

December 7, 2025 Second Sunday of Advent Communion Sunday



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 also stop by the Welcome Center desk to receive a welcome bag.

Please join us for coffee or 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 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel P. Bouman

Announcements

Invocation

Advent Candle Lighting Leslie Bazini & Karen Cornely

Sung Response O Come, O Come Emmanuel #88

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily: to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Call to Worship (read responsively)

One: The light shines in the darkness.

All: We gather to worship, seeking the peace of Christ.

One: Shine into our lives and your world this Advent.

All: Renew in us Jesus' call to be peacemakers today.

*Opening Prayer

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

Call to Confession

^{*} Please rise in body or spirit.

Prayer of Confession

God of peace and promise, we confess that we have taken your commitment to us for granted. We assume what we do is acceptable to you, yet we tend to judge others without compassion. We have been slow to welcome others, especially if their cultures or convictions differ from ours. You call us to repentance, but we resist acknowledging what needs to change in our hearts or our habits. Forgive our self-satisfied attitudes, and challenge us with your vision of a peaceable kingdom where all can be made new.

(Silent Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Children's Message

Stephen Flavin

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings

First Scripture Reading— Isaiah 11:1–10

- A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
 or decide by what his ears hear;
- but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- The wolf shall live 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.
- The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

- They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.
- On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Second Scripture Reading— Matthew 3:1–12

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Meditation Rev. Jacqueline Spycher

Call for the Offering

Offertory How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place J. Brahms Chancel Choir

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Supper

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus (sung, see page 7)

Breaking of the Bread

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.

Invitation to the Table

Communion of the People

Hymns During Communion

#92 — While We Are Waiting, Come

#507 — Come to the Table of Grace

Prayer After Communion

*Sending Hymn Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice #163

*Benediction

*Sung Response Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus (v. 1) #83

Postlude Savior of the Nations. Come Paul Manz

^{*} Please rise in body or spirit.

Sanctus



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To The Glory of God...

The flowers in the chancel are given by Karen Seaman in loving memory of Daniel Seaman and Patrick McKinney.



Worship Leaders and Staff:

Program Ministry

Rev. Jacqueline Spycher, Senior Pastor Stephen Flavin, Director of Congregational Care, Youth, & Children

Music Ministry

Tom Bowman, Children's Choir Director Dr. Jerry Custer, Chancel Choir Director Nancy Plumley, Te Deum Handbell Director Dr. Dave Wagner, Organist/Accompanist

Liturgist

Beth Heberlein

<u>Technology</u>

Lexanna Sims, AV Tech Associate

Preschool

Lisa Higley, Director Cynthia Korpela, Assistant Director

Office Staff

Kelly Sartorius, Church Administrator Kelly Clarke, Accounting Clerk Hannah Johnson, Communications Associate

Sexton

Nicole Andreolli, Sunday Sexton Zak Bugosh, Sexton

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Congregation: Marilyn Atkinson; Phil & Ginny Cavaretta; Lucia Danes; Tim Doty & the family of Louise Fisher; Charlene Frellick; Sarah French & family; Bob Geake; Ron & Lois Housman; Donna Kennedy; Mary Kirn; Maxine Lapham; Dianne McCulloch; Karen Seaman; Darleen Sweeney; June Tervo; the Ward Family; Dick Werther; Debbie Wood.

Friends and Family: James Atkinson Jr. (son of Marilyn Atkinson); Jerry & Emily Beaca (friends of Kathy Gricius); Ken Berkoben (friend of Bev Hines); Carolyn Blaszcowski (friend of Deb and Tim Gammons); Jeff Brown (friend of Dick Werther); Peg Custer (mother of Jerry Custer); Brant Doty (brother of Tim Doty); Annette Duchamp (mother of Vivienne Ward); Elisabeth Fannin (granddaughter of Marilyn Atkinson); Jackie Fisher (mother-in-law of Tim Doty); The family of Bob Frellick; Connie Hassaballa (sister of Sandy Robison & Judy Russell); The family of Ginnie Heckler; The Henderson Family (relatives of Tammy Fulton); Sher and Bill Hunt (friends of Deb and Tim Gammons); Lynne & Mark Ivankovics (sister-in-law & brother-in-law of Tim Doty); The Family of Barbara Komp; Jaxson Lindquist (grandnephew of Ann Werther); Makayla (granddaughter of Neyssa Gill); Kim Myers (sister-in-law of Denise Myers); Dave Nickel (son-in-law of Kathy Gricius); Nina & Nikolai (residing in Ukraine, relatives of Marcia Booth); Penny & Wes Norton (mother and step father of Guy Sartorius); Barbara Onofrio (friend of Georgeann Stringer); Barbara Prehn (friend of Bev Hines) Marshall Riggs (nephew of Sean & Stephanie Smith); The family of Tom Sechler; Tony and Kathy Schillaci (friends of Kathy Gricius); Alicia Sims (mother of Lexanna Sims); Billy & Trish Stamper (family of Neyssa Gill); Terry Wingblad (friend of Darleen Sweeney); Randy Wisner (cousin of Darleen Sweeney); Cathy Yount (daughter of Marilyn Atkinson); Lynn Zelek (daughter of Charlene Frellick).

