

OUT  
OF  
THE  
*Blue*  
Advent 2022

**NOVEMBER 27, 2022**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



248-349-0911 • [www.fpcnorthville.org](http://www.fpcnorthville.org)

# ***Welcome***

## **to First Presbyterian Church of Northville**

***Thank you for worshiping with us!***

We invite you to write your name and contact information on the Friendship Pad and pass it down the pew for others to sign.

If you would like a children's folder, large print bulletin, *wireless hearing assistance device* or back pillow, the ushers will be happy to assist you. We currently offer two types of hearing assistance devices: one with earphones, and one which works with "T" coil hearing aids.

If you are visiting with us, and don't have a Bible you can read and understand, please take one from your pew as our gift to you!

Please join us for coffee and tea in Boll Hall after the service.

## ***We Believe***

We believe relationships are key to understanding God and enjoying life together.

We seek to create a community that mirrors God's unconditional acceptance and love.

We value and are centered in scripture.

We honor and worship a God who is constantly at work for the good of every person in every place.

We welcome all regardless of politics, gender, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction.

We are called to love as God loves.

***We're glad you're here!***



## Order of Worship

~ The prelude is to be a time of reflection and preparation for worship ~

### Welcome

**Prelude** *Savior, of the Nations, Come* Johann Gottfried Walther

### Announcements

**Introit** *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night* **#97**  
Chancel Choir

### \*Call to Worship (read responsively)

Leader: For God, change can be small,  
evolutionary, atomic.  
A crumbled resistance,  
a slightly different direction,  
a fresh idea in the middle of the night.

For God, change can rain down like a tempest,  
a flood in every street  
that sweeps into our lives  
with energy that does not yield  
or listen.

**People: God is urgently waiting  
to finally arrive.**

Leader: God, we have been waiting for you, too.

**People: Yet you often arrive before we notice:  
in the place we did not expect,  
in the word we did not hear.**

Leader: Do not be afraid,  
your angels always say,  
right before you change a life.

**All: You are here to change this place.  
We are not afraid.**

### \*Invocation

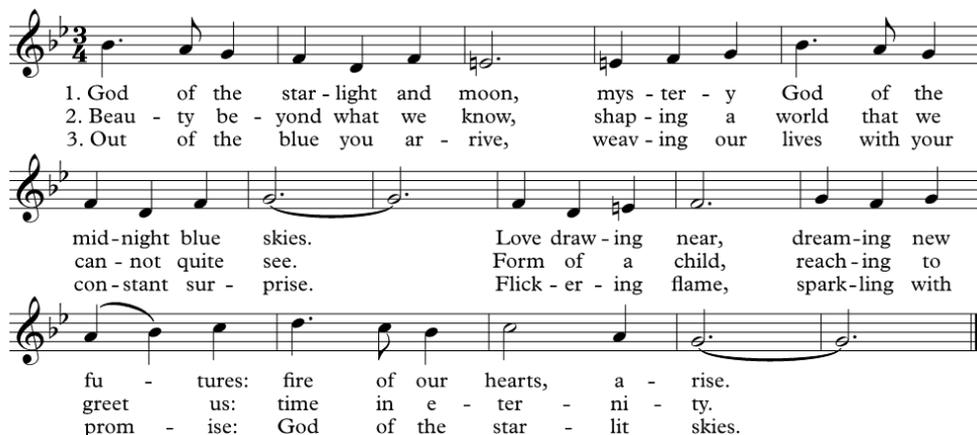
\* Please rise in body or spirit.

## Candle Lighting

Jenn Zibbell, Tito Schwabe

## Sung Response

*Out of the Blue* (v. 2, 3)



1. God of the star-light and moon, mys - ter - y God of the  
2. Beau - ty be - yond what we know, shap - ing a world that we  
3. Out of the blue you ar - rive, weav - ing our lives with your

mid - night blue skies. Love draw - ing near, dream - ing new  
can - not quite see. Form of a child, reach - ing to  
con - stant sur - prise. Flick - er - ing flame, spark - ling with

fu - tures: fire of our hearts, a - rise.  
greet us: time in e - ter - ni - ty.  
prom - ise: God of the star - lit skies.

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

**God, we have acted helpless, even when you called us to action. We have resisted your truth, even when our lies were exhausting. We have behaved as though we were alone, even when you were beside us. God, we have believed we were dying, even when you helped us grow.**

*(Silent Confession)*

## Assurance of Forgiveness

**\*Hymn**      *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*      **#107**

## Children's Message

Jenn Zibbell

*Children are invited to come forward to the chancel steps. Following the message, elementary and preschool age children depart for Sunday School in the Education Rooms. After you exit the sanctuary, someone in the Narthex will direct you.*

## Prayer for Illumination

\* Please rise in body or spirit.

