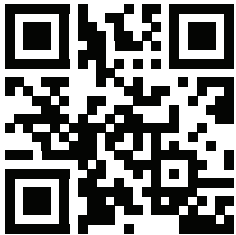


# Prophecy

and the promise of God

**SURPRISE!**



We welcome those of you visiting with us today and pray that you connect with the Holy Spirit during your time here.

**FIRST-TIME GUESTS** | Text WELCOME to 210-981-3339 and let us know you are here!

**RETURNING GUESTS AND COVENANT PARTNERS** | Please fill out the Friendship Pad as it is passed down your pew, or complete the online version by scanning the QR code found on the Friendship Pad and to the left.

**WELCOME TO TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023**



## CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY SCHEDULE

*\* Sunday School Classes and FPC<sup>3</sup> (Coffee, Cookies, & Connection) will resume Jan. 7*

- 9:30 AM** | Traditional Worship in Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM** | Modern Worship in Westminster Hall
- 2:30 PM** | Christmas Eve Worship with the Lord's Supper in Sanctuary
- 5:00 PM** | Christmas Eve Family Worship in Sanctuary
- 7:30 PM** | Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship in Sanctuary
- 10:00 PM** | Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship in Sanctuary

## HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Church Offices will be closed from Monday, Dec. 25, 2023 through Monday, Jan. 1, 2024. Regular office hours will resume Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024 and are Mon. - Fri., 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM. The doors are locked. Please press the security doorbell at the entrance to be let in.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE SUNDAY

One combined service at 11:00 AM in Westminster Hall. No Sunday school or FPC<sup>3</sup>—will resume Jan. 7. Nursery care available for 5 yrs and under only.

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Becky Prichard

**GIVING OPTIONS** | You may give online at [fpcsanantonio.org/giveonline](https://fpcsanantonio.org/giveonline), text "FPCGIVE" to (833) 692-2384 (messaging & data rates may apply), give through our mobile app [fpcsanantonio.org/mobile-app](https://fpcsanantonio.org/mobile-app), or mail in your gifts to 404 N. Alamo St., San Antonio, TX 78205.

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by the congregation to the glory of God and in memory and honor of loved ones.

## IN NEED OF PRAYER?

**CARE AND CONCERN** | Contact Lisa Snow, [lisas@fpcsat.org](mailto:lisas@fpcsat.org) or 210-226-0215, to join the congregational prayer & care email list. Care and Concern phone line: 210-222-CARE.

All music in today's worship service used by permission Onelicense Streaming/Podcast License #A-729727, CCS WORSHIPCast Streaming License #10603, CCLI Streaming License #360983



**SCAN FOR FULL ONLINE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

[FPCSANANTONIO.ORG/ANNOUNCE](https://FPCSANANTONIO.ORG/ANNOUNCE)

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP- 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Please silence all electronic devices and do not take flash photos during the service. As the prelude begins, we invite you into a period of quiet reflection as we prepare for worship. † Please stand at these times if you are able to do so.

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## PREPARATION

**PRELUDE** | *Prelude on "Greensleeves"*

Richard Purvis

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**WELCOME AND GREETINGS**

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

9:30 AM - King Family

Leader: Advent is a time to praise.

**People: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.**

Leader: During Advent we remember God's past faithfulness.

**People: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.**

Leader: During Advent we remember God's present goodness.

**People: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.**

Leader: During Advent we remember God's future promises.

**People: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.**

**PRAYER OF ADORATION**

† **CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP** | *Hymn #182 O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*Hymn #185 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (Please sing Verse 1 only)*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: This Christmas Eve we join blind Bartimaeus in begging Jesus:

**People: Jesus, Son of David, have mercy!**

Leader: Where darkness, give light.

**People: Where there is blindness, give sight.**

Leader: Where we are weak, give might.

**People: Where we are dead, give life.**

**ALL: Jesus, son of David, give peace in our souls filled with strife.**

**CONFESSING OUR SIN**

Father, we praise You for the love demonstrated by sending Jesus to save the world. Please forgive us for rejecting Your gift of grace by embracing first the gifts of our world. Forgive us for taking the sparkling tinsel of our consumeristic culture more seriously than the Light of Love. Through the blood of baby Jesus who was born to die for us, please wash us clean. By Your Spirit, please restore unto us a joy of our salvation. In Jesus name we pray, AMEN.

