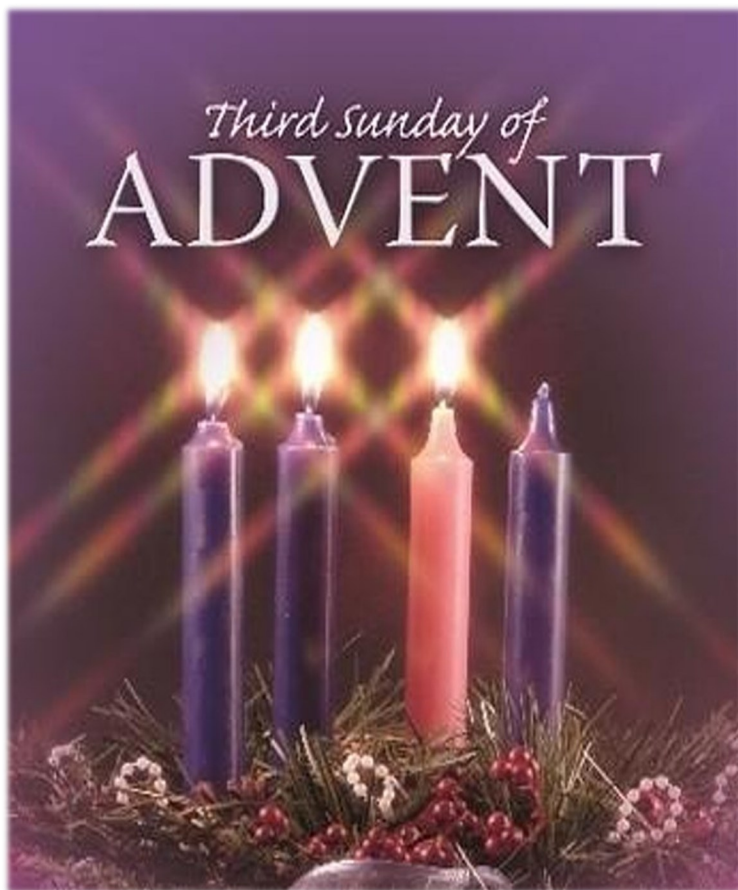


WELCOME TO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF BISMARCK, ND



December 14, 2025
10:00a.m. Service

Our Mission

We are a community called to love God through worship and prayer, receiving and serving our neighbors with the compassion of Christ, open to new beginnings and the spiritual growth of children, youth and adults.

WE WELCOME OUR GUESTS THIS MORNING AND
INVITE YOU TO MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO JOIN US FOR
COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING WORSHIP.

Flowers this week are in memory of:

Delmar Lewis & Dennis Pengilly



A gift from: Danette, David, Drew, Paige & Luke Pengilly

PLEASE FILL OUT YOUR “PINK PRAYER REQUEST CARDS”
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THE USHERS WILL COLLECT THEM
DURING THE OPENING HYMN. THANK YOU!

ATTENDANCE BOOKS

You will find an Attendance Pad at the end of each pew.
Please fill it out and leave it in pew for the church office to collect.
(please include any updated address information) Thank you to
everyone for helping us with collecting attendance and statistics
we submit to the Presbytery.

“Joyous Music Sunday” 10:00am
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(*Asterisks indicate that all who are able are requested to stand,
bold texts are to be read in unison)

Prelude “The Gospel of Peace” arr. Joel Raney

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission Ron Carlisle

Introit “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”
African-American spiritual

Lighting the Third Candle of the Advent Wreath

One: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

(three candles, including the pink)

Advent means coming. We are preparing ourselves for the days... When the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Many: The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

One: The wilderness and dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

Many: Come, Lord Jesus!

One: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Gathering in God’s Name

***Opening Hymn** “My Lord! What a Morning” Hymnal #449

Choral Call to Confession “Come and Fill Our Hearts”

lyrics:

Jacques Berthier

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession (unison)

O God of hope, we offer you our repentance. We tend to replace holy days with holidays. In our hectic activity we →

hurry past opportunities to give gifts of kindness and honesty. We do not take time to prepare a place for your birth in our lives. We do not listen to angels in our dreams, forgive those dearest to us, or welcome into hearts or homes the poor and the stranger. Accept our humble confessions, and guide us by your grace... (quiet, personal prayer) Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: In the coming of Christ we are given a new and living Way to live our lives. In the coming of Christ we are forgiven for all eternity.

Many: We rejoice that in Jesus Christ we are fully and wonderfully forgiven. Let us also, always, forgive one another. Amen.