## Scripture Readings

### First Reading: Isaiah 2: 1-5

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup> Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they 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 anymore.

<sup>5</sup> O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

### Second Reading: Matthew 24: 36-44

<sup>36</sup>"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, or the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not

have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Meditation**      *“Getting Ready”*      **Rev. Jacqueline Spycher**

### **Call for the Offering**

**Offertory**      *Keep Your Lamps*      African American Spiritual,  
Chancel Choir      arr. Andre Thomas

**\*Doxology**    **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Christ, all people here below  
Praise Holy Spirit ever more;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

#### **The 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.**

**\*Sending Hymn**    *Lord, How Shall I Meet You*      **#104**

### **\*Benediction**

**\*Sung Response**    *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*  
Peter Lutkin

**\*Postlude**      *Psalm XX*      Benedetto Marcello

*After the benediction response, you may depart from the sanctuary,  
or stay to enjoy the postlude.*

## **Worship Leaders & Staff:**

### Senior Pastor

Rev. Jacqueline Spycher

### Parish Associate

Rev. Linda Cochran

### Liturgist

Deb Sopo

### Music Ministry

Dr. Jerry Custer, Vocal Music Director

Nancy Plumley, Te Deum Handbell Choir Director

Dr. Dave Wagner, Organist/Accompanist

### Youth Ministry

Jenn Zibbell, Children & Youth Director

Ying Zhang, Sunday Morning Nursery Assistant

### Preschool

Lisa Higley, Director

Cynthia Korpela, Assistant Director

### Technology

Daryl Bean, AV Tech Associate

### Office Staff

Kelly Sartorius, Church Administrator

Kelly Clarke, Accounting Clerk

Judy Phillips, Communications Associate

### Sextons

Scott Nelson, Evening Sexton

Paige Poinsett, Daytime Sexton

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**“Out of the Blue” liturgy used by permission of Barn Geese  
Worship [adapted by Jacqueline Spycher], 2022**



**Farewell to Scott Nelson — Today** is a special coffee hour after worship to celebrate and send our best wishes to our retiring sexton, Scott! Please stop by in Boll Hall for the celebration.

**Advent Concert Series —** Enjoy a variety of music in Advent at 4:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary! Please invite family and friends—no admission fee. Sundays: 12/4, 12/11, 12/18. (see pages 9-10)

**Family Movie Night— “The Grinch” Pajama Party!** Friday, December 2 at 6:00 p.m. Bring the whole family and wear your coziest pajamas! Admission is FREE and includes: watching “The Grinch” (PG, 2018); movie snacks and hot cocoa; and a gingerbread house building & decorating contest! Contact Jenn Zibbell for any questions: [jenniferzibbell@fpcnorthville.org](mailto:jenniferzibbell@fpcnorthville.org) (movie shown with permission: CVLI Movie License #504322933)

**Being a caregiver** often means taking time to care for yourself, too. Join with other caregivers for a time of sharing, listening, and leaning on one another. Our next gathering will be Tuesday, November 29, at 7:00 p.m. in the high school room on the lower level. Please enter through the office doors (on the Starbucks side). We meet regularly on the last Tuesday of the month. For more information, contact Pastor Jackie or Catherine Weir.

**Chancel Flowers 2023**— Our online donation Sign-Up for the coming year is now open! Please review the dates and sign up for a Sunday to provide flowers during the worship service. This is a lovely way to make a special dedication in honor or memory of someone, plus enhance our worship as well. If you aren't able to use the online sign up (the link is on our Friday ENews), please call the office to reserve an open date. Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Poinsettias**—Orders are due December 4—please place your form with payment in the offering plate or send it to the church office. Forms are on the Welcome Desk, the office or in our Friday ENews.

## **Mission/Outreach Opportunities**

**Mitten Tree**—Please help us fill the Christmas Tree in Boll Hall with mittens, hats, and scarves for needy children in Detroit. Boxes underneath are for children's socks and underwear. These items will go to the children at Neinas Elementary and also to Crossroads.

**Neinas Elementary School Christmas Party**— Through Bridgepointe, we will again be participating in the Neinas Elementary School Christmas party to be held on Monday, December 19. Neinas is located in southwest Detroit and for some children this celebration may be their only Christmas. With the help of our youth we will planning and leading games and crafts for the Pre-K students. We are also collecting **toys and books** along with **hats, mittens and socks** for gift bags for the students. A collection box is located in the Mission Corner in Boll Hall and the hats and mittens can go on the Mitten Tree. Additional needs for the gift bags and party items will also be available on a SignupGenius. If you'd like to come and help on December 19, please contact Jennifer Zibbell or Carol Maise.