All Caregivers

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.**

Cards are available for the congregation to sign on the **third Sunday** (or occasionally the second Sunday) of each month.



This Sunday is '5 Cents a Meal' Sunday. For every meal you and your family members enjoyed over the past month, we are asking that you contribute 5 cents to help feed the hungry in our community. Thanks in advance for your gracious gifts!

Today's organ concert is canceled due to performer illness. Join us next Sunday, December 14 for to hear Vivaldi's *Gloria*.

One big "Thank You"—As the enter into the heart of Advent, we wanted to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for your incredible spirit and tireless efforts over the past couple of weeks. Your hard work has truly ushered in the holiday season. Thank you to everyone who: put together the beautiful outdoor Christmas pots, decorated our spaces, contributed time and generous donations to make the Westminster Thanksgiving Dinner possible for those in need, served pie and provided friendly faces welcoming everyone at our Community Thanksgiving Worship service, marched and cheered for us with enthusiasm in the recent parade, and shared the joy of the season while caroling on the porch.

Farewell to Bob Geake—After more than 50 years of devoted service to Sunday school ministry, Bob Geake will soon be moving to Florida to be with his family. Bob touched numerous lives during his time at FPCN, and we invite everyone to help send him off with a collection of your love, memories, and gratitude. Please stop by the table in Boll Hall after service to write a note, drop something off to the church office by Tuesday, December 9, or email a message to stephenflavin@fpcnorthville.org.

Angel Tree Update—Pick up a tag from the Angel Tree in Boll Hall and bless a child with a Christmas gift from their incarcerated parent. Please wrap and return gifts by **Tuesday, December 16**. We're also seeking volunteers to help with gift delivery that week. Contact Earl Eiben for more info.

A Very Merry Storytime—All are invited to join us for a festive afternoon of fun for kids of all ages. This free, indoor event will include stories with Santa, Christmas carols, cookies, and cocoa. We hope to see everyone there on Sunday, December 14 at 2 p.m.

Looking Ahead—The church will be closed on December 25 and 26 in observation of Christmas. As a result, any announcements to go in the bulletins for December 21, Christmas Eve, and December 28 as well as those to go in the Friday newsletters on December 19 and 26 must be turned in by Wednesday, December 17. Thank you!

Grief Support Group Update—Our ongoing Grief support group will meet this month on **Thursday, December 18**, at 6 p.m., just before our Blue Christmas service, in the Youth Room. Starting on January 2, 2026, we will meet at 10 a.m. on the first **Friday** of each month. Grief has its own timetable, and feelings of loss ebb and flow. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one feel free to join us—regularly or occasionally. Contact Wanda Moon for more information.

Oakway Children's Choir Christmas Concert—All are warmly invited to the Oakway Children's Choir Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 21. Please join us for an evening filled with joyful music and the spirit of the season. The concert begins at 4 p.m. in our sanctuary, and our talented young singers hope to see everyone there!

Youth and College Student Progressive Dinner—Save the date! Youth and college students are invited to the APEX Christmas Progressive Dinner on Sunday, December 21. Beginning at 5 p.m., join us as we visit gracious hosts throughout the community for food and fun. Please send an email to stephenflavin@fpcnorthville.org to receive event details.



^{*}Please contact the church office for assistance in reaching the mentioned contacts.



We will have the following collections at FPCN:

GIVING TREE Collecting new items: toys, games, sports balls, gifts, & blankets. Also collecting kid's books, cash/checks, and gift cards (\$10 on each card). Take a tag with a gift idea from the tree or bring a gift of your choosing! All toys should be unwrapped.



Collecting hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, diapers, diaper wipes, socks (new), and underwear (new).

SNOW PANTS & BOOTS Collecting snow pants and boots of all sizes (with a focus on children's sizes).

