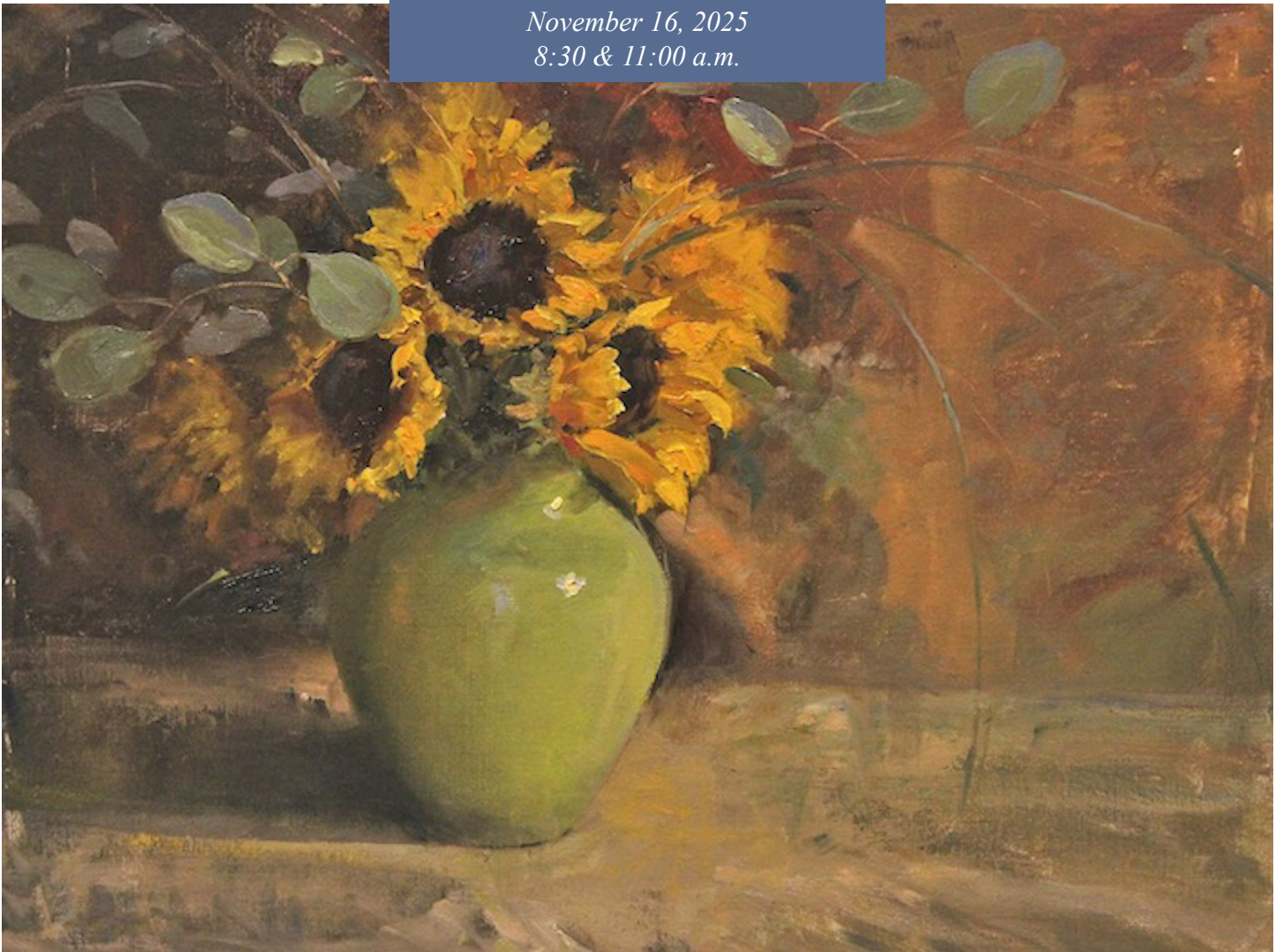




FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

November 16, 2025
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

WORDS OF PREPARATION

Instead of loving what you think is peace, love other people, and love God above all. And instead of hating the people you think are warmakers, hate the appetites and the disorder in your own soul, which are the causes of war. If you love peace, then hate injustice, hate tyranny, hate greed—but hate these things in yourself first, not in another.