**Northville Civic Concern Christmas Angel Gift Card Collection** Gift cards allow the families to shop for Christmas presents and get what they need. Please purchase gift cards in \$25, \$50, \$75, & \$100 denominations from Target, Meijer, Walmart, or gas cards. Be sure the denomination is marked on the card. Bring them on Sunday to

the box marked "Northville Civic Concern." Cash and checks are also welcome! You may also use the church online giving tool, and choose "Northville Civic Concern" in the menu.

**Toy Collection** — through December 20, for children ages newborn to 18 years. We are collecting NEW, UNWRAPPED toys, books, board games, coloring books, small stuffed animals, art supplies, and gift cards. Drop items to the "Toy Collection" box near the Mission Table in Boll Hall **OR** purchase and deliver through the Amazon Wish List "First Pres Toy Drive". The link is on our website or in the Friday ENews. Gift cards, cash, and checks made out to the church can be placed in the box marked "Cash for Toy Collection". Or, use the online giving tool and choose "Toys"

*Questions on any of these programs? Contact Catherine Weir at 248-921-8090 or Jennie Macy at 248-521-8546. Thank you!*

**Bell Ringers Needed!** —The Salvation Army is looking for a few good bell ringers to collect holiday donations at the Kroger in downtown Northville. Sign up now for dates starting after Thanksgiving. If you are interested in giving your time, please visit and sign-up at [ringbell.org](http://ringbell.org) or [registertoring.com](http://registertoring.com). The site links are in our Friday ENews. (Note: there are not designated FPCN group slots; sign up individually for whatever time slot you like).

## **‘Abendmusik 2022’**

To help prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ -- and to give us all a much-needed break from the stresses of the season -- the Music Department is offering a series of concerts on the second, third, and final Sundays of Advent. The practice of Advent musical offerings, or "Abendmusik," is one that goes back 500 years or more; in 1704, 20-year old Johann Sebastian Bach walked 250 miles from the town of Arnstadt to the city of Luebeck, to listen to the Advent concerts of the man who became his musical father, the great organist and composer Dietrich Buxtehude.

We are continuing this tradition (if not the extended hiking) with this year's Abendmusik programs.

These concerts are intentionally brief -- 40 to 50 minutes in length -- and they're free to the public. They will start at 4:00 p.m. in the church, so you'll have enough time to come to

worship, get a bite or do some shopping, and then return for a time of rest and reflection. If you're looking for a low-key, no pressure way to introduce your friends and neighbors to our church family, this is a great way to do just that! Here are brief descriptions of the offerings in this year's series:

#### **December 4: Jay Sappington, composer**

Jay Sappington is an Ann Arbor-based pianist, singer, and composer whose career includes missionary work in Cote d'Ivoire, writing and performing musicals for children and adults, and serving as a worship leader and minister of music in churches in both Virginia and Michigan. Most recently, he has been breathing new life into well-loved hymn texts, creating new settings in contemporary styles for traditional hymns. He and Dr Jerry have performed and worked together for the past 40 years.

#### **December 11: Te Deum Handbell Choir**

One of the hidden treasures of the Northville musical scene is our exceptional Te Deum Handbell Choir, under the direction of Nancy Plumley. **The Te Deum Handbell Choir will be joined by the Carillons, the handbell choir from the First United Methodist Church in Dearborn, which is directed by Sandi Smith. The concert will feature seasonal favorites!**

#### **December 18: Dr. Dave Wagner, organist**

Dr. Dave Wagner is a true Renaissance man: university teacher, nationally-known radio station program director, highly-respected on-air talent at WRCJ-FM, renowned concert organ recitalist, raconteur, and -- lucky for us -- organist and collaborative keyboard artist in residence at FPCN! He holds the Doctor of Musical Arts in organ performance from the University of Michigan, and formerly collaborated with Dr. Jerry when his choir at Madonna University and Dr. Jerry's from Schoolcraft College performed in a series of concerts.



