

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
December 3, 2017  
First Sunday Of Advent

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

OPENING RESPONSE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Mark 13)

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender you know that summer is near.

**So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that God is near, at the very gates.**

Heaven and earth will pass away,

**But my words will not pass away".**

\* HYMN "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?" 11

Advent Candle Lighting – The Candle of Hope

Congregational Response: verse 1, "Now It's Time to Light the Candle"

(to the tune of "Angels from the Realms of Glory")

**"Now it's time to light the candle, Soon God's promise will be here.**

**Young and old we wait together For the Savior drawing near.**

**Light will overcome the darkness: See the hope the Christ Child brings."**

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.

In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*GLORIA PATRI

FIRST READING Isaiah 64:1-9

\* HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" 9

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

SERMON "A Prophet-Eye View: Hope" Rev. Janell Blair

\*AFFIRMATION OF from The Confession of 1967

**In Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself. We confess that Jesus Christ is God with us, the eternal Son of the Father, who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation. We believe that the risen Christ is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete his mission. This work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is the foundation of all we say about God, ourselves, and the world. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

\* HYMN "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear" 38

POSTLUDE

**\*Those who are comfortable doing so are invited to stand**

**Welcome:** To all who worship with us this morning. Visitors and members are asked to please sign the Ritual of Friendship pad. Thank you for worshipping with us!

**Announcements:** Tonight we are invited to St. Andrew's Methodist Church for a Christmas concert by Coldwater Revival at 6:00pm. A free will offering will be taken.

Tuesday we gather again with our Methodist friends for our Brown Bag Lunch and devotional. We meet at Wesley Methodist at Noon.

Next Sunday the Session will meet after worship.

**Birthdays:** No Birthdays this week.

**Anniversaries:** No anniversaries this week.

**Flowers:** Flowers were purchased this week by Carroll and Rosa Pace, in honor of Addie and Spacey Wells, birthdays.

**Refreshments:** Julia Kasch, provided refreshments for the Congregation today.

**Newsletter:** Deadline to submit articles and information for January newsletter is **December 20, 2017**. If you have an article or announcement please turn it in to Silvia or slip it under the door to her office.

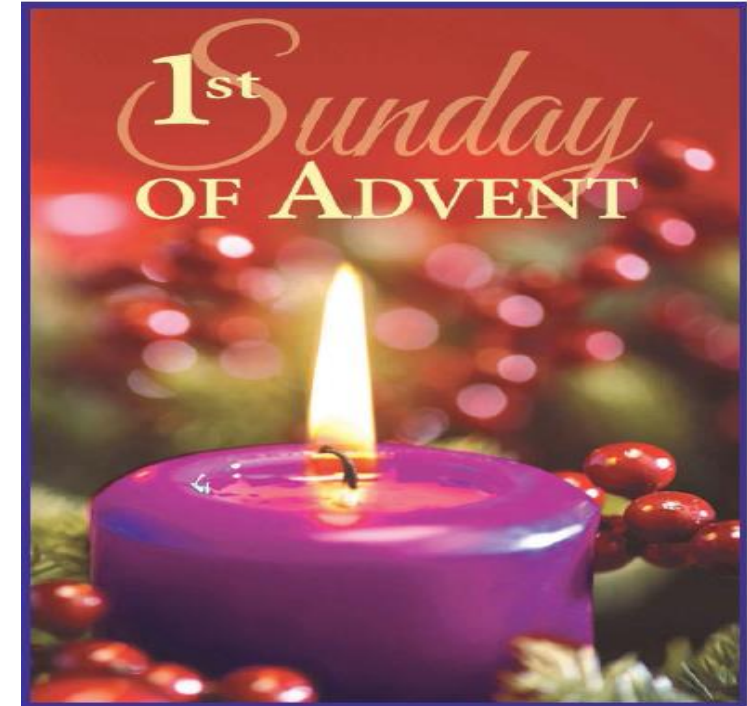
**Pastor: Rev. Janell Blair (361) 920-2492**

**Pianist: Marilyn Pearce**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

9: 30 a.m. Sunday School – Upstairs Parlor      Sunday School - Room 104 Ed. Wing  
10: 1 0 a.m. Fellowship Time – Southeast Vestibule      **Session Meets** – December 10, 2017.  
10: 30 a.m. Morning Worship

Church Office 274-5331 / Church e-mail: [firstpresborger@att.net](mailto:firstpresborger@att.net),  
Church web site: [www.firstpresbyterianborger.org](http://www.firstpresbyterianborger.org).



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