—Thomas Merton

ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

Air and Canon on “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”
James Biery

WELCOME

MINUTE FOR MISSION | Nashville Fellows

INTROIT (8:30)

O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips
Richard Webster

O Lord, open thou our lips, and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

INTROIT (11:00) | Children’s Choir

All Things Bright and Beautiful
ROYAL OAK

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Gage Arnold

Leader: Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

All: “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.”

Leader: And they sing the song of the Lamb, saying,

All: “Great and amazing are your deeds. O Lord God the Almighty! For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you.”

Leader: Holy is our God, and alone worthy of our praise!

*OPENING HYMN 1

Holy, Holy, Holy
NICAEA

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Sara Hill (8:30)
Rev. Mallory Hammond (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Romans 8:14-17 (page 944)

Sam Gould (8:30)
Anna Robicheaux (11:00)

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION (11:00)

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
Maurice Bevan

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven; there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement given. For the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. But we make his love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify his strictness with a zeal he will not own. There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head. There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss. If our love were but more simple, we would take him at his word; and our lives would be all gladness in the joy of Christ our Lord.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Christ's work of reconciliation offers us forgiveness for our sins and the possibility of genuine fellowship and reconciliation in community. In many Christian traditions, after hearing the words of assurance, worshipers are invited to share gestures of reconciliation and peace with each other.

Leader: Hear the teaching of Christ: A new command I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you. The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

His Mercy Is More
Matt Boswell and Matt Papa



1. What love could re-mem-ber no wrongs we have done? Om - ni - scient, all know-ing, he
2. What rich - es of kind-ness he la - vished on us. His blood was the pay-ment, his



counts not their sum. Thrown in - to a sea with-out bot-tom or shore. Our
life was the cost. We stood 'neath a debt we could ne - ver af - ford.



sins they are ma-ny, his mer-cy is more. Praise the Lord, his mer-cy is more._____



Stron-ger than dark-ness, new ev'-ry morn; our sins they are ma - ny, his mer-cy is more.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | 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.

Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please mark your presence by signing the friendship pad and greet those seated near you as you pass it along.

‡BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

‡During the 8:30 and 11:00 services, PreK and Kindergarten children (ages 4–6) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF CHILD

(8:30) Philip and Lauren Skipp are presenting their son, Hynson Provine Skipp, for baptism.

Assisting Elder: John Wagster

(11:00) Mary Lindley and Matthew Hubbard are presenting their son, James Carswell Hubbard, for baptism.

Assisting Elder: Benjamin Carswell

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BAPTISM

SONG OF PREPARATION

Come to the Water
arr. Lynda Hasseler

O let all who thirst, let them come to the water. And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord: without money, without price. Why should you pay the price, except for the Lord? And let all who seek, let them come to the water. And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord: without money, without strife. Why should you spend your life, except for the Lord? And let all who toil, let them come to the water. And let all who are weary, let them come to the Lord: all who labor, without rest. How can your soul find rest, except for the Lord? And let all the poor, let them come to the water. Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord: bring the children without might. Easy the load and light, come to the Lord.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | Matthew 5:1-9 (page 809)

¹ Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Kingdom Adoption

Dr. Ryan Moore

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. —Colossians 1:19-20

OFFERTORY

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
Kyle Pederson

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest in me your soul will find its peace, in me you draw each breath.” I came to Jesus as I was, so weary and so worn; I found in him a resting place, where peace and hope are born. I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold I freely give; I am the living water, quench your thirst, come drink and live.” I came to Jesus and I drank from that life giving stream; my thirst was quenched, my soul renewed, and now I live in him. I heard the voice of Jesus say speak now, spirit speak, now Spirit come and speak! I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s light; look unto me, and night will fade, and all your mornings rise.” I come to Jesus, and I find in him my star, my sun. And in that light of life I’ll walk ‘til trav’ling days are done. I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am life, I am light, I am love, now come and live.”

