

December 5th, 2021



Come and Have Breakfast

Two weeks ago, we had a special “Asset Mapping” event after Sunday worship in the church, led by our friends at Partners for Sacred Places. About sixty people attended, more than filling the tables we’d set up in the chapel.

Folks had a great time.

There was the simple joy of sharing a meal together, something we had not done as a church family since the pandemic began.

And then there was the joy of taking stock of what was right with us and our great church.

Our friends from Partners asked each of us to name *assets* of the church and write them on Post-It Notes.

Hundreds of notes went up all around the room.

That’s right. Our members named hundreds of things that are right with us.

Then Partners asked us to group the notes around ideas that might be acted upon.

Last, Partners asked us to “vote with our feet,” and stand next to the idea that seemed most appealing.

Perhaps it shouldn’t be a surprise that our members identified a food ministry as one of the top two ideas. The other was to use our beautiful space for performance and cultural events.

When our forebears built our building over a century ago, they wisely included a large space to feed the people of the city. Today, our members still recognize the cafeteria as one of our greatest assets, and a food ministry as one of our greatest opportunities.

Our preaching text this week from John 21 gives us insight into the reasons why.

At the end of John’s Gospel, Jesus gave the disciples a world-changing mission. But what did they do? They went fishing.

But without Jesus they caught nothing.

But Jesus wasn’t angry with them. He called to them from the shore: “Have you any fish? Cast your net on the other side.”

The net nearly broke from the miraculous catch.

Then Jesus invited them to “Come and have breakfast” and to “Bring some of the fish you caught. The campfire breakfast was a heavenly banquet.

The Lord was at the meal, but he was focused on his guests. He even fed them with his own hands.

It’s how Jesus does hospitality.

It’s what he created us for, too.



WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:45 am

Prelude: "Veni, Emmanuel"

Raymond Haan

Ryan Croyle, *Organ*

Matt Sartore, *Cello*

Time of Welcome

Rev. Dan Turis, *Associate Pastor*

Moment For Mission

Rocco Magnelli

Advent Introit

Sung by the Choir

Rejoice, rejoice! This is a day for praise!

Rejoice, rejoice with music; this is a day for praise!

The Light of peace is coming; let every heart be raised.

The morning now is breaking; creation's song awaking.

This is the dawn of grace. This is a day for praise!

Rejoice, rejoice! This is a day for praise!

***Responsive Call to Worship**

Rev. Dan Turis

Leader: (Isaiah 11:1-4, 10)

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;

from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—

the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,

the Spirit of counsel and of might,

the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD—

and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,

or decide by what he hears with his ears;

but with righteousness he will judge the needy,

with justice he will give decisions for the poor.

People:

In that day the Root of Jesse will stand

as a banner for the peoples;

the nations will rally to him,

and his resting place will be glorious.

***Hymn 196: "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"** (located in this bulletin)

Unison Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, we are a people who worry. Our lives are complex, and our problems are real. But we confess that it's easier to worry than to trust. Lord, forgive us. Remind us that you sent your Son to stand up to the giant of worry, and defeat our biggest fear, death itself. *Amen.*

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Children's Message

Camilla Helenkamp, *Student Pastor*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

Rev. Dan Turis

⁷How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
“Your God reigns!”
⁸Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices;
together they shout for joy.
When the LORD returns to Zion,
they will see it with their own eyes.
⁹Burst into songs of joy together,
you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
¹⁰The LORD will lay bare his holy arm
in the sight of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth will see
the salvation of our God.

Scripture Reading: John 21:1-14

Rev. Tom Hall, *Senior Pastor*

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: ²Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³“I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

⁵He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?”

“No,” they answered.

⁶He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

⁷Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. ⁹When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon - "The Risen Jesus Evangelizes"

Rev. Tom Hall

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Rev. Tom Hall & Rev. Dan Turis

Pastoral Prayer 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; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Call for the Offering

Judy Shipley, *Missions Chair*



Online giving available through GivePlus.

Anthem: "Heal Our Land"

Kari Jobe

Natalie Rogers, *Soloist*

*You take, our lives - Flawed yet beautiful;
Restore, refine - Lord You're merciful; Redeem, revive.*

*Chorus: Spirit of God, Breathe on Your church
Pour out Your presence, Speak through Your word.
We pray in all the nation, Christ be known - Our hope and salvation, Christ alone.*

*New power, new wine as divisions fall;
One church, one bride: Jesus, Lord of all.
With one voice, we cry: (Chorus)*

*So God we pray to You, humble ourselves again. Lord would You hear our cry?
Lord will You heal our land? That every eye will see, that every heart will know,
the One who took our sin, the One who died and rose.
And when Your kingdom comes, and when at last You call,
We'll rise to worship You alone. (Chorus)*

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn #575:** *"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"* (located in this bulletin)

