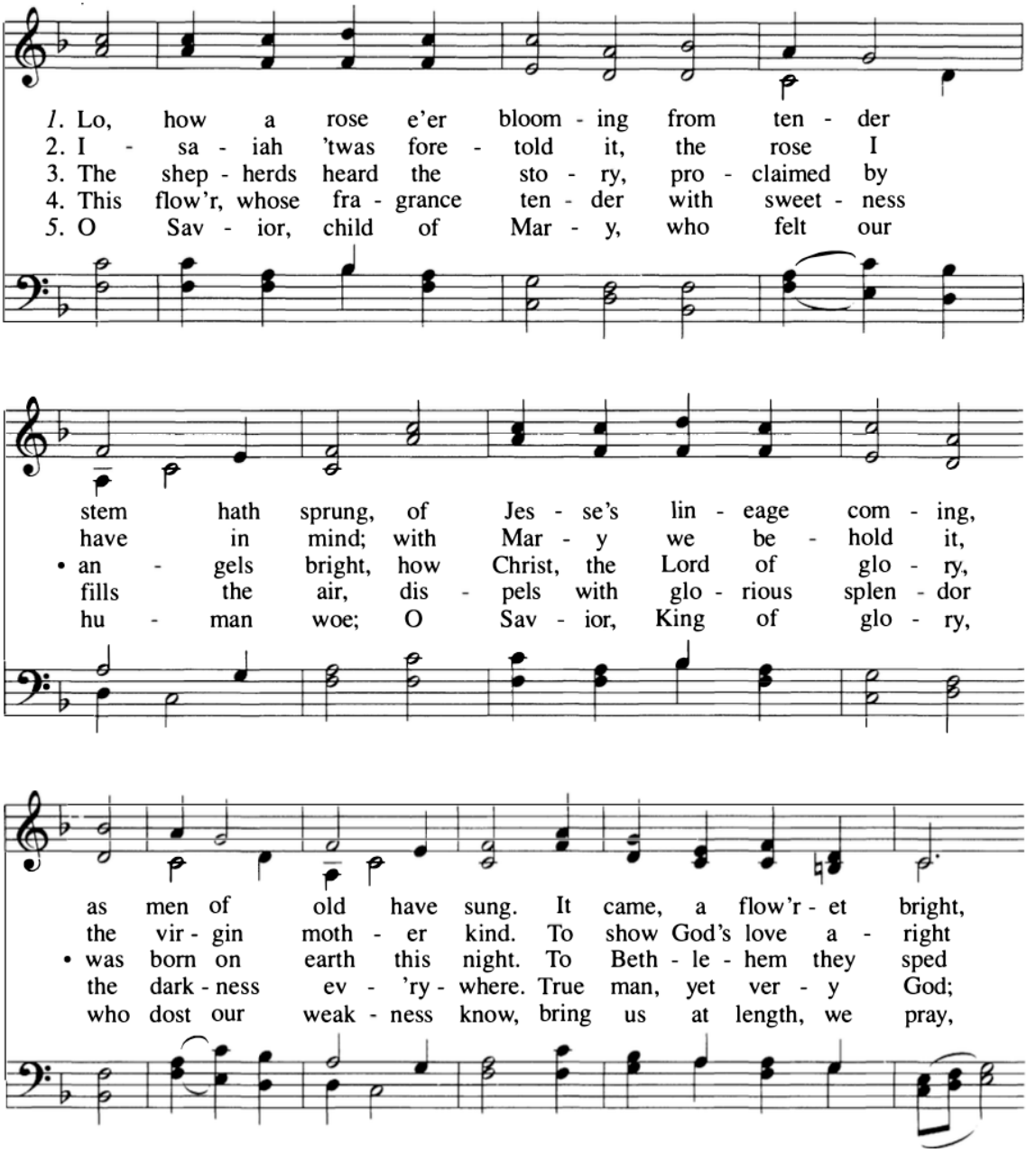
The Pastor's Prayer

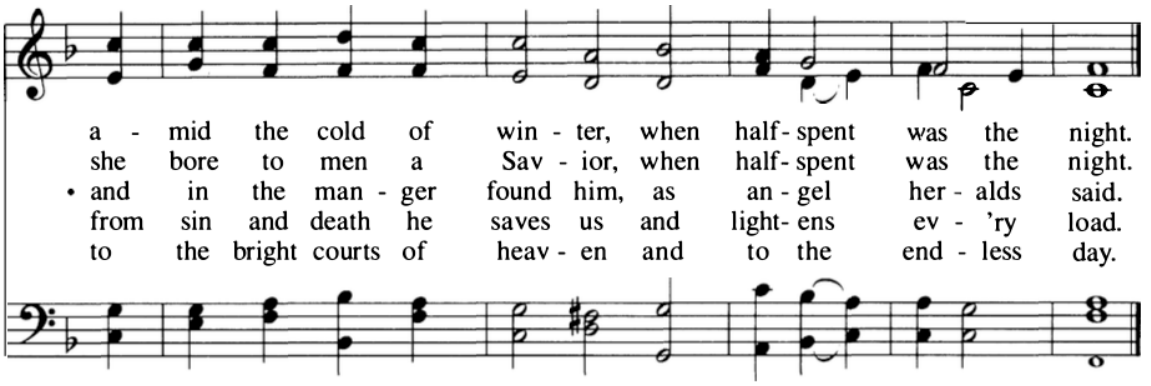
The Lord's Prayer ***(Recite in Unison)***

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

****Children May Leave for the Children's Bible Study****

***** ***Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming***





German hymn, ca. 1500
St. 1–2 tr. by Theodore Baker, 1894
St. 3–4 tr. by Harriett R. Spaeth, 1875
St. 5 tr. by John C. Mattes, 1914

ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN 7.6.7.6.6.7.6.
German melody, 15th cent.
Arr. by Michael Praetorius, 1609; alt.

