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 — 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

Committees and Ministries:
The Annual Meeting of First Presbyterian Church will be Sunday, January 27, 2019. Committee and ministry reports are due no later than Monday, January 14, 2019 for compiling into the 2018 Annual Report. Please email them to office@fpcsantafe.org. Thank you.

There are a few Angels remaining on the Giving Tree in the lobby. You still have time to select an Angel and put a smile on someone’s face! Our gift due date is Tuesday, Dec. 18, so bring your gift by that morning. The Youth Connection will wrap and deliver that afternoon. Blessings to all and a very Merry Christmas.

ACTS II Adult Education 9:45AM—Pope Hall
Our last ACTS II class for 2018 is “A New Way Forward,” a discussion based on Chapter 10 of Faithful Resistance. After a presentation by Pastor Harry, using what we have learned together this fall, we will break into small groups to discuss what can happen here and now in our church.

Weekday Studies

Religion & Science: 1st & 3rd Mon, 7-9pm, Pope Hall C
Fireside Chat w/the Mystics: Tues, 5-6pm, Rendon Room
Women’s Bible Study: 2ND Wed, 10am, Rendon Room
Bible Study: Fri, 11:30AM-12:30 Rendon Room
Spiritual Journaling: Last Fri, 11:30AM, Pope Hall
Men’s Breakfast: 2ND Sat, 8-9AM, Pope Hall
Spanish Bible Study: Sat, 9-10AM, Volunteer Room
Circle of Friends: 2ND Sat, 8-9AM, in members’ homes

Today Las Posadas, 2:00. Los Posadas is a reenactment of Mary and Joseph searching for shelter in Bethlehem on the night of Christ’s birth, gathering followers as they go from place to place. The procession leaves the Basilica Cathedral of St. Francis, proceeds to the Episcopal Church of the Holy Faith, and ends at First Presbyterian at our big wooden doors. We, as the Innkeepers, sing back and forth with the Holy Family outside that “There is no room in the inn!” (music provided). We are finally convinced to offer them shelter. All enter for brief words from the combined clergy and then a reception of light fare in Pope Hall.

While you wait, you may help the youth make farolitos to decorate the outside of our church on Christmas Eve.

If you have never participated in this northern New Mexico Christmas tradition, please join us for the fun and fellowship. This is a great time for all ages to anticipate the coming of the Holy Birth!
Waiting is a period of learning. The longer we wait, the more we hear about him for whom we are waiting.  

*Henri Nouwen*

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**GOD CALLS US**

**PRELUDE**  
*Now, Come the Savior of the Nations*, BWV 659 and 661  
by J. S. Bach

**WELCOME**

**LIGHTING the ADVENT CANDLE of JOY**  
The Bair Family

**CALL to WORSHIP**  
*Bold in unison*  
Isaiah 11:1-3, 6

Hear, O House of David! The Lord will give you a sign.  
Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear a son.  
And his name will be called Immanuel,  
*Wonderful Counselor,*  
*Mighty God,*  
*Everlasting Father,*  
*Prince of Peace.*

**HYMN 107**  
*Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn*

**OPENING PRAYER**  
*Bold in unison*  
Written by Joanna Harader  
posted on Spacious Faith (spaciousfaith.com)

When our spirits despair and we deny our blessedness,  
Forgive us, O God.  

When we ignore the mighty things you have done,  
When we doubt your mercy,  
Forgive us, O God.  

When we are proud in the thoughts of our hearts,  
When our power rests on the oppression of others,  
When our weather causes others to go hungry,  
Forgive us, O God.

—Silence is kept—

The good news is this:  
God is our hope.  
*God is our life.*  
God is our future.  
*We will sing aloud:*  
*We are forgiven.*  
*Thanks be to God.  Amen.*

**RESPONSE HYMN 87**  
*Comfort, Comfort Now My People* (verse 1)

**EXPRESSION of DEVOTION**  
Joy Offering  
M’Lea Walsh

**ANTHEM**  
*For a Vision of the World*  
by Carl J. Nygard

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**GOD RENEWS US**

**SCRIPTURE**  
Luke 1:68-79
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.

Zechariah Sings

Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming

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.

No. 18, from 60 Pièces dévotionelles
by Dom Paul Benoit, O.S.B.