***Invitation and Charge**

***Benediction**

Postlude: *"Praise to the Lord, The Almighty"*
arr. Lani Smith

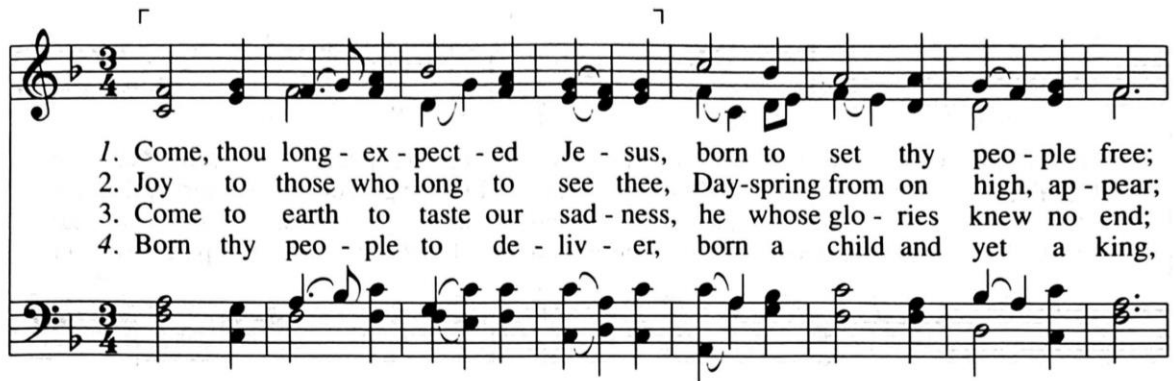
Ryan Croyle

**Please stand as you are able*

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

196

Waiting for the consolation of Israel. Luke 2:25



1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap - pear;
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries knew no end;
 4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!
 by his life he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth:
 Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a cat - tle stall;
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 "Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
 this the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

St. 1, 4, Charles Wesley, 1744
 St. 2-3, Mark E. Hunt, 1978

Text of stanzas 2 & 3 © 1978, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Used by permission.

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D.
 Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855

Descant

4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore
F Am B \flat C7

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign -
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore

him! All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be -
F Am B \flat

tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal -
ing, shel - tering you un - der his wings, oh, so gent - ly sus -
you; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at -
him! All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be -

fore him! Let the a - men sound from his
C7 F B \flat F

va - tion! Come, all who hear; broth - ers and
tain - ing. Have you not seen all that is
tend you. Pon - der a - new what the Al -
fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

peo - ple a - gain. Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!
C F Dm Gm C F

sis - ters, draw near, join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
might - y can do as with his love he be - friends you.
peo - ple a - gain. Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Ongoing/Upcoming Opportunities . . .

Children in Worship is on Hiatus

Due to the rise in cases of COVID even among those vaccinated and children it has been decided to suspend Children in Worship until it is safer. We look forward to that day!

Hospitality Hour

Join us after worship this morning for a time of refreshments and fellowship in the chapel. If you're visiting with us, we would especially like to get to know you!

It's Poinsettia Time!

We are again planning to decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias for Christmas Eve worship. **Each plant is in a 6" pot and costs \$10.** An announcement will appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin, and/or on the screen (during virtual worship) listing the donors and the individual(s) being honored or memorialized. **The deadline for ordering is Friday, December 10.** To order, please contact Hannah at 412-471-3436 or hdurant@fpcp.org.

If emailing your order, please indicate:

- Number of plants desired,
- How you would like the "in memory of" or "in honor of" information to read,
- How you would like your donor name to read, and
- Whether you want to take the plants with you after the Christmas Eve service.

You can then place your check (payable to the church) in the offering plate or send it to the church office (320 Sixth Ave, Pittsburgh, 15222). (Please indicate "poinsettias" in the memo field).

Join us for prayer

- **Each Sunday at 9 am** – meet with Rev. Dan Turis and others for one hour before worship. To join this prayer meeting, contact Pastor Dan at dturis@fpcp.org and he will send you the link.
- **Each Thursday at 7:30 am** – meet with Judy Shipley and others for one hour of prayer and spiritual care. To join this prayer meeting, contact Judy at j.shipley.j17@gmail.com and she will send you the link.
- **Each Wednesday at 10:30 am** - meet with Rev. Tom Hall or Rev. Dan Turis and others for a time of informal prayer for the needs of our church members and our world. To join this prayer meeting, contact Pastor Dan at dturis@fpcp.org and he will send you the link. We hope you can join us for any or all of these prayer meetings.

Cold Weather Clothing, Shoes and Blankets Needed!