As you reflect on the Lord’s goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting “GIVE” to 707-475-3005, or donating online at fpcnashville.org.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Dr. John Musgrave (8:30)
Adrian Taylor (11:00)

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.

*CLOSING HYMN

In Christ Alone
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

**In Christ alone my hope is found; he is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied;
for every sin on him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground his body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory, sin’s curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am his, and he is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me;
from life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I’ll stand.**

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Peter Lutkin

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Allegro maestoso e vivace from Sonate II
Felix Mendelssohn

** Those who are able, please stand.*

SYMPATHIES

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of

Robert Lombard “Bob” Chickey, who died November 7
Visitation: Saturday, November 29 | 10:00 a.m. | Cheek House
Service: Saturday, November 29 | 11:30 a.m. | Stanford Chapel

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*
Mallory Hammond, MDiv – *Parish Associate, Director of Ministry to Children and Their Families*
Sara Hill, MDiv – *Parish Associate for Congregational Care*
John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*
Adrian Taylor, MDiv – *Director of Missions Ministry*
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*
Joseph Fala, MM – *Assistant Director of Music and Organist*
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*
Deanna Hahn Little – *Flute*
Aaron Odom – *Cello*
Acolytes – Lylah Hill and Everett Hill, Addie Bede and Kasen Bede
11:00: Children’s Choir, FPC Choristers, Sanctuary Singers

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the Chancel are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Caroline Virginia Ayers and Michael William Burnside, and in loving memory of Virginia Smejkal Dansby, grandmother of the bride.

SUPPORTING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

You can make a gift or fulfill a pledge payment by placing your gift in the offering plate, texting “GIVE” to 707-475-3005, donating online at fpcnashville.org, or scan the QR code.



Hearing Assistance App Directions

Join FPC_guest WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select “First Pres Sanctuary.” Plug in your headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

COVER IMAGE: Roger Dale Brown, *Sunflowers with Greens*. Oil on canvas, 18 × 24 in.—““Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” God calls on His followers to make peace in a world that is at conflict. This is what Jesus would do and has done for all of us. One thing that we all can agree on is beauty. We know it when we are in its presence. Like the peacemakers, beauty brings people together. The reason I chose this painting, is that flowers, not unlike reconciling, make me think of new beginnings, joy, happiness and a positive outlook to the future.” –RDB

MUSIC NOTES: *Air and Canon on “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”* James Biery Music - ©2003 Alfred Sacred All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *His Mercy Is More* by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa (C) 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Getty Music Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Love Your Enemies Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Messenger Hymns (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) All rights reserved. CCLI License® 1121456; Streaming License 20064814 | *Come to the Water* by John Foley arr. Lynda Hasseler © 1978 St. James and Oregon Catholic Press All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy* by Maurice Bevan (c) 2014 Royal School of Church Music All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895 | *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* by Kyle Pederson © 2025 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895 | *In Christ Alone* by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend 2001 Thankyou Music LTD (Admin by Capitol CMG Publishing All rights reserved. CCLI License® 1121456; Streaming License 20064814 | *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Peter Lutkin (c) 1959 Concordia Publishing House All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895.

Lunch and Speaker Series: Dr Joe Hamilton's Career | Nov. 20 | 12:00–1:30 p.m.—Church member Dr. Joe Hamilton is a world-leading nuclear physicist whose influence on the field of nuclear physics has been enormous. Join us as we share in his career and success in the world of science. Come and enjoy a delicious meal prepared by our own Chef Kim Rogers for just \$10 per person. To ensure proper planning, please register in advance at fpcnashville.org/events. Online registration and payment are preferred. Please note that credit cards can now be used for payment at the luncheons.

