December 20, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Advent

First Presbyterian Church of Sandpoint, Idaho

Andrew Kennaly, Pastor Annie Welle, Pianist

Worship Leader: Dyno Wahl

TURN OFF PHONE WIFI, PLUG IN PHONE MIC, TURN ON MIC APP

BEGIN FACEBOOK LIVE, OPENING MUSIC

LIGHT CHRIST CANDLE, RING THE BELL, MOMENT OF SILENCE

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ONLINE WORSHIP

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE (see write up below; Dyno will read)

If you have an Advent wreath at home, this would be a great time to join together in lighting three of the candles.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Holy God, your Spirit hovers over the waters of creation. Your Spirit visits Mary on the eve of Christmas joy. Your Spirit is active and involved in expressing the great “I Am,” and we thank you. The world is satisfied with so many lesser things, the Church is content when Truth is packaged nicely with a bow, and creation suffers as selfish blinders fool us all. Break us free, O God. Come to us bringing new life, new possibility, and the courage to partner with you, to follow your lead. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus this week, open our hearts, touch our soul, and help us respond with praise, even as we pray what Jesus shares with disciples, saying,

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.

The Peace of Christ be with you. (And also with you). Thanks be to God!

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:46b-55, read by worship leader, Dyno

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:26-38, read by Pastor

WORDS OF WITNESS “Room for Spirit”

OFFERING

One way to respond to God’s leading in your life is to give of yourself in time, talent, and treasure. Supporting the mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church helps support expressions of love in the world. Financial gifts can be sent by regular mail to 417 N. Fourth Ave. in Sandpoint ID, 83864, or donated online at the church website: [www.fpcsandpoint.org](http://www.fpcsandpoint.org) Whether shared in on-going ways, or as an end-of-the-year gift, thank you for your generous giving.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pondering. Perplexed. No one said spiritual growth would be easy. Fear. The unknown. Beyond our small self and limited thinking. We are invited into deeper reflections, following Jesus, lead by the Spirit, immersed in the love of God the Father, the grace and peace of Christ, and the sustaining Presence of the Holy Spirit; one God, who is with us NOW, blessing, sharing favor, and calling, even as forever. Amen.

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST WITH THE WORLD

CLOSING MUSIC, ENDING FACEBOOK LIVE

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

 The Season of Advent is the beginning of the Christian Year. Forty days before Christmas help us prepare. The word *Advent* means “coming,” involving a season of waiting and remembering the anticipation of God’s people throughout the centuries. We celebrate the coming of Christ Jesus.

 **This fourth Sunday of Advent,** as we celebrate God’s gift of Christ Jesus, we light all four candles, remembering the HOPE of faith in Christ, the LOVE of God, the JOY that comes from life in Christ, and the **PEACE** of Christ’s Spirit in our lives. (*light the four candles)*

Shall we pray? Lord God we thank you for the new song you put on our lips. We praise you for your glory revealed throughout the ages and in a stable over 2000 years ago. Thank you for bringing the light of Jesus into the world, setting us free to live in your grace. Help us to live in the hope, love, joy, and peace of Christ. AMEN.