As it continues to get colder, we are still seeking **new** or **gently used** clothes (especially hooded sweatshirts) and shoes (of all sizes - - men's and women's) and large blankets to distribute to our neighbors in need. Casual clothing in all sizes is needed especially in Men's and Women's Sizes (L-XXXL) Please drop items off anytime during church office hours throughout the week or on Sundays before or after worship. **Thank you** in advance for your generosity!

December 5, 2021 – 2021 FPCP Special Missions Offering – Refuge for Women Pittsburgh • Garden Home Ministries

In keeping with FPCP's centuries' long faithfulness to mission and outreach, the Missions Committee, with Session approval, is asking members and friends to support the annual special offering to missions. This year, your gifts will be allocated equally between Refuge for Women and Garden Home Ministries. As our awareness of human trafficking in the Pittsburgh region grows, we welcome the opportunity to respond by supporting organizations that are meeting the needs of those who have been exploited and kept in dangerous conditions.



Since March, members of the Missions Committee, Rev. Dan Turis and others have been talking with Theresa Golden, Director of Refuge for Women and Sharlene Dominick, Director of Garden Home Ministries. We have listened to their visions and visited the residences they operate. We find their personal statements of faith and sense of mission to be outstanding. These two organizations embody the full spectrum of care for trafficked women. Refuge for Women currently focuses on providing immediate access to temporary housing, crisis intervention and other forms of support for female survivors of trafficking. Garden Home Ministries provides stability, resources, and accountability in a home setting for women who desire to break the cycle of homelessness, addiction, exploitation, and trafficking.



You are invited to help by designating your gifts to “2021 Special Missions Offering,” either through the Give+ app or your preferred manner of giving. On Sunday, December 5, all offering designated to “Mission” will be given to Refuge for Women Pittsburgh and Garden Home Ministries. Please consider a generous gift! You can visit these websites to learn more: refugeforwomen.org/Pittsburgh and gardenhomeministries.org

First Night Open House

After a successful Light Up Night where we welcomed more than 400 visitors, plan now to join us for First Night on **December 31** from 6-9 pm. This New Year's Eve celebration will feature the Balmoral Pipes and Drums Band, which will be performing at 7 pm and again at 8:30 pm. We are looking for volunteers to serve as greeters. We are also accepting donations to defray the cost of the concert and your support either way is appreciated!

If you'd like to help, please contact the church office at 412-471-3436 or email Hannah at hdurant@fpcp.org.

Under The Tree

It's time once again to help one of our key mission partners. Over the past three years, FPCP members and friends have generously purchased, wrapped, and delivered gifts to international students who find themselves isolated and far from home during the holiday semester breaks. Through PRISM (Pittsburgh Region International Student Ministries), we have been able to give personal items and treats to residents of PRISM's Hospitality House. Since last year, PRISM has moved its hospitality to a smaller home, and no longer houses long term residents. However, the opportunities for hospitality have expanded greatly! (You can read more below.)



This year, the Missions Committee is inviting you to contribute to a new 'Under the Tree' Fund. The money will be used to purchase a generous array of holiday treats, coffee and serving items, as well as winter 'must haves' for internationals who are not used to our Pittsburgh weather. We know that our gifts have been deeply appreciated over the years.

We hope that you will want to continue what is now a strong tradition of offering hospitality to those who feel lonely and far from home during the coldest and darkest part of the year. To give, please designate your gift to "Under the Tree" – in the Give+ app or through the giving method you prefer. Thank you!

A Note about This Morning's Music by Ryan Croyle

For this second week of advent, our prelude is an organ and cello duet of Raymond Haan's (b.1938) setting of "*O Come O Come Emmanuel*." I am joined at the console by Matt Sartore, our bass section leader, who is also an excellent cellist. We continue with our advent introit, sung by the choir just before the Call to Worship. For the anthem, we welcome back Natalie Rogers who has been away for a few weeks, singing "*Heal Our Land*" by the contemporary Christian artist Kari Jobe (b. 1981).

Our worship today features two great hymns, "*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*" sung to the Welsh tune *Hyfrydol*, and "*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*" sung to the German tune *Lobe Den Herren*. The former draws us into worship during this Advent season, and the latter is a real "tree topper" that will send us back out into the world for the week ahead, along with a great postlude based on our closing hymn arranged by Lani Smith (1934-2015). I hope that you'll be back for our special service of Lessons and Carols on **December 12th!**

Sermon Notes

First Church Staff

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Doug Williams
Dan Conner
Ava Conner
Bill Branning
Keith and Amy Burris
David Charlton

Church Office hours are **Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, 412-471-3436, www.fpcp.org.**
Staff is sometimes working remotely, but phone messages are being retrieved and answered.

Need Validated Parking?

Sundays only, get your parking ticket stamped at the FPCP Welcome Center in the Narthex (front lobby). See the person in the payment booth at Mellon Square, Oliver Avenue or Smithfield Street garage to pay \$1 for parking.