Behold a transforming God who invites us to • A joyous way of being • A bolder way of believing • A deeper way of seeing

Be still and take time to • Focus on the Spiritual • Restore your energy • Experience God’s word in scripture, music, and art

Become followers of Jesus who are • Open to God’s Spirit • Trusting, welcoming, caring for one another • Passionate about including everyone, confronting injustice, and healing the world

WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Sundays 8:30am
MorningSong Service in Pope Hall (mid-Sept to May), Rooftop Garden (Memorial Weekend to mid-Sept)
Informal, interactive, prayers, singing, chairs in semicircle, communion every first Sunday

Sundays 11:00am
Worship Service in the Sanctuary Liturgy, hymns, sermon, choir, candles, pews, communion every first Sunday

Wednesdays 7:00–7:30am
Morning Prayer in McFarland Chapel Contemplative, prayers, Book of Common Prayer liturgy

Wednesdays 5:30–6:00pm
Celtic EvenSong in the Sanctuary Celtic songs and liturgy, communion, weekly themes throughout the month: 1st week—justice and peace, 2nd week—healing, 3rd week—creation care, 4th week—welcome; 5th week—commitment

Poinsettias for Christmas
The Worship & Music Committee invites you to donate a poinsettia to brighten our Sanctuary for:

Chancel Bell Choir Concert, Friday, December 21
Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 23
5pm & 8pm services, Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24

You may take your plant home after the late service on Christmas Eve, or leave it for the Deacons to deliver during home visits.

Donation forms are available on the Lobby table. Please put your completed form in the offering plate or in the Office Manager’s mailbox. Thank you!
God Calls Us

GOD CALLS US

Into this world, this demented inn in which there is absolutely no room for him at all, Christ comes uninvited. Thomas Merton

GOD CALLS US

PRELUDE

Dawn Hymn

by Alan Hovhaness

WELCOME

The Wulf Family

LIGHTING THE ADVENT

CALL TO WORSHIP

bold in unison

Isaiah 40:3-5

CANDLE OF HOPE

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill made low;
The uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all the people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

HYMN 83

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

OPENING PRAYER

Trust in God’s forgiveness, as we begin this Advent journey
let us confess our failings
and acknowledge our part in the pain of the world.

—Silence is kept—

O God, grant us a sense of your timing.

In this season of short days and long nights,
of grey and white and cold,
teach us the lessons of beginnings;
that such waitings and endings may be the starting place,
a planting of seeds which bring to birth
what is ready to be born—
Something right and just and different,
a new song, a deeper relationship, a fuller love—in
the fullness of your time.

O God, grant us a sense of your timing.

Amen.

RESPONSE HYMN 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (verse 1)

God Renews Us

SCRIPTURE

1st Thessalonians 3:9-13

BLESSING

The Youth and the Congregation exchange the following blessing:

In body, mind, and spirit, may you be well this day.
And may you be strong for the work of healing in the world.
First Sunday Resolutions

You are invited to come forward to light a prayer candle during the silence.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verse 1)

We pray for people and places, silently or aloud, and respond together:

May they know the deep peace of Christ.

E’en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come by Paul Manz

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Might Gates (verse 2)

Communion is by intinction: take a piece of bread and dip it in the chalice. Gluten-free wafers and cups of juice are available on the Communion Table.

♫

Dona nobis pacem, pacem
Dona nobis pacem.

No Wind at the Window

Come, Thou Savior of the Nations by Paul Manz

The service of worship concludes after the postlude. The music can be enjoyed, and this time can be used for prayer. You may remain seated or depart quietly.

GOD SENDS US ON OUR JOURNEY

SERVING TODAY

Officiant: The Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts III
Liturgist: Drew Hill
Organist/Music Director: Linda Raney
Assistant Organist: David Solem
Assistant Choir Director: Travis Bregier
Associate Musician: David Beatty
Children’s Ministry: Jill McCormick

WORSHIP COORDINATORS

Worship & Music: Paul Vogel
Ushers: Rebecca Heindel
Liturgists: Karin Lerew
Liturgical Arts: Malissa Haslam, Barbara Ivy
Communion: Malissa Haslam, Barbara Ivy
Outreach: Betty Jones
Earth Care Tidbit of the Week: World leaders will meet in December for the next round of U.N. climate-change talks including feasible pathways to reduced emissions. The science is settled. The only question now is whether they will find the political—or moral—will to do anything about it. The New Yorker October 8, 2018.

Sunday, December 9, 9:45AM, noted author Lori Robinson will lead Acts II adult study in Pope Hall continuing our fall series on environmental justice. Lori has authored two books (Wild Lives and Saving Wild) about conservation, and leads workshops and African safaris to deepen the connection between people and animals for their mutual wellbeing. She will lead a discussion about maintaining hope and being effective when surrounded by ecological despair. Find her at SavingWild.com and @lorisavingwild on FaceBook and Instagram. Copies of her books will be available.

Have you ever dressed a candle? Wednesday, December 12, from 6:30 to 8:00, come up to Moore Conference Room on the 3rd floor. We will be dressing the small white utility candles in their wax guards for Christmas Eve Worship which ends in candlelight. A simple task while visiting with others. So come on up after Celtic EvenSong and meal!

Be an ANGEL to a homeless teen. Look for the Giving Tree in the lobby, pick an Angel, and bring your unwrapped gifts to the church by December 12. The Youth Connection will wrap and deliver your gifts to the Youth Shelter.

Save the Date—December 16. Las Posadas is approaching and FPC is the host church this year. We need at least 6 volunteers to work with the police at our intersections to assist in closing streets as the procession passes. You will be provided with a fashion-forward brightly colored vest. We also need volunteers to bake cookies (biscochitos anyone?), brownies or whatever your favorite baked goodies are and help serve. Please let Rebecca Heindel or Judi Haines know if you would like to participate.

TGIF 10th Anniversary Season, Friday at 5:30PM: Join us for a TGIF tradition: the High Desert Harp Ensemble plays carols of the season.

Our annual All-Church Caroling will be on Sunday, December 2, from 1-4PM. We will carpool to go sing for residents of Casa Real and Santa Fe Cares and for homebound members of our congregation.

Back Pew Gallery—Our popular “Ornaments, Ornaments, Ornaments” show & sale opens today. Thank you for your generous support in the past. We raised $1,000 last year, which we gave to Santa Fe Dreamers Project and recovery efforts in Puerto Rico.

Prayers and Praise

Please notify the church office (office@fpcsantafe.org or 982.8544) to add or remove a name on our prayer list.

We pray for Betty, Kandice, and Andrew and for family and friends of The Rev. Raymond Kersting who passed away on Thursday, November 29, 2018. A Celebration of Life for Raymond will be held Thursday, December 6, at 2:00 in the Sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe.

We pray for: Glennis & Seth Hinshaw, David Ingalls, Kati Schwartz, Susan Slotter, Dan Crane, Marcella Ortiz, Pat Luiken, Nat Dean, Sheldon Thompson, Jeff Baker, Brianna (Linda Trujillo’s grandniece), Jennifer Elliott, Jane & Jene Alexander, Paul Cast (Ethel Trimmer’s cousin), Bess Brooks.

And our ministry partners: Westminster Presbyterian, Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis, Church of the Holy Faith, and Sagua la Grande Church—our brothers and sisters in Cuba.