

First Presbyterian Church of McAllen

956-682-2836/fax: 956-664-2711 www.fpcmcallen.org

email: fpchurch@sbcglobal.net

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am—3:00 pm; Friday, 8:00 am—1:00 pm

Church Staff

Rev. Kathryn Escandell Pastor	Cam Henry Treasurer	Lucy Snearley Pianist
Michael A. Pullen Church Administrator	Roberto Garza II Choir Director	Adela Zamora Custodian / Nurse
Dana Friedman Clerk of Session	Beverly Bradburn Organist	

The Session

Rev. Kathryn Escandell — Moderator
Dana Friedman — Clerk

Class of 2018 Spud Brown Mike Hudler Dottie Palmer Dee Treviño	Class of 2019 Kathryn Henry Henry McElmurray Bob Simpson	Class of 2020 Tom Ball Maria Colvin-Lopez Dana Friedman Cristina Garfield
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*Stated Session meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Parlor.
Session meetings are open unless in Executive Session.*

Ministry Chairpersons

Fellowship—Henry McElmurray
Finance/Stewardship—Bob Simpson
Nominating—Dottie Palmer
Personnel—Dee Treviño
Property—Doug Schneider

Calling Chairpersons

Christian Education—Cristina Garfield
Congregational Care—Kathryn Henry /
Mike Hudler
Evang. & Mission—Maria Colvin-Lopez
Worship—Tom Ball

Trustees

Class of 2018—Maria Colvin-Lopez
Class of 2019—Nadine Force-Macey
Class of 2020—Vinson McLeod

All are welcome to join in the ministry of the church.

Children are welcome in worship. Childcare is provided for infants through kindergartners. Preschoolers may leave for an extended children's session in the nursery after "Time with Young Disciples." All children are invited to take advantage of the Children's Worship Bags located in the Narthex.



Like us on Facebook: *First Presbyterian Church, McAllen, TX*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Kathryn Escandell, preaching
Elizabeth Gearhart /
Eduardo Flores, liturgists
Rev. Kathryn Escandell, children's time
Roberto Garza II, choir director

MUSICIANS

Beverly Bradburn, organist
Lucy Snearley, pianist

USHER

Dana Friedman, captain
David Rowland

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN PRAYER:

Alice Adams, Emelia Alaniz, Ric Backstrom, Samantha Bailey, Bill & Anna Bohart, Joseph Castellanos, Gretchen Chapa, Carole Collins, Mary Ann Cummings, Bonnie Daniels, Estelle Davenport, Kyler Deveney, Andres Fuentes, Andrew Garcia, Vicki Garcia, Betty Garner, Steve Gonzalez, Tyson Goodenbaur, Elisha Griffith, Laura Hale, Charles & Lou Helt, Lores Hochstetler, Ruth Hodge, Rev. O'Quin Kelly, Dick & Gwyn Kozma, Dr. Kenneth & Carolyn Landrum, Andy Lentz, Shannon Leonard, Shirley Leonard, Eric Longoria, William (Bill) Macecevic, Earl & Nadine Force-Macey, Larry & Jean McDonald, Dolores Munoz, Kelly Nicholson, Bernice Norton, Rusty Noser, Daniella Olivarez, John Parks, Cindy Payne, Elpidio Perez, Raymond E. Peterson, Bob Pippin, Robert & Carol Pippin, Rene & Diana Provencio, Marty Pullen, Barry Rock, Laurie Rock, Daniel Salkinder, Ruben Sanchez, Susan Cowie-Serres, The Session of FPC-McAllen, Nancy Shepard, Scott Shipley, Barbara Stevens, Lindsay Terry, Alan & Joy Tittle, Rick Trager, Anthony Treviño, Sopphey Vance, Harry Vorbach, Eric & Lety Walborg, Jessica Watt, Joseph Watt, Addisyn Whitsell, John Wright, Draven Trent Zamora. **MILITARY/OVERSEAS:** Derek Emter, Nathan & Glenda Mesta, Jason Schneider, Taylor Wimberley, Justin Zeller. **MISSIONARY:** Dre Atkins. **SHUT-INS:** Lois Clark, Gladys Law, Dale Miller, Lupe Weir. (NOTE: *If you would like to add a name to the list, please fill out a card located in the "Ritual of Friendship" book or back of the pew and drop it in the offering plate.*)

Our Mission Statement

**Join the Journey!
Love and Serve God and Others.**

Our Vision Statement

Respond to God's grace and build upon the strength of our Reformed tradition through worship, evangelism and leadership training. We will become a church of ministers who carry out the Great Commission and meet the needs of one another. We will build safer communities and glorify the name of Jesus Christ in the city of McAllen, Texas.

We will ...

Proclaim the Good News revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We will accomplish this through activities such as festivals and concerts, and through various means of communication as social and international programs.

We will ...

Live as a community of faith in worship, prayer, study and fellowship. This will be done through programs, including Sunday School, Bible Study, Sunday Worship; and activities, including church meals, as well as support for individual worship.

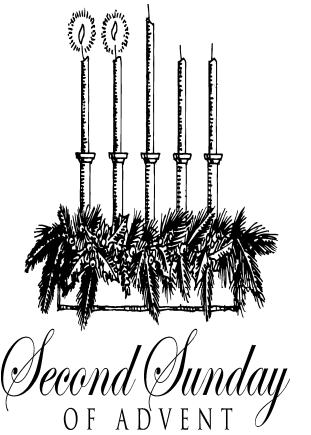
We will ...

