

## Prayers of the People and (8:25) The Lord's Prayer

- \* **Hymn 362**      *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers*    Laureti/Welsh tune
- \* **Benediction**
- \* **Response Hymn 90**    *Wait for the Lord (sung twice)*      Taizé/Berthier  
**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.**  
**Wait for the Lord, be strong; take heart.**
- \* **Postlude**      *Fugue on the Magnificat*      Pachelbel

## Serving Today

### Ushers:

8:25a.m. Jay Haggard (Head), Barbara Bidwell, Sam Bidwell, Mark Dail, Janelle Haggard, Margaret Heberlein, Don Ingraham

10:55a.m. George Moore (head) Marc Finlayson, Lydia Finlayson, Margaret Colbert, Dan Frey, Linda Palmer, Jamey Spruill, Mary Chason

### Greeters:

8:25a.m. Gene Peele  
10:55 a.m. Lynne Moore

### Lectionary Reading for December 8, 2019

Isaiah 11:1-10      Matt. 3:1-12  
Romans 15:4-13

**WELCOME** guests! Please write your name on a visitor's badge for your blouse or lapel. Along with our members, please sign the Friendship Pad when passed to you during the service.

**WORSHIP SYMBOLS** \* Please rise in body or spirit

**CHILDREN** are welcome at First Presbyterian Church. Beginning at 8:30AM, our paid and background-checked nursery workers would be honored to care for your little ones (infants-4 years). Please see an usher for directions to the nursery (room 1.23 in the Ministry Center). The nursery is available for nursing at any time. Following the Children's Moment, those in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade or younger may depart for Children's Worship and Wonder. For those 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up, ask an usher for worship bags for your child(ren).

**RESTROOMS** are available in the Ministry Center (including a family restroom with changing table) and the Session House.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Hearing assistance devices with ear coverings are available and large print hymnals are available in the last row of pews. Please ask an usher if you have need. Wheelchair accessibility is provided by ramps on either side of the Sanctuary and in back of the Ministry Center.

## Session 2019

Edward Bellis, Moderator, Maren Sonstegard-Spray, Karen Reed, Clerk

### Administration

Chris Kelso '19  
Betsy Conzelman '20  
Trudy Martin '20

### Education

Jennifer East '19  
David Hale '20  
Janet Bryan '20

### Care

Becky Nohr '19  
Polly Frank '20  
Doug Phelps '21

### Fellowship

Cathy Warren '20  
Peter Moeller '20  
Beth Foley '21

### Worship

Janelle Haggard '21  
Gayle Hardy '21  
George Moore '21

### Communications

Susan Ryan '19  
Oscara Stevick '19  
Jim Findley '21

### Outreach

Bruce Pollock '21  
Peggy Clark '21  
Bill Harris, '19

### Pastoral & Program Staff

- \* The Rev. Edward Bellis, *Interim Pastor*
- \* The Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray, *Associate Pastor*
- \* The Rev. Lloyd Griffith, *Parish Associate*
- \* Daewon Goldenbaum-Yang, *Director of Education and Youth Ministry*

### Music Program Staff

- \* Pat K. Rowlett, *Director of Music*
- Vance Harper Jones, *Organist*
- Susan Mabie, *Director, Resurrection Singers*
- Cindy Sutton, *Assistant Organist and Pianist*
- Dru Wilkins, *Music Assistant*

### Office and Support Staff

- \* Tommy Hall, *Administrative Coordinator*
- \* Priscilla Miller, *Interim Office Administrator*
- \* Cathy Wingfield, *Communications Coordinator*
- \* Amber Zapffel, *Financial Secretary*
- \* Kerri Wheeler, *Children's Worship*
- James Briley, Jr., *Treasurer*
- Louis Foye, *Sexton*
- Lisa Wood, *Nursery Coordinator*
- Cindi DeVoe, *Nursery Staff*
- Missy Dixon, *Nursery Staff*

### Pre-school

- \* Kerri Wheeler, *Director of Preschool*

You can contact persons designated \* by replacing their first names as in the example for our pastor: [maren@firstpresnb.org](mailto:maren@firstpresnb.org)