Thanksgiving Breakfast and Kids Stewardship | Sunday, Nov. 23 | 9:30 p.m. | Courtenay Hall—Join us for our annual Thanksgiving Breakfast between worship services from 9:30–11:00 a.m. for a time of fellowship and encouragement. We will celebrate God's provision for this outpost of His kingdom with a short program featuring a new Kids Stewardship initiative, an update on the Generosity Campaign, and a look at the financial state of the church. Parents: Children who bring their Kids Stewardship worksheet (arriving in mailboxes this week!) will receive their very own savings bank, along with coin envelopes and stickers to help them begin practicing generosity at home.

Advent Wreath Workshop | Nov. 23 | 5:00–6:30 p.m. | Courtenay Hall—Join us as we prepare for Advent with dinner, singing, and crafting live Advent wreaths. Families will create their own wreaths and learn how to observe the Advent season at home. Friendly for children of all ages: tots and teens included! The \$25 cost offsets the cost of wreath supplies. Hosted by the Children's Ministry and Worship Flower Committee, registration is requested to ensure enough supplies are available. Register today at fpcnashville.com/wreathworkshop

Advent Greenery Dedications | Submissions due Dec. 14—Memorialize or honor loved ones with a contribution to the Christmas Greenery Fund. Your donation helps purchase the décor beautifying our Sanctuary during the Christmas season. Dedications will be printed in the December 21 bulletin. To submit a dedication, visit fpcnashville.org/christmas-flowers. Last day to submit a dedication is December 14, 2025.

2026 Flower Slots Open—If you are interested in giving flowers for morning worship in honor or memory of a loved one, we have new dates for 2026 available. Check out your options online at fpcnashville.org/flowers. A birthdate or anniversary, new baby, or favorite time of year can all be great times to give.

Musical Christmas Gathering: How Great Our Joy! | Tuesday, Dec. 9 | 10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary—All are invited to a special Advent program—now called the Musical Christmas Gathering. The program generated so much excitement that the Presbyterian Women team decided to open it to everyone! How Great Our Joy! features soprano Rebekah Howell bringing her dynamic artistry to the role of Mary, accompanied by Amy Tate Williams and joined by FPC soloists and members of the Women's Chorale under the direction of Raphael Bundage. Enjoy beautiful music, Christmas carols, and fellowship as we prepare our hearts for Christ's coming. Lunch (\$20) will follow in Courtenay Hall.

MISSIONS

Rwanda Mission Trip Presentation | Today, Nov. 16 | 10:00 a.m. | Stanford Chapel—The Rwanda Mission team will be giving a presentation during the Sunday School hour in Courtenay Hall today. All adult Sunday School classes are invited to attend to learn more about the recent Rwanda Missions trip and its impact.

Warm Coats, Toys & Baby Formula | Collecting Nov. 9-Dec. 10.—We are collecting warm coats (sizes infant through adult large, new with tags), toys or books for children (infant through high school), and baby formula for infants. All donations will be distributed to Preston Taylor Ministries, Hope Clinic, Safe Haven, Legacy Mission Village, and Eli's House. Questions? Contact Adrian Taylor at ataylor@fpcnashville.org.

Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing | Monday, Nov. 24 | 3:30–5:00 p.m.—Join us as we package 20,000 meals in just two hours! This fast-paced, family-friendly event assembles rice, soy, vegetables, and a vitamin mix into meals sent worldwide to support school feeding programs and crisis relief. Sign up at fpcnashville.org/missions. Stay afterwards for the Thanksgiving Crockpotluck dinner and worship service.

