

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 507-282-1618

**Service for the Lord's Day
December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent**

8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Welcome to worship

* * * *As a courtesy to others, please silence cell phones.* * * *

Gathering

Prelude Variations on *Freu dich sehr o meine Seele*
Böhm, Ferguson, Manz

Greeting and Welcome

Please sign the Opportunity for Friendship register and pass it to the person next to you.

Opening Prayer

Lighting the Advent Candle

(8:30 a.m.) Margie Schaaf
(11:00 a.m.) Jane Hallman

Come, Lord Je - sus, we are wait - ing, Be our Guest this
Ad - vent day. Long - ing hearts watch ea - ger - ly
for Je - sus, who comes in hope.

We take comfort in the promise of hope that Christ will come and baptize with the Holy Spirit.

We give thanks, Lord, that your glory shall be revealed. Let your steadfast love and faithfulness meet. May the seeds of peace that you have planted blossom in our lives so that there is room for you, and that we do not forget to hold fast with hope in all our busy-ness. Amen.

◆ Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit.

◆ Hymn 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN 42

Call to Reconciliation

(8:30 a.m.) Elizabeth Remfert
(11:00 a.m.) Dudley Parsons

God does not want anyone to perish, but rather for all to come to repentance. Therefore, let us confess our sins, for God's salvation is at hand.

Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness. We suffer from impatience, apathy and greed; we have not been at peace. We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love. Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins, that we may walk in righteousness to the glory of your name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Kyrie (GTG 91, adapt.)

COME EMMANUEL

Two staves of musical notation in G major and 3/4 time. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Come, Lord, come grant us Emmanuel." The second staff continues with: "Come, Lord, Emmanuel." The melody is simple and hymn-like.

Words of Life

Brothers and Sisters, by the mercy of Christ, your sins are forgiven, for salvation is at hand for all who turn to God. Amen.

◆ **Canticle of Praise** (GTG 109, adapt.)

FOREST GREEN

Four staves of musical notation in B-flat major and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free; who visits and redeems us, who grants us liberty. The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release; O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!" The melody is more complex and rhythmic than the hymns.

Time for Young Worshipers

Passing of the Peace

Please refrain from shaking hands and greet each other with a word of peace or a wave of the hand.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us share a sign of the peace of Christ with one another!

The Word

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, our hope and strength,

**by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts
for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the
glorious signs of your promise fulfilled;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Reading from the Gospels

Mark 1:1-8

Gospel Acclamation (GTG 99, stanza 5)

MORNING SONG

Praise God, whose lov-ing cov-e - nant sup - ports those in dis - tress,
re - mem - ber - ing past prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

Reading from the Epistles

2nd Peter 3:8-15a

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message

What Are We Waiting For?

Rev. Karla Ann Koll

Our Response

- ◆ **Hymn 106** Prepare the Way, O Zion BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN
- ◆ **Affirmation of Faith** Apostles Creed (Traditional)

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

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

(8:30am) Hymn Prelude on "Prepare the Way, O Zion" Paul Manz

(11:00am) Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain Carolyn Jennings

Climb to the top of the highest mountain, joyous tidings proclaim to the world,
lift up your voice, shout the good news: Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd, He will carry the lambs in his arms,
He will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He who made the stars in the heaven, He who fashioned the earth and the sea,
from time eternal he was God, the Alpha and Omega, He. Behold, your Lord! He will come
in power and glory, He will rule with mercy and truth, Hope of all the nations, Light of all.

He will love the little children, He will hold them in his arms. Love him and trust him
as a child, Behold, your Lord comes to you. Love him and trust him as a child.

Text: Isaiah 40:9-11, adapted

Chancel Choir

◆ Offertory Response (GTG 84, stanza 4)

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,
and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,
praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

◆ **Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Lord, we give you thanks that in the coming of Christ your steadfast love and faithfulness have met and your righteousness and peace have kissed. May the gifts we offer this day lift up those in need and prepare the way of your salvation. Amen.

