

**First Presbyterian Church of McAllen**

956-682-2836/fax: 956-664-2711 [www.fpcmcallen.org](http://www.fpcmcallen.org)

email: [fpchurch@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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

<b>Class of 2018</b> Spud Brown Mike Hudler Dottie Palmer Dee Treviño	<b>Class of 2019</b> Kathryn Henry Henry McElmurray Bob Simpson	<b>Class of 2020</b> 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  
Maria Colvin-Lopez /  
Feliz Piñeda, 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 3, 2017**

**10:30 a.m.**

**1st Sunday of Advent / Holy Communion**

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

**GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

Welcome and Announcements / Friendship Book

Prelude

Silent Preparation

**Stir a Longing**

May the sounds of Advent stir a longing in your people, O God. Come again to set us free from the dullness of routine and the poverty of our imaginations. Break the patterns which bind us to small commitments and to the stale answers we have given to questions of no importance. Let the Advent trumpet blow, let the walls of our defenses crumble, and make a place in our lives for the freshness of your love, well-lived in the Spirit, and still given to all who know their need and dare receive it. Amen.

— Howard Thurman, "The Mood of Christmas"

GATHERING

\* Call to Worship / Lighting the Advent Wreath Ushers
... God of hope, out of death you bring life.
Renew us in hope, so that we may be alert
to the dawning of Christ's advent among us.
God of promise, God of hope,
lead us out of darkness into your light.

\* Opening Hymn Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise No. 12 (Purple)

Prayer of the Day

Call to Confession (from Isaiah 64:6b)

Prayer of Confession (from Isaiah 64:5b, 7)

God-with-us,
even in Advent, we confess that you can seem far away.
You are hidden when we need you near.
In our hurt, doubt, and fear, we do not try to draw closer to you;
instead, we lash out -
against you, our neighbor, even those we love.
Forgive us, we pray, and come to save us!
Let your face shine until our tears are dried, our sins are faded,
and our hope is restored.
After all, we belong to you,
and in your hands, we can be made new.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness (from 1 Corinthians 1:4, 8-9)

The grace of God, given to us in Christ Jesus, strengthens us to the end
so that we may be blameless when Christ comes again.
Thanks be to God, who is faithful
and has called us into the fellowship of the Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord!

\* 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

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 64:1-9 (NRSV)

Psalms Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (NRSV)
(This is the Word of the Lord ... Thanks be to God!)

Anthem

Time with Young Disciples

Gospel Reading Mark 13:24-37 (NRSV)
(This is the Word of the Lord ... Thanks be to God!)

Sermon "Hopeful Expectation" Rev. Kathryn Escandell

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\* Reflection Hymn The Days Are Surely Coming No. 357 (Purple)

Presentation of Tithes and Offering

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

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

\* Offertory Prayer

SEALING GOD'S WORD

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

God is with us
We are not alone
Christ is present here
The Spirit moves within us
Let us give thanks to God
In memory and in hope, we give thanks.

Blessings be to you, Creator God ...

... And we lift our voices to join the angels
and the saints of all the ages in offering you praise:

O holy, holy, holy God,
O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your Grace.
Hosanna in the highest heaven, creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes
and bears Your name always

Yet even now ...

... In our remembering and in our hope,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!

God, you poured your Spirit on Mary ...

... Let all the people say:
Amen, amen, O Holy One!
Hosanna and amen!

Lord's Prayer

The Pouring and Breaking

The Bread we break is the Bread of Life.
The Cup we Share is the Cup of Promise.
These are the gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.
Come to the table, the banquet awaits.

The Feast (by intinction) \*\*

\*\* (If you are unable to come forward to receive the elements,
a server will come to you in the pew. A gluten-free option is
available at each station.)

Prayer Following Communion

God of pregnant expectations, God of Christmas promise,
God of child-like hope,
we have shared bread and cup at your table.
May the eating and the drinking
fill us with hope in a world of despair.
May we be beacons of hope as we wait for the day
when the world will be changed.
Grant that this taste of your banquet which is to come
would give us the hunger for peace and justice
in our community and around the world.
Amen

\* 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



Worship / Sermon notes:

Seven horizontal lines for writing notes.