Jamaica Relief | Collecting Funds through Sunday, Nov. 23—Hurricane Melissa has caused significant damage in Jamaica, including in the parish where our longtime mission partners serve. We are grateful to share that they are safe and that no lives were lost, but the community has sustained substantial losses. Our church is uniquely positioned to collect funds and purchase items requested by our partner, Rev. Khereen Wilson Bailey. We will receive contributions for this effort through Sunday, November 23, and then make a coordinated purchase and delivery of what is most needed. Please note "Jamaica Relief" on your donation.

Jamaica Mission Trip | Feb. 7–13, 2026 | Registration Closes Dec. 1—Join trip leader J.T. Martin for our church's Jamaica mission trip. Register by December 1 at fpcnashville.org/jamaica. For more information, contact J.T. Martin at jt.martin@cbre.com.

GENERAL FUND GIVING SUMMARY

YTD AT **OCT. 31, 2025**

Actual \$3,711,971

Budget \$4,078,300

Variance (\$366,329)

While giving to date is below our projections, expenses have also been lower than expected, so our financial position remains stable. Many households choose to make their full pledge later in the year, and we have pledges yet to be received. We invite everyone to prayerfully consider the timing of your 2025 pledge and how you might participate in supporting our shared mission.



Our 2026 Stewardship Campaign is underway, and now is the time to prayerfully consider how you can support the missions and ministries of First Presbyterian Church. Your pledge directly shapes our 2026 budget, helping us plan faithfully and responsibly. We are building our contributions budget on a pledge goal of \$5.2 million. That's why your commitment matters—your pledge helps us prepare a fully-funded budget. Your support enables worship that forms us, discipleship that grows us, investment in the next generation, care for the common good, and faithful stewardship of our campus. Please make your pledge online by clicking the button below.



Online Giving

Scan here or go to fpcnashville.org/stewardship to make a pledge.



Giving Thanks

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Monday, Nov. 24

3:30 p.m. | Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing

5:30 p.m. | Crock-pot-luck Dinner

6:30 p.m. | Thanksgiving Vesper Service

Mark your calendar for a special evening of fellowship, service, and worship! We'll start with a Rise Against Hunger meal-packing event (3:30 p.m.), share a family-friendly "crockpotluck" dinner together (5:30 p.m.), and then gather for a Vesper Service of Thanksgiving in the Chapel (6:30 p.m.)

Register for dinner online at fpcnashville.org/events

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Sundays in Advent

Nov. 30 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. | *Communion*

Dec. 7 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Dec. 14 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. | *Christmas Music Sunday*

Dec. 21 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. | *Brass Ensemble*

Advent Vespers & Communion

Wednesdays

Dec. 3 | 5:30 p.m. Dinner | Courtenay Hall

Dec. 3, 10 & 17 | 6:30 p.m. | Stanford Chapel

Join us on Wednesday evenings for worship, hymns, and communion as we watch and wait for the Incarnation.

These services will prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate Christ's birth. On December 3, we will gather before vespers for dinner in Courtenay Hall.

Longest Night Service *(New)*

Sunday, Dec. 21 | 6:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

On the longest night of the year, we gather to remember that even in the darkness, God's light does not fail. This reflective service offers space for those experiencing grief, loss, or weariness during the holiday season, pointing hearts to the hope of Christ, the true Light of the world.

Christmas Eve | *Wednesday, Dec. 24*

2:00 p.m. | Communion

A quiet service including a celebration of the Lord's Supper.

4:00 p.m. | Journey to Bethlehem Pageant

A lively pageant led by our children and youth. Seating is limited; doors open at 3:15 p.m. following the prior service.

8:00 p.m. | Lessons and Carols

This service features Scripture readings recounting salvation history, with hymns and choral anthems sung in response. The service ends in the candlelit singing of Silent Night.

11:00 p.m. | Communion

Welcome Christmas with carols, candlelight, and a celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Christmas Day Worship

Thursday, Dec. 25 | **11:00 a.m. | Stanford Chapel**

Happy Birthday, Jesus! Spend an hour worshipping the newborn King with your church family at this informal, relaxed service. We will enjoy some birthday cake and children are welcome to come in pajamas.