

HELLO FUPC FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

In this mailing you'll find the bulletin for Sunday's worship service. Join us Sunday at 10:30 in the sanctuary or via zoom by going to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5739200081>, or by phone (312-626-6799). If you're joining by phone, enter meeting ID 573-920-0081. If you've not used zoom before, follow the instructions provided at the link.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

Tuesday, November 30

9:00 a.m. – Coffee with Katie via Zoom

11:00 a.m. – Buildings and Grounds

Thursday, December 2

9:30 a.m. – Worship and Music via Zoom

5:00 p.m. – Amnesty International

Saturday, December 4

9:00 a.m. – Annual Budget Meeting via Zoom—follow the same link as for Sunday worship



First United Presbyterian Church
1000 Douglas Avenue
PO Box 37
Las Vegas NM 87701



WELCOME!! - We extend a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us this week!

November 23, 2021

Dear FUPC Family and Friends,

This Sunday we enter into the Advent season—a season of waiting for light to come into the world with the birth of the Christ-child. It is a time of introspection and waiting; a time when we acknowledge the darkness and despair in the world and faithfully anticipate the light.

As you probably know, D.R. and I drove to Kansas City last weekend to attend the memorial service for his nephew, Jared. We had made a very similar trip just a month or so ago when we vacationed in my home town (which is very near Kansas City), spending time with my sisters, brother, and two of my nieces. What a difference an hour makes! And what a difference a season and a heavy versus happy occasion make as well. When we were on vacation in October, we were still on daylight savings time, and although darkness was coming a little earlier than in the summer because of the season, we still had ample light for the drive. But our drive back this weekend was quite different. The sun sank into the horizon early, and the darkness was heavy. With cold and darkness outside the car and our hearts saddened by the death of a vibrant young man who had succumbed to mental illness and despair, the world seemed heavy.

I know I am not alone in feeling the weight of loss and despair at this time. Thank God we are entering the season of Advent, which encourages us to sit in the darkness, to be aware of the weight of the world. But also, to experience the hope we know because of the assurance that God's light is coming into the world, to be able to wait in peace, to know that joy and love and new life are coming to fill us.

I hope that you will immerse yourself in the opportunity Advent provides. You might devote time to participate in the Advent class, to read each day the story of Christ's birth, or to purchase an Advent devotional. Or perhaps you will join me in using the early darkness of this time of the year to experience Advent. Spend a few minutes in the deep darkness of evening. And then, light a candle to illuminate the darkness and, with your eyes on the light of the candle, offer a prayer of thanks for the hope we have as we approach the birth of the Messiah into the world.

With thanks for all of you,
Pastor Katie



Assisting in Worship This Week

Preacher – Rev. Katie Palmer Worship Leader – Karyl Lyne
Director of Music - Karyl Lyne Accompanist – Em Krall
Office Manager – Crystal Western Ford Tech Crew – D.R. Palmer, Jeff Salman, Denice Spicer



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue, Las Vegas NM 87701

November 28, 2021 10:30 a.m.

BE FILLED AND SPRING FORTH

MEDITATION — *The Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you will recognize him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognizing the coming of the Lord.* —Henri Nouwen

WE GATHER TOGETHER

WELCOME	Rev. Katie Palmer
PRELUDE	Em Krall
PASSING OF THE PEACE	Karyl Lyne
	<i>Let us make a commitment during this time to call someone today, visit with them and wish them the peace of Christ</i>
MINUTE FOR MISSION	Annual Budget Meeting Carol Linder, TTT Committee

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Psalm 130:5-8)

One: In Advent, we come from a world of scarcity	All: into a world of abundance.
One: We come from a world of anxiety	All: into a world of God's calm comfort.
One: We come from a world of weariness	All: into a world awake with wonder.
One: And so, we wait for the Lord	All: and in God's word we hope.
One: Our very souls wait for the Lord	All: more than those who watch for the morning.
One: For with God there is steadfast love	All: and with God there is great power to redeem.

***OPENING HYMN** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* (GTG #82)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR¹

We watch and wait for Christ's coming!
We light candles of hope, peace, joy and love, remembering God's promises with prayer.

We light this candle of hope, remembering the psalmist's words:
Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you. (Psalm 33:22)

God of hope, out of our despair you bring life.
Renew us in hope, so that we may be alert to the dawning of Christ's advent among us.
God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. . . . Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord.

For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

SERMON *Filled With Hope* Rev. Katie Palmer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE *Hope of the World* (GTG #734, v. 2) Karyl Lyne

WITH THANKS FOR GENEROUS GIVING *Doxology*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OPPORTUNITIES

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

CLOSING HYMN O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (GTG #104)

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

¹Adapted from a Presbyterian Mission Agency Advent litany by Teresa Lockhart Eisenlohr

OPPORTUNITIES

Angel Tree – Mission and Peacemaking is again offering an opportunity to help a child whose parent or parents are in prison. Sadly, incarceration can become a generational problem. If children of prisoners have support from different avenues, this cycle can be broken.

Depending upon whether there are still local children needing support, we will decide if we will choose supporting by buying the gifts or donating to help children outside of San Miguel County. If there are still local children needing an Angel Tree sponsor, we would be expected to give an article of clothing and a toy. Sizes and toy suggestions would be provided. Sponsors and donations are still needed! All those interested, please contact Pat Halverson: ckpat@mac.com or 505-239-4263 as soon as possible.

Reverse Advent Calendar! Please join us in gifting Samaritan House with items much needed by their clients. The Reverse Advent Calendar provides an opportunity to put an item aside each day to be gifted to Samaritan House for distribution to someone in need. The emphasis is more strongly on personal items this year. Information about the calendar was sent via email; it will also be in the December newsletter.

Our Advent discussion series started this morning. The book is *The Road to Bethlehem: Musings on the Coming King* by Celeste Allen. See the November newsletter for details. The reading assignment for the second session, December 5, is meditations 7-13. Class is from 9 to 10 a.m. on Zoom.

Samaritan House Food Donations – December – Canned meats (tuna, chicken, stew). Coffee and Tea are always appreciated. Please drop your donations off at Samaritan House, 501 7th Street.

A big Thank You to FrankieAnnTiques for their help with our Christmas decorations.

Prayers for the Church Family - Each week we choose some specific names to remind us to pray for each other and for those in our Presbytery. Please pray for Erin, Brett, Delilah and Athena Gilland as well as Second Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque, NM (1889).

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS CALENDAR

November 28 1st Sunday of Advent

December 5 2nd Sunday of Advent

December 12 3rd Sunday of Advent

December 19 4th Sunday of Advent

December 24 Christmas Eve Worship at 5:30 p.m.

December 26 1st Sunday after Christmas

Please join us for this worship filled with stories and songs from guest presenters

January 2 2nd Sunday after Christmas

“Come and See” where Christ is staying

December Elder of the Month – Carol Linder – 505-429-2139

December Deacon of the Month – Rosalie Lopez – 505-429-6420

Church Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. – Noon

fupc.nm@gmail.com 505-425-7763 www.lvpresbyterian.org

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