Sending

◆ **Hymn 105**

People Look East

BESANÇON

◆ **Benediction**

Postlude

Every Valley Shall Be Exalted from *Messiah*

George Frideric Handel

transcribed from the aria based on the text: Isaiah 40:1-4

Kay Tate, cello

The flowers are given for the Glory of God by Belinda Galeano
in honor of her parents, Marc & Lorna Galeano.

Music and text reproduced from the Public Domain and by permission under OneLicense A-718669
Please see the *Stained Glass Window* for a full list of church activities.

*Come, Lord Jesus, We Are Waiting (CGA-592) Text: Helen Stensrud, Music: Dorothy Christopherson.
Copyright 1992 Choristers Guild. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA.
Reproduced for congregational use by permission of the publisher.*



Please pray for...

Mission Co-worker

Rev. Dr. Karla Ann Koll

and the people of Latin America

pcusa.org/karla-ann-koll

karla.koll@pcusa.org

Address Universidad Biblica Latinoamericana

Apartado 901-1000

San Jose, Costa Rica



**PREBYTERIAN
MISSION**
AMERICA



Karla Ann Koll

Serving Christ in Costa Rica

Karla is professor of history, mission, and religions for the Latin American Biblical University (UBL), a PC (USA) mission partner that has been training church leaders from throughout Latin America for over 90 years. Karla works with students from a variety of denominations. "I have the joy of guiding women and men into deeper understandings of their faith in Christ as I and my colleagues provide them with tools for working in God's mission in ways that transform lives and communities," says Karla, who is accompanied in Costa Rica by her husband, Javier Torrez. Their adult daughter, Tamara Torrez-Koll, lives in Oregon.

Personal Information

Birthdays

Karla- May 3

Javier-December 20

Tamara-December 15

Anniversary

July 19

Accounts

E200373-individuals

D506645-congregations

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God. . . ." Romans 12:2

Give: pcusa.org/donate/E200373

Give by check: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

PO Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Learn more about supporting Presbyterian mission workers,
Call 800-728-7228, x5611.

Learn more about Presbyterian World Mission at pcusa.org/worldmission

Stained Glass Window

What is happening around FPC ...
Week of December 10, 2023

This Week's Calendar

- † Sunday, December 10**
Worship—8:30am in-person
Message: *What Are We Waiting For?*,
Rev. Dr. Karla Ann Koll
Christian Formation & Fellowship—9:30am
Cookies and Creches
Fair Trade Display and Market
Kerygma meets
Worship—11am in-person & livestreamed
- † Tuesday, December 12**
Kitchen Guild—9:30am
Esther Circle—12nn
First Players Holiday Concert—7pm
- † Wednesday, December 13**
Prayer Shawl Group—1pm
FPC @ Friendship Place
Youth Music Program—4:45pm
Wednesday Programming Dinner—5:30pm
Midweek Evening Prayer Service—6:05pm
Advent Bible Study—6:30pm
- † Thursday, December 14**
Memorial Service for Judith Haas—11am
Jubilate Deo—6pm
Chancel Choir—7pm
- † Saturday, December 16**
Ruth Circle—10:00am
- † Sunday, December 17**
Service of Lessons & Carols
Worship—8:30am in-person
*Ponder the history of salvation as we
worship, sing beloved carols and hear a
performance of Vivaldi's Gloria!*
Christian Formation & Fellowship—9:30am
Kerygma meets
Worship—11am in-person & livestreamed

Stewardship 2024

Campaign Goal:
\$870,000

*Pledge
Drive*

Of our 315 giving units (individuals, couples and/or families), as of December 7 we have received 126 pledge cards totaling \$481,843. Thank you to everyone who has already pledged. Let's keep the momentum going!

Jeremy Braun, Stewardship Committee

Thank you ...

