

# FOX CHAPEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*As a community of Christ's disciples, we joyfully participate  
in Christ's mission of love and peace, transformation and hope.*



DECEMBER 14, 2025  
11:00AM

## THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

Everything is traveling: there is no way out of it. But there are different ways of doing it. You can travel inertly like a stone which is hurled in the air. You can travel reluctantly like a dog which drags against the lead. You can embrace the necessity of traveling: you can leap and dance along.

— Sydney Carter, author of the hymn “Lord of the Dance”

---

### PRELUDE

*Six Variants on “Es ist ein’ Ros’ entsprungen”*

Gerald Near

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Cheryl Khylllep

### INTROIT HYMN 314

*Christ, Be Our Light*  
Congregation to join the refrain.

arr. Joel Raney

***Christ, be our light, shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light, shine in Your church gathered today.***

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Advent Wreath Ceremony

Anne, Siena, & Emery Trabandt

### \*HYMN 143

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

REGENT SQUARE

### INVITATION TO SILENT PRAYER AND CONFESSION

Wilberta Pickett

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

It is Advent. It is the season in which we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ, who is the bringer of all peace. We confess to You the ways in which we block the peace of Christ in our lives.

**God of Peace, hear our prayer.**

The rushing and scurrying to get things done,

**we confess to You, O God of peace.**

The worry that threatens to drown us,

**we confess to You, O God of peace.**

The impatience and irritability we feel, because we don't trust You,

**we confess to You, O God of peace.**

The bickering and quarreling we cause, because we don't trust each other,

**we confess to You, O God of peace.**

Even when peace feels far out of reach at this time of year, Your peace is always there for us.

**Instill within us Your peace, O God.**

When we are filled with worry about the future,

**instill within us Your peace, O God.**

When we become irritable and avoid the people around us,

**instill within us Your peace, O God.**

Instill within us Your peace, O God. Embolden us to dream and pursue Your peace. Fill us with Your peace, so that we may spread Christ's peace and love to others. Amen.

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The good news of this Advent season is forgiveness of sin and new life. Let us commit our lives to Christ's way of peace.

**Thanks be to the Advent God, Who comes among us, setting us free to love and serve.**

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*All are invited to exchange signs of reconciliation and peace with others.*

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sam Harding

*Children attending Kids' Church may meet Mrs. Patterson in the Narthex.*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Isaiah 35:1-10 (OT, pg. 663)  
Luke 1:46b-55 (NT, pg. 57)

Rev. Khylllep

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

Mary Shows Us Where Peace Begins

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 99**

*My Soul Gives Glory to My God*

MORNING SONG

**OFFERING**

*Please complete a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Unexpected and Mysterious*

Calvin Hampton

*Unexpected and mysterious is the gentle word of grace.  
Ever-loving and sustaining is the peace of God's embrace.  
If we falter in our courage and we doubt what we have known,  
God is faithful to console us as a mother tends her own.*

*In a momentary meeting of eternity and time,  
Mary learned that she would carry both the mortal and divine.  
Then she learned of God's compassion, of Elizabeth's great joy;  
and she ran to greet the woman who would recognize her boy.*

*We are called to ponder myst'ry and await the coming Christ;  
to embody God's compassion for each fragile human life.  
God is with us in our longing to bring healing to the earth;  
while we watch with joy and wonder for the promised Savior's birth.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*HYMN OF DEDICATION 129**

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

ES IST EIN' ROS'

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

*While We Are Waiting, Come*

Don Carson

***While we are waiting, come. While we are waiting, come.  
Jesus our Lord Emmanuel; while we are waiting, come.***

**\*POSTLUDE**

*'Winchester New'*

Christopher Tambling

+++++

\* Please stand as you are able.

## Participants Today

The Rev. Cheryl Khylllep, Covenant Associate Pastor (cheryl@fcpc.us)  
Anne, Siena, & Emery Trabandt, Advent Wreath Ceremony  
Wilberta Pickett, Liturgist  
Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir  
S.C. Toe, Minister of Music (sc@fcpc.us)  
Don Megahan, Organist (don@fcpc.us)  
Sam Harding, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry (sam@fcpc.us)  
Barbara Patterson, Kids' Church Leader  
Howard Havlicsek, Audio Engineer  
Nellie Boehm, Caretaker (nellie@fcpc.us)

---

## For Children and Families during 11:00AM Worship

Children of all ages are welcome to remain in worship with their families, and we provide the following opportunities for children and families:

**Children age 3 to 5th grade** are invited to sign up for Kids' Church prior to worship near the entry to the sanctuary. Children may join a pastor at the front of the sanctuary for a Children's Message during worship. Following the Children's Message, children will be led to the **Lowest Level**, where parents/guardians can pick them up following worship.

**Nursery care** is available for ages 0-3 in Room 109 (near the main entrance).

**The Comfort Space** is available in Room 107 (next to the Nursery) to comfort or feed a child and watch the worship service via livestream.

See Highlights, page 5, for information about how you can get involved with Children's Ministry and be a Kids' Church volunteer.

## Chancel Flowers

The chancel flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. George and Janet Gilmore by Ann Reid.

---

**HEARING DEVICES** are available in the sanctuary. Ask an usher for assistance.

If you have a hearing aid that has the T-Coil activated, please ask for a T-Coil neckloop receiver.

**LICENSES** CCLI License # 1238538; Streaming License # CSPL091436; One License # 737738-A