*** Prayer of Illumination & The Reading of God's Word**

The Preaching of God's Word

LAMENTATIONS 3:21-24 – MY SOUL WILL HOPE IN GOD

The Lord's Supper

Reading of Scripture and Fencing of the Lord's Table

Silent Preparation to Partake of the Lord's Supper

Sursum Corda (Lift Your Hearts)

Leader: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right for us to give thanks.
Leader: Praise, all praise.
All: Unto the Lamb who died.
Leader: Ascended now in glory, forever magnified.
All: Praise, all praise, unto the name of Christ Jesus.

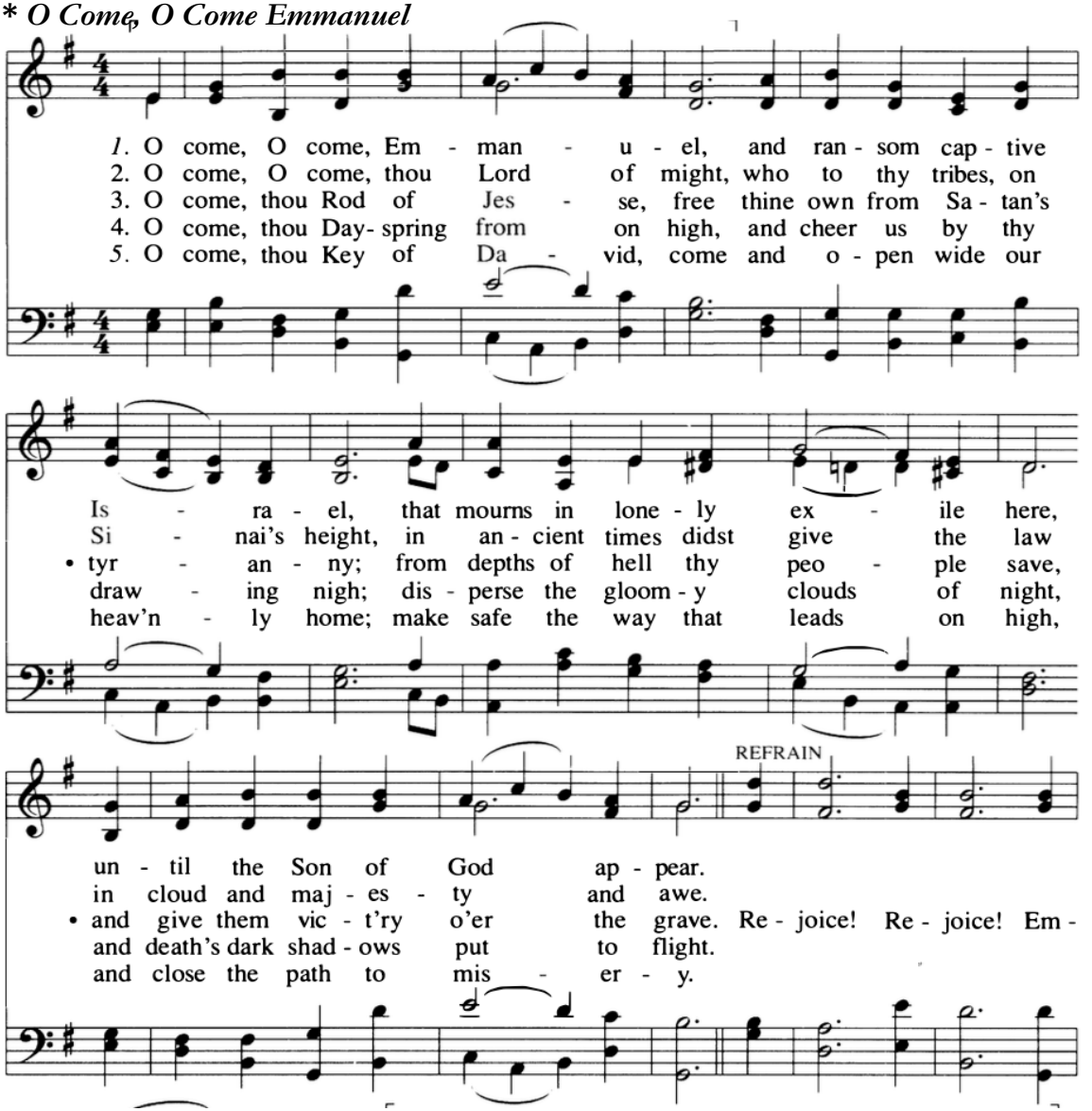
*** The Apostles' Creed** *(Recite in Unison)*