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

## AFFIRMATION AND DEDICATION

### †DECLARING OUR 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

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

### PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*(While the offering is received, please sign the friendship pad found on the end of the pews and pass it down the row, returning it to its original place. Please take time after the worship service to greet those seated near you.)*

### OFFERTORY | *Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child!*

arr. Mark Hayes  
Tom Dooling, soloist

### †DOXOLOGY | *Old Hundredth*

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

### †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**MUSIC IN WORSHIP | *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*** Steven Sharp Nelson, Jon Schmidt & Al Van der Beek arr.  
Lindsay Selli, soloist

## PROCLAMATION

### SCRIPTURE READING | *Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:6-7*

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

<sup>6</sup> "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." <sup>7</sup> Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.

### RESPONSIVE READING

Leader: All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flowers of the field.

**People: The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God endures forever.**

### SERMON | *Prophecy and the Promise of God: Surprise!*

Pastor Mitchell Moore

### †CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP | *Hymn #176 Lift Up Your Heads (Verses 1 & 2)* *Hymn #179 Joy to the World!*

*(Continued)*

# BENEDICTION

## BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CHORAL RESPONSE | *We Wait in Hope for the Morning Light*

Joel Raney

POSTLUDE | *Noel (Grand Jeu et Duo)*

Louis-Claude Daquin

## END-OF-YEAR GIVING & OFFICE CLOSURE

Church offices will be closed **Dec. 25, 2023 - Jan. 1, 2024**. Please visit [fpcsanantonio.org/give](https://fpcsanantonio.org/give) for instructions on how to ensure your gifts are received for the appropriate tax year. The church finance office will be available by phone or email from **Dec. 27 - 29, 2023**. Christi Burrell: 210-271-2755 or [christib@fpcsat.org](mailto:christib@fpcsat.org) Marie Nipp: 210-271-2756 or [marien@fpcsat.org](mailto:marien@fpcsat.org).

## INTERESTED IN JOINING? DISCOVER FPC!

**Sunday, Jan. 21 | 12:15 - 2:00 PM**

**Sunday, Feb. 4 | 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM**

Interested in joining FPC as a Covenant Partner (member)? There are two required classes offered during winter 2024. DiscoverFPC! will be Sunday, January 21. The second class, KnowFPC! will be on Sunday, February 4. Sign up for the next round of classes or to be notified when additional classes are scheduled at [fpcsanantonio.org/register-discover-fpc](https://fpcsanantonio.org/register-discover-fpc).

## SERVE AT FPC

[fpcsanantonio.org/volunteer](https://fpcsanantonio.org/volunteer)

Are you looking for a way to get involved? We have room for you in several different areas around FPC for you to use your gifts and talents.

## CONNECT WITH FPC MISSIONS

Text "Missions" to 210-981-3339 to receive updates about ongoing and upcoming opportunities to connect and serve with our FPC Mission Partners.

## MEN'S RETREAT 2024

**January 19 - 21, 2024 | LoneHollow Ranch**

Join us for an incredible weekend in the Texas Hill Country together to kick off the year and grow together in the Lord. For more information and to register go to [fpcsanantonio.org/men-retreat](https://fpcsanantonio.org/men-retreat).

## MINISTRY GUIDE

Visit [fpcsanantonio.org/ministry-guide](https://fpcsanantonio.org/ministry-guide) to view or download the current Ministry Guide for a weekly schedule & events where you can get connected.

## OPERATING BUDGET REVENUES AS OF DECEMBER 17, 2023

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)
3RD WEEK OF DEC.	\$ 226,879.16	\$ 225,901.76	\$ (977.40)
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$ 4,725,199.10	\$ 5,037,561.73	\$ 312,362.63



LOVING CHRIST.  
LOVING ONE ANOTHER.  
LOVING THE CITY.

[www.fpcsanantonio.org](https://www.fpcsanantonio.org)  
210-226-0215

404 N. Alamo Street  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Offices Located on Ave. E  
between McCullough & 4th St

OFFICE HOURS | Monday -  
Friday, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

Please press the security doorbell  
at the entrance to be let in.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

\*9:30 & 11:00 AM - Traditional

9:30 & \*11:00 AM - Modern

\*Service streamed online on YouTube  
Facebook, & [fpcsanantonio.org](https://fpcsanantonio.org)

Follow us on Social Media &  
Listen to Podcasts @[fpcsanantonio](https://fpcsanantonio.org)

## GIVING OPTIONS

- [fpcsanantonio.org/giveonline](https://fpcsanantonio.org/giveonline)
- Text "FPCGIVE" to (833) 692-2384
- Mobile App or Mail



A Congregation  
of ECO  
A Covenant Order  
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Presbyterians

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