***Gloria Patri and Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Young Disciples Message

Handbell Anthem

“Mary, Did You Know?”

arr. Anna Laura Page

***Prayer of Gratitude for the Grace of Giving**

***Doxology and Dedication of Gifts**

A Suite of Christmas Spirituals

by: Robert DeCormier

Chancel Choir

Gail Snustad, pianist

“Rise Up, Shepherd and Follow”

Soloists: Jodi Bjornson, Jim Rambo

“What Month Was My Jesus Born In?”

Soloist: Allen Hoberg

“The Virgin Mary Had - A One Son”

“Shout for Joy!”

“Go Tell it On the Mountain”

Soloist: Drew Pengilly

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Responding to God's Word

*Closing Hymn

"Lord, Make Us More Holy"

Hymnal #536

Sending Forth in God's Name

Benediction and Blessing

Benediction Response

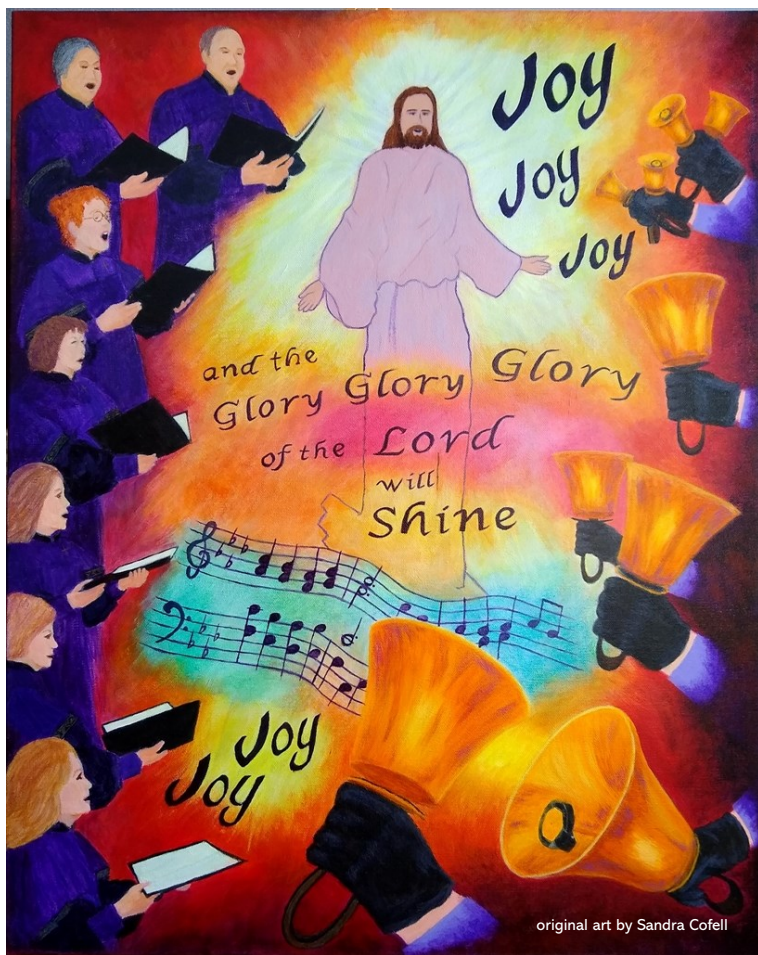
"Amen, Amen"

arr. Nelsie T. Johnson

Postlude

"A Merry Tango"

arr. Joel Raney





First Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Lynne Bigwood

Jodi Bjornson

Sandra Cofell

Lael Hoerauf

Nina Schick

Arvy Smith

Jim Rambo

Drew Pengilly

Signe Snortland

Juanita Hocking

Danette Pengilly

Kathy Wachter

Dominic Schick

Allen Hoberg

Otto Reile

Accompanists: Arvy Smith & Gail Snustad

Directed by: Debi Rogers

Westminster Chimes

Kara Richter

Linda Tonolli

Kris Ronningen

Iris Giedd

Rosey Sand

Kathy Wachter

Juanita Hocking

Alice Nix

Judy Tschider

Shelly Heilman

Lisa McCallum

Directed by: Lael Hoerauf

Worship Participants:

Rev. David Reiter, Pastor

Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir dir.

Lael Hoerauf, Westminster Chimes dir.

Arvy Smith and Gail Snustad, Keyboards

Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry dir.

Sue Johnsen, Lay Reader

Josh Stokka, Audio/Visual Specialist

Dennis & Becky Rosenkranz, Anita Fru, Tedd & Ella Gutzke,
and Karmen Svihovec ~ Ushers

SESSION RESCHEDULED: due to weather

Session Meets TODAY December 14th

following worship in the Conference Room!

This year's Tree of Love is for students in transition (SIT)

Bismarck students who are experiencing homelessness will be the recipients of this year's Tree of Love presents. Your Hospitality Committee has asked the Bismarck Students in Transition Program to choose three or four families who could use a little help making this Christmas merry. Paper "ornaments" for items requested by the families are on a small Christmas tree in the Narthex!