Actively serve our community with love, compassion, respect, mercy and justice. We will accomplish through peace, unity and purity through Christ-like behavior, corporate and personal responsibility, and hospitality toward all.

May God empower us by the Holy Spirit to fulfill our call to be God's people.

First Presbyterian Church
of McAllen

104 SOUTH 12TH STREET
MCALLEN, TEXAS 78501
Serving this community since 1908



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 10, 2017

10:30 a.m.

2nd Sunday of Advent / Human Relations

(* - please rise in body or spirit. Congregation parts in **bold.**)

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements / Friendship Book

Prelude

Silent Preparation

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.

— Loyola Press

GATHERING

* Call to Worship / Lighting the Advent Wreath Communion prep /
Home communion

... God of hope, God of peace, you speak peace into the world
through the way of the Christ-child.

Help us to live as peacemakers that we may be called children of God.

**God of promise, God of peace,
lead us out of darkness into your light.**

* Opening Hymn *O God of Every Nation* No. 756 (Purple)

Prayer of the Day

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness.

**We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed;
we have not been at peace.**

We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love.

**Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins,
that we may walk in righteousness to the glory of your name.**

Amen.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, I am confident of this:

The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion.

Hear and trust in the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are healed, forgiven and made whole.

Thanks be to God.

* Gloria Patri *Glory Be to the Father* No. 581 (Purple)

* Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

[*In the same manner, turn and pass the peace of Christ to your neighbors.*]

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Psalms *Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13 (Inclusive Bible)*

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 40:1-11 (NRSV)*

(*This is the Word of the Lord ... Thanks be to God!*)

Anthem

Time with Young Disciples

Gospel Reading *Mark 1:1-8 (NRSV)*

(*This is the Word of the Lord ... Thanks be to God!*)

Sermon "What We Carry" Rev. Kathryn Escandell

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Affirmation of Faith (from *The Belhar Confession*)

We believe that God

has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation

in and through Jesus Christ;

that the church is called to be the salt of the earth

and the light of the world;

that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker;

that the church is witness both by word and by deed

to the new heaven and the new earth

in which righteousness dwells.

* Reflection Hymn *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* No. 87 (Purple)

Prayers of the People / *Lord's Prayer* Purple Hymnal, Pg. 35

Presentation of Tithes and Offering

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 606 (Purple)

* Offertory Prayer

* Closing Hymn *While We Are Waiting, Come* No. 92 (Purple)

GO OUT INTO THE WORLD IN GOD'S NAME

* Charge & Benediction

* Congregational Response *While We Are Waiting, Come (refrain)* No. 92 (Purple)

* Postlude



Announcements & Church Information

The **FLOWERS AT THE FRONT OF THE SANCTUARY** are presented to
the glory of God by *the children of God.*

Please join us for our **BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATION** in
the Parlor immediately following today's Worship Service as we honor all birth-
days and wedding anniversaries for December.

The sanctuary will be open for **MID-WEEK ADVENT PRAYER** from noon to
1 p.m. during the Thursdays of Advent Season (December 14 & 21). If you feel a
need for spiritual prayer/meditation in the coming days, a quiet place is available.

Our annual **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** will take place next Sunday, December
17, in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. The Fellowship Min-
istry will provide the meat (ham, turkey, brisket, and tamales), rolls, desserts, and
drinks. The congregation is asked to provide their favorite Christmas side dish.
All are invited to join in the fellowship and spirit of the Christmas season!

DEADLINE for the **JANUARY '18 NEWSLETTER** is December 18.

ESPAÑOL WORSHIP SERVICES are offered each Sunday at 5 p.m. in the
Parlor.

The **2017 ADVENT DEVOTIONALS** are available in the Narthex.

For prayer requests, complete a **PRAYER CARD** located in the Friendship Reg-
ister. Place in the offering plate or give to an Usher.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS and **SHAWLS AVAILABLE** ... Please ask an
Usher to provide one for you should you so desire.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER 10-17, 2017

SUNDAY / 10th

(*2nd Sunday of Advent / Human Rights Day*)

10:30 am—**Worship Service**

11:30 am—December Birthdays / Anniversaries Celebration (Parlor)

4:30 pm—Youth

5:00 pm—**Spanish Worship Service** (Parlor)

MONDAY / 11th

5:00 pm—Finance Ministry (Parlor)

WEDNESDAY / 13th

7:30 pm—Choir practice (Choir room)

THURSDAY / 14th

9:30 am—Space for God

Noon-1 pm—Mid-Week Advent prayer (Sanctuary)

FRIDAY / 15th

7:00 am—Prayer Breakfast meeting (@ Denny's, 401 E. Nolana, McAllen)

SUNDAY / 17th

(*3rd Sunday of Advent*)

9:00 am—Sunday School

10:00 am—Choir Practice (Choir room) / "The Gathering" (Parlor)

10:30 am—**Worship Service**

11:30 am—Christmas Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)

4:30 pm—Youth

5:00 pm—**Spanish Worship Service** (Parlor)