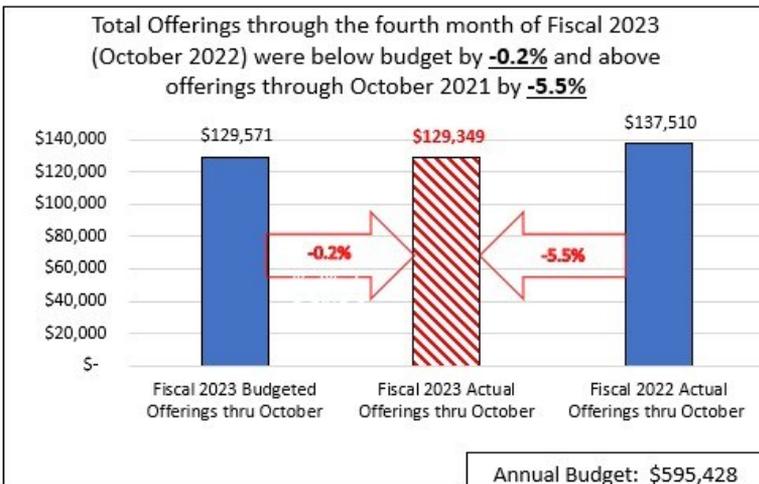
**Congregation:** all caregivers; Jim Atkinson; Bonnie Bakewell; Grant Beringer; Phil & Ginny Cavaretta; Marge Dabney; Kathy Gricius; Ron Housman; Donald Morgan; Marilyn Overmyer; Georgeann Stringer; Melissa Weiss; Dick Werther; Debbie Wood

**Friends and Family:** Kimberly Atkinson (family of Jim & Marilyn Atkinson); Patricia Bader (mother of Dave Bader); Claude Coleman (brother of Coline Coleman), David Cramer (father of friend of Mary Ann Gingrich); Donna (neighbor of Kathy Gricius); Brant Doty (brother of Tim Doty); Karen Fink (friend of John Takacs); Jackie Fisher (mother of Louise Fisher); Sally Gillies (sister of Ron Austin); Grandson of friend of Janet Heath-Morgan; Connie Hassaballa (sister of Sandy Robison & Judy Russell); Mark Ivankovics (brother-in-law of Louise Fisher); Radu Marginean (grandson-in-law of Jim & Marilyn Atkinson); Dave Nickel (Son-in-law of Kathy Gricius); Nina & Nikolai (residing in Ukraine; relatives of Marcia Booth); Marc Noga (friend of Jim & Liz Murtfeldt); Penny Norton (mother of Guy Sartorius); Barbara Onofrio (friend of Georgeann Stringer); Christine Snell (friend of Kathy Gricius); Tina Tate (friend of Mary Ann Gingrich); June Tervo (mother of Curt & Trudy Esch and grandmother of Emily Hamilton); Bob Trombley (husband of Sandy Trombley and brother of Maureen Trombley and Barbara Ulbrich); Terry Wingblad (friend of Darleen Sweeney); Randy Wisner (cousin of Darleen Sweeney).

**All Military Personnel** currently serving here and abroad.

*To add a name to this list, please call your Deacon, or the Church office at 248-349-0911. Please note that names are added to the Prayer Ministry list only with the individual's permission. This list will be purged and reprinted periodically. **Kindly let us know when to remove a name. Thank you.***

### Offerings Update



## WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27— DECEMBER 4, 2022

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Sunday 11/27	<b>First Sunday of Advent</b> 8:45 am Kerygma Bible Study, Middle Sch. Rm 10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live 10:15 am Children's Sunday School, Education Wing 11:30 am GAP Middle Sch. Youth Group, Youth Room 6:30 pm APEX H.S. Youth Group, Youth Room
Mon. 11/28	<i>Church Office Closed</i> 6:30 pm Scouts, CLC 7:00 pm Seekers Discussion Group, via Zoom
Tue. 11/29	7:00 pm Caregiver Group, Youth Room 7:00 pm Midweek Advent Worship, Sanctuary 8:00 pm AA Meeting, CLC 8:00 pm AL-ANON, Boll Hall
Wed. 11/30	8:00 am Men's Morning Small Group, via Zoom 8:30 am Coffee with Preschool, Gathering Room 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Thur. 12/1	6:15 pm Yoga, CLC 7:00 pm Handbells Rehearsal, Music Center
Fri. 12/2	<b>6:00 pm Family Movie Night—Pajama Party, CLC</b>
Sat. 12/3	
Sunday 12/4	<b>Communion, Second Sunday of Advent</b> 8:45 am Kerygma Bible Study, Middle Sch. Rm 10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live 10:15 am Children's Sunday School, Education Wing 11:30 am GAP Middle Sch. Youth Group, Youth Room <b>4:00 pm Concert—Advent, Sanctuary</b> 6:30 pm APEX H.S. Youth Group, Youth Room

