

Sermon

Advent 1: "Make Ready a People: #more love"

***Closing Hymn**

"The First Nowell"

GTG#147

The word "Noel" comes from the French word meaning a shout of joy. But it may have even older roots in the Latin for "news." Indeed, it is the day that we proclaim the news that love has come to town. May you be humming this all day and into the night as we celebrate the birth of Jesus this day.

The Mission to the Messengers

Sending

God gives us the vision,

so let us go to see others as our sisters and brothers.

Jesus gives us the eyes,

so let us look in all the unexpected places

to welcome all into our lives.

The Spirit calls us to watch,

so let us bear witness to the justice and joy

coming into our shattered world.

Let us turn toward the Candle of love
in the center of our sanctuary
and sing to one another the message
we must take to the world:

Benediction

Do not be afraid

Do not be afraid

Do not be afraid

Do not be afraid

Postlude

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

arr. Schram

You may follow the light out into the world



Angels Among Us

... experience hope,
peace, joy and love as
you prepare for the
birth of Christ

Advent 2021

First
Presbyterian
Church

Do Not Be Afraid
More Love

First Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth E. Broschart, Minister of Word and Sacrament

December 19, 2021

11 a.m.

Welcome! We are blessed to have you worship with us today!

**Please stand, if able, and remain standing*

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Pre-Service Music

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* arr. Bumgarner

Threshold Moment

“There Are Angels Among Us”
There are angels among us that may not meet the eye
There are messages of love coming from a choir on high
But don’t just look up
For the way God works
Is to plant more love right here on earth
Just like it was with Jesus birth
There are angels among us
There are angels among us
There are angels among us
Bringing love on earth
Do not be afraid
Do not be afraid
Do not be afraid
Do not be afraid

Prayer

Holy Living God, Blessed Jesus, Guiding Spirit

Alight within us your flame of love this day

Grant us openness to hear your message

Grant us courage to be your messengers in the world,

Creating more hope in the midst of fear.

And with the angel messengers above us, among us and within us, we sing as we extend the peace of Christ by cupping our hands ...

Do not be afraid
Do not be afraid
Do not be afraid
Do not be afraid

***Hymn** *“Angels From the Realms of Glory”* **GTG#143**

Story for Young Messengers

***Hymn** *“Surely The Presence of the Lord”* **Screen**

Offering Prayer

God of love and possibility,
we offer these gifts so that they may be transformed into your good news
for the sake of the world. Amen.

Anthem *“Of the Father’s Love”*
by Joel Raney, lyrics by Aurelius/C. Prudentius

***Doxology**

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer (Debt/Debtors)

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

Scripture Luke 2:1-20

Serving Today

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Broschart	Minister of Word and Sacrament
Ashley Stanley-Robey	Interim Music Director
Patricia Howell	Interim Organist
Sam Meadema	Sound
TBA	Story for Young Messengers
Brenna Takata	Liturgist
David Parris	Security, Side door & Offering
Brenna Takata	Greeter
Karan Johnson & Ava Barrett	Sunday School
Drake & William Weller	Advent Candle Lighter

The flowers that enhance our worship service are given in loving memory of the deceased members of the Wiseman family by Paige and Frank Wiseman.

Announcements

This will be our last Wednesday Night Advent Supper. Price will be \$6. Following the meal, we will walk to the sanctuary for our Blue Christmas Service. Please fill out the reservation form in the bulletin if you plan on attending this week or call the office by Tuesday Dec. 21st. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m.; the program will follow at 6:40. Our meal this week will be: ham, mac & cheese, peas, roll, salad, and a delicious dessert.

Our **Christmas Eve** service will be **December 24th at 7:30 p.m.** featuring choral and instrumental music, reading of the Christmas Story, communion, and Candle Lighting.

Our Pathways to Generosity team has met we are pleased with the level of giving and the steps taken to increase giving and particularly for those who took the first step on the pathway to being generous givers. We have 50 cards turned in with a total of \$233,460 towards our 2022 budget of \$502,901.03.

It is still not too late to join in this year's annual giving campaign. Please prayerfully consider your level of commitment, and then communicate with an Estimate of Giving Card.

We are excited about the future ministry of First Presbyterian Church.

We will collect our Christmas Joy Offering this morning. The Christmas Joy Offering honors the faithfulness of current and retired church workers and their families in need. Thanks in part to support from this Offering, church workers can receive financial assistance to support them through challenging circumstances. These generous actions bear witness to our faithful response to God's charge to love one another as Christ commanded. Please note on the memo line Christmas Joy Offering or use the special pew envelope.