Please bring items to their respective stations in Boll Hall by <u>Sunday, December 21</u>.



Donations will go to Neinas Elementary in Detroit, Crossroads of Michigan, Northville Civic Concern, Welcome Inn, Whitmore Lake Schools, and Little Lambs in Flint. Thank you so much!



ADDITIONAL MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to our collections due on December 21, the following mission opportunities are available:



ANGEL TREE COLLECTION

Please help make this season a little brighter for local children by purchasing and donating gifts to be delivered with messages on behalf of their incarcerated parents. Please choose a tag with gift ideas from the tree in Boll Hall, purchase and wrap the gift, and return it to the tree by Sunday, December 16. We're also seeking volunteers to help with gift delivery that week. Please contact Earl Eiben for more information.

NEINAS ELEMENTARY CHRISTMAS PARTY On Monday, December 15, we will be hosting a pre–K classroom during Bridgepointe's Christmas party from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We are seeking volunteers to lead fun games and crafts for this event, which will take place at Neinas Elementary School in southwest Detroit. If you're interested in being a part of this exciting day, please reach out to Carol Maise!

SALVATION
ARMY KETTLE
AND
BELL RINGING

Find our Salvation Army Red Kettle in Boll Hall & make a donation! You can also sign up to ring the bell at a location of your choice (i.e. Kroger downtown, Kroger 6 Mile, Northville Post Office, etc). You're helping raise hope and support for our neighbors. Visit

https://www.registertoring.com/ (or click below) and sign up to ring as an individual. For more info, contact Carol Maise.





Register for bell ringing by clicking here



Advent Christmas

Sundays, 10 a.m. – Weekly Worship

12/9, 6 p.m. – **Deacon Christmas Party**

12/10, 10:30 a.m. – Naomi Circle Christmas Event

12/14, 2 p.m. − A Very Merry Storytime

12/14, 4 p.m. – Chancel Choirs Sings Vivaldi's *Gloria*

12/15-12/18, mornings – **Preschool Nativity Plays**

12/15, 10 a.m. – Neinas Christmas Party

12/16, 7:30 p.m. – Session Christmas Party

12/18, 7 p.m. – Blue Christmas Worship

12/21, 4 p.m. – Oakway Children's Choir Concert

12/21, 5 p.m. – College & Youth Progressive Dinner

12/24, 4 p.m. – Family Christmas Eve Worship

12/24, 6:30 p.m. – Musical Prelude Begins

12/24, 7 p.m. – Traditional Christmas Eve Worship

12/24, 11 p.m. – Acoustic Christmas Eve Worship with Communion

12/28, 10 a.m. – Lessons and Carols



WEEK OF DECEMBER 7, 2025 — DECEMBER 14, 2025

Sun. 12/7	8:45 am 10:00 am 10:15 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm	Second Sunday of Advent and Communion Sunday Kerygma, Gathering Room Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live Children's Sunday School, Children's Wing Coffee Hour, Boll Hall APEX Youth Group, Youth Room
Mon. 12/8	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Lion Cub Scouts Troop Meeting, Boll Hall Scout Troop 755, CLC
Tue. 12/9	12:00 pm 1:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:00 pm 8:00 pm 8:00 pm	Rotary, Boll Hall Rotary Foundation Meeting, Gathering Room Deacon Christmas Party, Off site Children's Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary AA Meeting, CLC Al-Anon Meeting, Boll Hall
Wed. 12/10	8:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 5:30 pm 7:00 pm	Men's Morning Small Group, via Zoom Walking Group, Ford Field (Northville) Naomi Circle, Gathering Room then off site Preschool Children's Worship, Sanctuary Mission Meeting, Library & via Zoom Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Thurs. 12/11	10:30 am 11:00 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:15 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Preschool Children's Worship, Preschool Prayer Group, Study Finance Committee Meeting, Music Center Scout Feast Banquet, CLC Yoga, Children's Wing Handbells Rehearsal, Music Center Men's Discussion Group, Gathering Room
Fri. 12/12	9:30 am	Agape, Gathering Room
Sat. 12/13		
Sun. 12/14	8:45 am 10:00 am 10:15 am 11:00 am 11:15 am 2:00 pm 4:00 pm	Third Sunday of Advent Kerygma, Gathering Room Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live Children's Sunday School, Children's Wing Coffee Hour, Boll Hall Stay-N-Play, Children's Wing A Very Merry Storytime, Boll Hall Advent Concert, Sanctuary