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

We will not be afraid, Loving God,
to offer our hopes, our hearts, our treasures to you,
but do so willingly, trusting that you will use them
to bring life, joy, grace, and peace to all around us.
We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Dona nobis pacem
Prepare the Way, O Zion

Toccata in d minor, BuxWV 155
by Dietrich Buxtehude

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

Worship Coordinators
Worship & Music: Paul Vogel
Ushers: Rebecca Heindel
Liturgists: Karin Lerew
Liturgical Arts: Malissa Haslam, Barbara Ivy
Communion: Betty Jones
Outreach:
Earth Care Tidbit of the Week: Is there a constitutional right to a stable and safe climate? Twenty-one plaintiffs, ages 11-22, are suing the Trump Admin. in Juliana V U.S.-- Our Children's Trust-- demanding that the government fight climate change. NY Times 10/24/18

Interfaith Community Shelter. FPC will serve suppers at the Interfaith Community Shelter January 20-23, 2019. Please check the Shelter Book in the lobby to see where you can help. We will have large and small aluminum pans available after January 1. We also need financial help to buy some of the main dish ingredients. If you wish to help in this way, make the check out to First Presbyterian Church and put MSJ Shelter Food in the memo line.

Annual Report due date for Committees and Ministries: The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 27, 2019. Reports are due no later than Monday, January 14, 2019. Please email them to office@fpcsantafe.org. Thank you.

Lori Robinson's class on December 9 on maintaining hope when surrounded by ecological despair was very well received. Those wanting to purchase her books Wild Lives or Saving Wild can find them on Amazon; and you can stay in touch with her at SavingWild.com, lorisavingwild@gmail.com and lorisavingwild on Facebook and Instagram.

This semester, we continue to discern how the church can be the hands and feet of Jesus, and how we, as individuals within the church, are called to listen to the guidance of the Holy Spirit through spiritual practices. As we discover our individual gifts, we are able to truly love God and love our neighbors (all humankind).

On Sunday mornings during the Adult Ed hour in January, Rev. Marney Wasserman, spiritual director, retired professor of worship history, theologian, and author of Companions: Accompanying Newcomers into Church Life and Faith, leads the class in a three-week series entitled Connecting the Dots: the Church's Liturgy & the Christian Life.

Ever wonder what difference it makes WHY we worship the WAY we do? There are a lot of connections between the way the church conducts its worship and the way Christians are called to live daily in the world. The pattern for the class will be part presentation and part discussion.

Jan 6—The Pattern of Gratitude Responding to Grace. So often in life we get grace and gratitude backwards—thinking we need to earn God's gifts. The church's liturgy is steady weekly practice in getting the pattern right: grace comes first, unearned and undeserved; a life of gratitude follows. We'll look at how the order of our worship helps us live this core spiritual truth.

TGIF 10th Anniversary Season, Friday at 5:30PM: Join us for the Chancel Bell Choir's annual concert on the Friday before Christmas.

Back Pew Gallery—Our popular show and sale “Ornaments, Ornaments, Ornaments” is open the rest of this month. Come purchase one or some of our unique ornaments to add to your Christmas decorations. Proceeds go to a mission of the church. 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.

Call for Artists for the first exhibit of 2019 “BLACK and WHITE”. All mediums accepted, must be display-ready. All art is due Sunday, January 6, from 8:30 to 11:00.

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

We pray for: Glennis & Seth Hinshaw, David Ingalls, Kati Schwartz, Susan Slotter, Dan Crane, Marcella Ortiz, 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.

Stewardship Update. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has made a 2019 Stewardship pledge. Your faith has brought us to within 20% of our $525,000 goal. If you haven't submitted your pledge card for 2019, please do so as soon as possible. You can place your pledge card in the offering plate on Sunday, drop it at the church office, mail it, or make your pledge online.

For First Presbyterian Church to accomplish our lofty goals for 2019, we need everyone to support the effort. Every pledge, regardless of amount, is cumulative and gives strength to our church home and our missions. We are better together, and together we can accomplish great things! May God's blessings be with you.

Earth Care Tidbit of the Week: Is there a constitutional right to a stable and safe climate? Twenty-one plaintiffs, ages 11-22, are suing the Trump Admin. in Juliana V U.S.-- Our Children's Trust-- demanding that the government fight climate change. NY Times 10/24/18

MUSIC AND ART

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