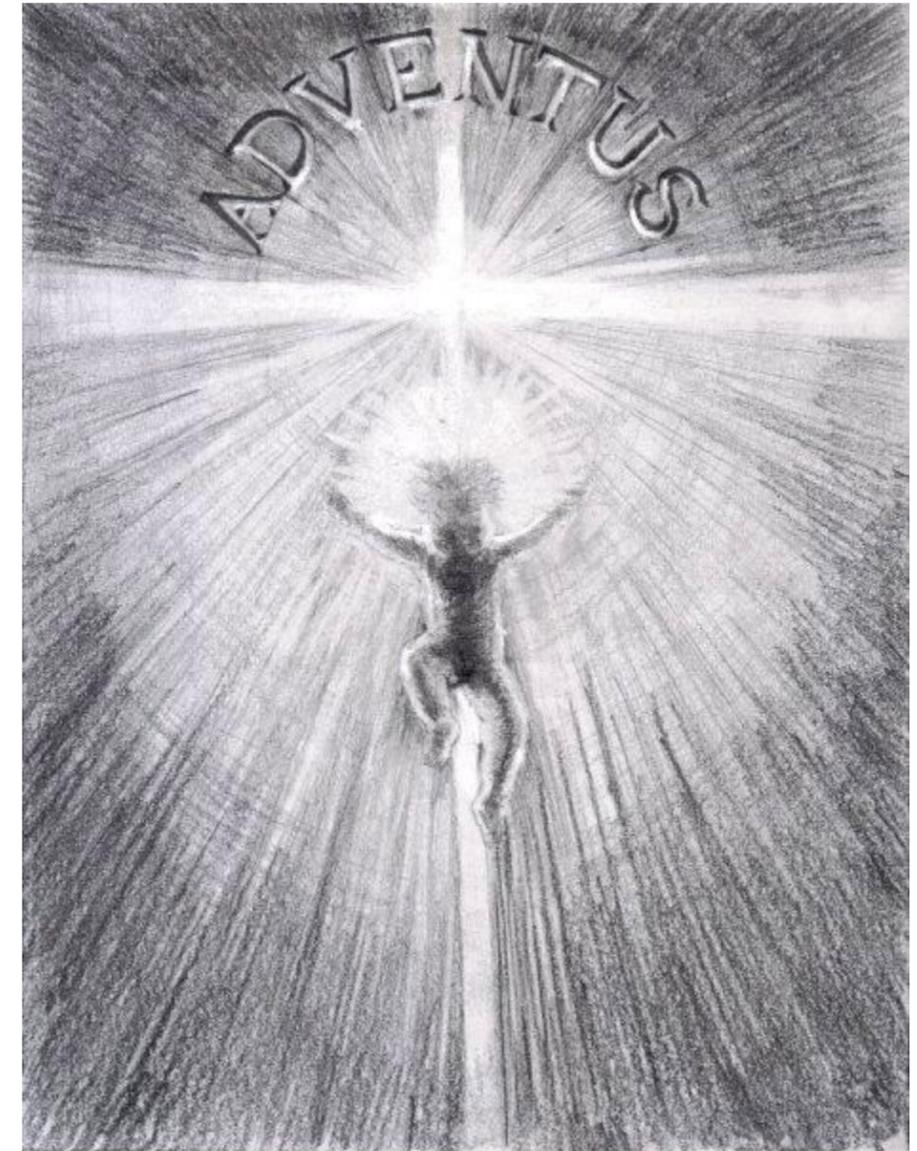
400 New Street, New Bern, NC 28560  
Phone: 252-637-3270 Fax: 252-637-4494  
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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF NEW BERN

ORGANIZED 1817

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World



*Adventus*, Michael Guess, 2010, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent December 1, 2019

— Eight Twenty-five and Ten Fifty-five a.m. —

*Trusting that God's grace embraces and makes covenant with all believers, First Presbyterian Church intends to be an inclusive place of spiritual growth for all people. All persons are welcomed into this fellowship and membership regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic or racial identity, economic or educational status, or political affiliation.*

The Prayer of Preparation is offered to assist you. If you wish to share a joy or concern with the pastoral staff, please write it on the tan prayer card found in the pew rack. We will collect these cards in the offering. If you wish the prayer to remain confidential, place the card in a provided privacy envelope. *Please silence or turn off cell phones.*

### Prayer of Preparation

God of Advent, we are an impatient and busy people. We are propelled into Christmas and swept away by activity. Help us to slow down and savor Advent. Teach us in this rhythm of expectation to see you at work in our lives and in the world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

### Welcome

Following the "Chiming of the Trinity" and during the "Prelude," please enter a period of silent meditation.