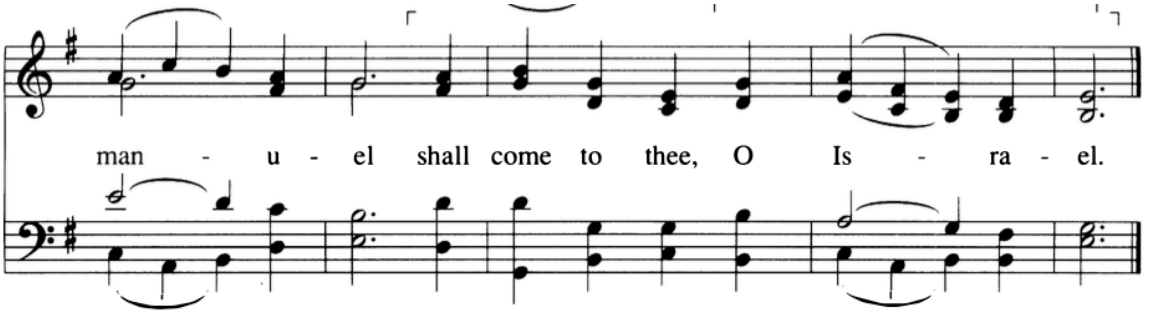
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel***





Latin antiphons, 12th cent.
Latin hymn, 1710
Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1961

VENI EMMANUEL L.M.ref.
Plainsong, 13th cent.
Arr. by Thomas Helmore, 1856

*** Benediction:** ***Leviticus 26:12***

Know that the Lord your God says, I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people.

***** ***Threefold Amen***

*** Postlude & Dismissal**

Although the gathering has ended, service to Christ continues; let us go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit, serving our Lord as His ambassadors in both the demonstration and the proclamation of the Gospel

PRAYER REQUESTS

****If you have a prayer request, please submit it to Jeni Hartley at jhartley@fpceden.org****

Our Congregation

- Frank Parker
- Stuart Peele
- Jonathan Smith
- Rick & Debbie Taylor

Our Missionaries

- Stephanie Black – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Ben and Ellie Childs – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Al and Joy Doomy – Outreach to Asia Nationals
- Bradley and Jessica Long – Frontier Fellowship
- Brent and Marianne Pilson – Café 1040

Operation World – Uganda

The majority of Ugandans identify themselves as Christian, but materialistic attitudes, polygamous practices, and non-biblical worldviews—all affecting lifestyle—are common. For many, being "Christian" simply means not being Muslim. Pray for renewal that would turn nominal Christians into disciples.

HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

Question & Answer #26

Question: *What do you believe when you say: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth"?*

Answer: That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who of nothing made heaven and earth with all that in them is (Gen. 1:31; Ps. 33:6), who likewise upholds, and governs the same by His eternal counsel and providence (Ps. 104:2–5; Matt. 10:30; Heb. 1:3; Ps. 115:3), is for the sake of Christ, His Son, my God and my Father (John 1:12; Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:5–7; Eph. 1:5), in whom I so trust as to have no doubt that He will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul (Ps. 55:22; Matt. 6:25–26; Luke 12:22–24; Ps. 90:1–2); and further, that whatever evil He sends upon me in this troubled life, He will turn to my good (Rom. 8:28); for He is able to do it, being Almighty God (Rom. 10:12), and willing also, being a faithful Father (Matt. 7:9–11).