Congregation members may choose an ornament or two and buy the requested gifts, so families can be assured of some presents under the tree. Please wrap each gift, attach the ornament and put it under the tree. Attaching a gift receipt would also be appreciated by the families. Gifts should be under the tree by Friday, **December 19th**. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

**PAC Kids are selling
Christmas Ornaments
Check them out in the Narthex!**



**You can view our church's worship services
on public access television, Sundays at noon!
Midco channel #12 or #612 (Community Access TV)**

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE PORT PILLOWS

Keep them coming!! The Sanford Cancer Center is in need of chemo port pillows for their patients. If you are interested in helping, there is a simple sewing pattern available in the church office. For more information, please reach out to Cathy Kinnischtzke. 527-3393.



Brag Box:

Parents and Grandparents: send us an email bragging about your child/grandkids accomplishments no matter how big or small!

(I would love pictures too)

We want to celebrate all the milestones by recognizing them in the monthly newsletter! **Deadline for January edition is 12/29/25**

firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com



Devotionals are now available on the book shelf in the Narthex!

Calendar

- Mon., Dec. 15 - **12:00pm funeral service - Darlene Kelley**
Noon Resource Management
NO Prayer Shawl Ministry
NO Admin & Personnel
6:30pm Scouts
- Tue., Dec. 16 - 11am Strength & Balance Class
Noon ***"Blue Christmas Service" in Chapel***
5:30pm AA meeting (room #201)
- Wed., Dec. 17 - 5:45pm PAC/Teens
(Christmas Program practice)
NO Westminster Chimes
7:30pm Chancel Choir
- Thu., Dec. 18 - 11am Strength & Balance Class
2:00pm Yoga
NO Deacons
- Fri., Dec. 19 - 6:30pm ***Open Your Heart Event***
at Bismarck Civic Center
- Sat., Dec. 20 - 10:00AM *Children's program practice*
- Sun., Dec. 21 - 10:00am "4th Sunday of Advent"
"Children's Christmas Program"
Followed by **Red & Green** Potluck



4:30pm early service

9:00pm late service - communion

If you are looking to send a card to Pastor Leanne her address in Mayo is:

**Leanne Simmons c/o
Gift of Life Transplant House
705 2nd Street SW room #31
Rochester, MN 55902**

Please remember flowers are not permitted!

LAY READERS NEEDED:



Please sign up to be a **Lay Reader** on the bulletin board.

Collecting plastic grocery bags for a good cause!

Our Hospitality Committee is collecting used plastic grocery bags for a project to make mats to give to homeless people. The bags must NOT have any holes. The committee is working with a woman who creates the mats, like the one pictured here, by hand-weaving the plastic bags. It takes about 500 bags to make one mat. The committee decided to test whether the congregation would support this effort, hoping this could be a long-term outreach (and environmentally friendly) project for our congregation. The mats will be given to groups who work with the homeless in our area! THANK YOU



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

Dec. 16	Noon – “ Blue Christmas ” Service
Dec. 21	Children’s Christmas Program “ Red & Green Potluck” sign-up sheet is on the volunteer bulletin board
Dec. 24	4:30pm Christmas Eve (early service) 9:00pm Christmas Eve (late service) Communion
Dec. 24 & 25	FPC OFFICES CLOSED Merry Christmas!
Dec. 31	OFFICES CLOSING AT NOON
January 1, 2026	OFFICES CLOSED

REMINDER:

Annual Meeting—Sunday, January 25, 2026

Committee Chairs please have your annual reports in by
Monday, January 5, 2026



thoughts & prayers for the family of

Darlene M. Kelley

March 11, 1932 - December 10, 2025

12:00pm service - First Presbyterian Church

Monday, December 15, 2025

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons, Pastor

Rev. David Reiter, Fill-in Pastor

Maureen Chrest, Administrative Assistant

Carol Thompson, Financial Assistant

Carmen Bryhn, Parish Nurse

Erik Hein Sr., Maintenance

Arvy Smith, Pianist/Organist

Gail Snustad, Pianist/Organist

Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir Director

Lael Hoerauf, Westminster Chimes Director

Josh Stokka, Audio/Visual Specialist

Judy Lentz, Membership Services Coordinator

Mary Jones, and Laci Rauser, Nursery

Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry Director

Erik Hein Jr., Sunday Security

Connor Svihovec, Christian Ed. Intern



We are so grateful for all the blessings God has given us!

We no longer pass the offering plates, our offering baskets are next to the exits of the Sanctuary. If you would like to give a donation to the ministry of this church you can also go to our website: fpcbismarck.com and click on the DONATE button. Thank you!