### Chiming of the Trinity

**Prelude** *Savior of the Nations, Come, BWV 599* J.S. Bach

**Introit** *Wait for the Lord* Taizé/Berthier

### Announcements

**Advent Candle Lighting** Isaiah 2:2-5

One day we will arrive.

One day our hearts will catch sight of the mountain of the LORD.

**Lord, we want to go there!**

**O God, we long to be in your presence and walk in your ways.**

Let's go! All together, let's make that journey to the mountain of God.

**Sisters and brothers, friends and strangers, let us travel together.**

**Surely we will get there.**

Let the dream of that holy mountain

give you courage and strength as we go.

**What a vision: weapons of war turned into tools of harvest,  
and lessons of peace taught to all people.**

Let us journey together in the light of the LORD!

Response (to the tune of O Come, O Come Emmanuel)

**O come, O come, Immanuel**

**And bless each place your people dwell.**

**Melt ev'ry weapon crafted for war,**

**Bring peace upon the earth forever more.**

**Rejoice, rejoice! Take heart and do not fear,**

**God's chosen one, Immanuel, draws near.**

\* **Hymn 104** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* Gerhardt/Teschner

### \* Prayer of Confession

**God of mercy hear our prayer as we confess our shortcomings and guilt. With moments so critical, we let time "just go by." With deliverance so near, we linger in the darkness. With the passing of the night, we still hesitate to greet the new day. O God lead us forth and dispel the shadows, so that your will may be clear. Clothed with light and new life in Christ, let us go forth as those who are awake.**  
(Silent confession)

\* **Kyrie Eleison** John Merbecke



\* **Assurance of Pardon**

\* **Response 437** *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy* Wetzel



\* **Summary of the Law**

**"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and the first commandment. And a second is like it, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."** Matthew 22:37-39

\* **Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

**(10:55) Children's Moment** The Rev. Edward Bellis  
Hymn 95 (sung twice) *Prepare the Way of the Lord*  
**Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,  
And all people will see the salvation of our God.**

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.**

Hymn 95 (sung twice) *Prepare the Way of the Lord*

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

*Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along your pew  
and place prayer request cards in the offering plate.*

Offertory *Come, Thou dear Redeemer* Cesar Franck  
Pat Rowlett, soprano

\* **Doxology** Hymn 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* **Prayer of Dedication**

**O God, your will is revealed in hidden places. We are told to be ready, for your son comes at times we do not expect. We are told to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, and visit those in prison. Quiet our fears that we may venture confidently into the unknown and minister to the strangers in our midst. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

\* **Hymn 102** *Savior of the Nations, Come* Ambrose/1524

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Lesson** Romans 13:11-14 NT pg. 162  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** *Long God's Faithful People Waited* Prichard  
Daybreak Choir (8:25) Sanctuary Choir (10:55) K. Lee Scott  
Please join in singing the refrain of verse 2

**Praise the Father, praise the Spirit: God of future years and past;  
Praise to Him who came from heaven  
When the time had come at last.**

**Second Lesson** Matthew 24:36-44 NT pg. 27-28  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** *Ready or Not! Here I Come!* The Rev. Edward Bellis

\* **Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed  
**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.**

\* **Gloria Patri** Hymn 581

**Moment for Mission** Gifts From The Heart

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

*The flowers are dedicated to the glory of God in memory of our parents, Mr. & Mrs. Horace Moore and Mr. & Mrs. James Price and in thanksgiving for our children Drew, Mary Ashlyn, Patrick and Ashlee and our grandchildren Harrison and Harlee, by George and Lynne Moore.*

*Congratulations to HLai Rbam and Y'Sek Rmah on their wedding  
November 30, 2019 in the Sanctuary.*

CEMC: None at this time