... to the following people who have contributed to this year's Poinsettia Fund. The Deacons plan to deliver the plants to our C.A.R.E. members next Sunday.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Ken & Marylynn Alderks</i> | <i>Brett & Joann Lamberty</i> |
| <i>Lee Afdahl & Van Jacobsen</i> | <i>Mark & Michelle Mueller</i> |
| <i>Jay & Carolyn Beck</i> | <i>Marion Pitts</i> |
| <i>Richard & Janice Bennett</i> | <i>Olivia Reddick</i> |
| <i>Alan & Marcia Dollerschell</i> | <i>Roger & Denny Ring</i> |
| <i>Holly Ebel</i> | <i>Margie Schaaf</i> |
| <i>Judy Felten</i> | <i>Larry & Wendy Shannon</i> |
| <i>Belinda Galeano</i> | <i>Sylvia Swede</i> |
| <i>Michael & MaryJo Harper</i> | <i>Tom & Marilyn Theismann</i> |
| <i>Cindy Kunzman</i> | <i>Janine Yanisch</i> |



Cookies, Crèches & Free Trade Market



Favorite Nativity scenes are on display in the atrium today, along with *fair trade* items for sale. Purchase unique hand-made items and products from artisans and farmers around the world. Browse, shop and learn more about the Fair Trade Federation.

Enjoy cookies and holiday punch throughout the morning.

Sharing Tree



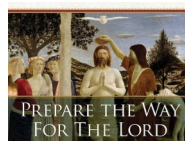
This Advent season, help different charitable organizations in Rochester by selecting a colored gift tag from the tree located on the Welcome Desk in the Atrium, including The Landing, Hawthorne Helps and The Women's Shelter. Return your unwrapped gifts to the church library before **December 17**.

Midweek Evening Prayer Services



Join us in the sanctuary at 6:05pm on Wednesday for a brief respite from your week. The evening service will include not only prayer, but other forms of devotion in music, poetry and reflection.

Advent Study



Rev. T.J. is leading an Advent study on Wednesdays at 6:30pm using the book, *"Prepare the Way of the Lord"* by Adam Hamilton. Copies are available for purchase in the church office for \$14.



Birthdays...

10 December

◆ Elizabeth Sorenson

12 December

◆ Mya Loeb

13 December

◆ Ed Gomez

14 December

◆ Al Depman, Brie Doppler & Kayla Marcoux

15 December

◆ Belinda Galeano

16 December

◆ Jeff Borgen, Jean Miner, Mark Pittelkow & Jay Youmans

We extend our condolences to *William Haas* and his family and friends on the death of **Judith Haas** on December 6. The memorial service is being planned for Thursday, December 14, at 11:00 a.m.



With Deepest Sympathy



Presbyterian Giving Catalog

The Mission Committee has a small display in the Atrium during the month of December to encourage members to select items/gifts to send to our family in Christ around the world. *The Presbyterian Giving Catalog* features small gifts that can have a big impact on the lives of others, and no wrapping is required!! Choices available include things like sewing machines, kitchen kits, fishing kits, famine relief, water filters, a piglet, or a family of chickens!

Please look for the display in the Atrium and pick up a catalog today! Just take the catalog home, read through it, pick out what you would like to sponsor and send your check to the PC(USA).



CHRISTMAS JOY

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHURCH LEADERS—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

The *Christmas Joy Offering* has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The offering distributes gifts equally to the *Assistance Program* through the Board of Pensions, providing critical financial support to church workers and their families, and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color, providing education and leadership

development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a commitment for nearly 140 years.

FPC's Mission Committee invites you to contribute to the *Joy Offering* during the entire month of December.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Thomas J. (T.J.) Parlette, Senior Pastor
John E. Stender, Director of Music and Organist
Lee J. Afdahl, Director of Music Emeritus
Harry E. Coleman, Facility Manager
Jesse Copley, Custodian
Than Boutelle, Custodian/Sunday Host

Cindy Kunzman, Office Manager
Sarah A. Stender, Music Associate
Janine M. Yanisch, First Players bands
Paul Herr, Security
Margie Schaaf, Sunday Host

Sunday worship in-person at 8:30 & 11am, and livestreamed on YouTube at 11am;
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9am – 4pm

First Presbyterian Church / 512 Third Street SW / Rochester, MN 55902
(507) 282-1618; web@fpcrochester.org; www.fpcrochester.org

*First Presbyterian Church is an
inclusive community celebrating God with:*
†Energy †Intelligence †Imagination †Love

Member: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)