Father, help us to be a God-glorifying, Christ-exalting, Spirit-led, Bible-saturated, Mission-driven, and Fellowship-focused people.

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

The Lord's Supper
Our next celebration of the Lord's Supper will be on January 3.

Session
Bruce Nooe – Stated Clerk (2027)
Kenny Mabe (2028)
Everall Peele (2028)
Bill Robertson (2028)
Carter Combs (2029)
Pastor Brad Milks

Staff
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bradley Milks
Pastor's Email: brad@fpceden.org
Church Administrator: Jennifer Shafer
Administrator's Email: office@fpceden.org

Committee Leaders
Building: Bruce Nooe
Missions/Outreach: Paul Sasser
Congregational Life: Pat Smith

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www.facebook.com/FPCEden
www.youtube.com/@FPCEden

December Birthdays
Dec. 12 Dan Harrison
Dec. 13 Sherry Tilley
Dec. 14 Jeni Hartley
Dec. 15 Larry Helms
Dec. 17 Cheryl Lauzau
Dec. 20 Betty Matthews,
Jan McGuire, Cheryl Jenkins
Dec. 21 Cayden Hinson
Dec. 25 Abigail Underwood
Dec. 30 Mike McDaniel
Dec. 31 Jonathan Smith

Ministries
Sunday School | Sunday 9:00am
Public Worship | Sunday 10:00am
Pastor's Study | Wednesday 10:00am
Church Prayer | Wednesday 6:30pm
Choir Practice | Wednesday 7:00pm
Puritan Fellowship | Thursday 7:00am
Epistles of John Study | Saturday 7:15am

Stewardship – Through October
Operational Budget
YTD Received: $225,252.14
YTD Expenses: $248,389.14
Budget YTD: -$21,137.00

Building Fund
Building Need: $131,762.00
Building Received: $90,077.17
Building YTD: -$41,684.83

Pennies for Hunger Offering (Missions/Outreach)
Sunday, December 6

Sign Up for Our Emails
Scan the code with your phone and sign up to receive our emails.

NEW TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

We are thankful that you have gathered with us this morning to worship the living triune God, seeing and savoring His glorious grace in the Gospel of Jesus Christ! We pray you joyfully encounter the Lord's presence and glory through singing, the fellowship of God's people, and the preaching of His Word. May we glorify God and enjoy Him forever!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Session Calls for a Congregational Meeting immediately following the service on December 6, 2026. The purpose of the meeting is threefold: 1) Elect individuals for the Nominating Committee, 2) Present the 2027 budget, and 3) Present the Pastor's terms of call to be voted upon.

Staff Love Gift. We will be collecting through December 20, 2026. Please mark your check in the memo with "Staff Love Gift."

Women's Advent Study. We are pleased to announce a four-week-long Women's Advent study (*All Who Draw Near)* starting Monday, November 30, 2026. The study will be held at the Southards' home from 6:30-8:00pm. For more information, please contact Jessie Southard.

Christmas Activities

- **Angel Tree Gifts.** We still have many children who are in need of help this Christmas. Prayerfully consider taking a boy or girl. All necessary information is included on the cards on the Angel Tree. For more information, speak with Pat Smith.
- **Salvation Army Bell Ringing.** We need individuals to sign up for bell ringing this weekend and next weekend. Please sign up in the back of the sanctuary if you are able to assist.
- **Christmas Poinsettias.** You are able to donate Christmas poinsettias in memory or in honor of loved ones. We will list the names of these individuals in the worship folder on December 29, 2027. Each poinsettia costs $14. The deadline to place an order is December 13.
- **Christmas Eve Service.** Join us at 6:00pm on Christmas Eve for our annual Christmas Eve Service. Let us take time out of our busy schedules to focus upon the Savior in God's presence.
- **Children's Christmas Play.** Join us on Sunday, December 13, at 6:00pm for the children's annual Christmas play. This will be followed by a fellowship with cookies, dessert, and drinks.

Tithing Booklets. The 2027 tithing booklets are available on the large table in the Sanctuary. Please contact Jennifer Shafer if you have questions or if you need a tithing booklet.

To parents with children: We are glad you, your family, and your children are here this morning. Children are a blessing from the Lord. Sometimes they wiggle and squirm throughout the service. Children are not a distraction to the church. They are a gift from the Lord.

To children: If you want to doodle all over this bulletin – go for it! We are glad you are with us.

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