

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Peace

One: Peace on each one who comes in need.

All: Peace on each one who comes in joy.

One: Peace on each one who offers prayers.

All: Peace on each one who offers song.

One: Peace of the Make, Peace of the Son.

All: Peace of the Spirit, the Triune One.

*Gathering Music #107 “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” *Rejoice Rejoice*

Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.

Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! The Child of our longing.

Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together,

He opens wide the heavenly door and lives now inside us forever

Call to Worship and Lighting the Advent Candle

Toward the Light, by Ann Weems

One: Too often our answer to the darkness is not running toward Bethlehem but running away.

All: We ought to know by now that we can't see where we're going in the dark.

One: Running away is rampant...separation is stylish:
separation from mates, from friends, from self.

All: Run and tranquilize, don't talk about it, avoid.

Run away and join the army of those who have already run away.

One: When are we going to learn that Christmas Peace comes only when we turn and face the darkness?

All: Only then will we be able to see the Light of the World.

One: Today we begin our Advent journey by examining our own lives, facing our own darkness, that we might see our need for the Light of the World, the Prince of Peace. On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle to remind us of the light of God that shines in the darkness, a light the darkness can never overcome.

All: In the darkness of our hearts, in the distraction of our lives, we pray: come, Lord Jesus. Come, showing us a better way to forgive ourselves, a better way to seek your peace, first in our lives, and then in your world, in your name, amen.

*Hymn of Praise #82 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” *Hyfrydol*

Prayer of Brokenness

All: God of peace, you came to dwell among us that we might be whole, yet we continue to live in brokenness. We fracture healing with anger, cleave hope with fear, disturb holy stillness with anxious mania, and shatter our world, our communities, our churches, even our own hearts with selfishness and greed.

One: Let us consider in silence the brokenness within ourselves.
(silence is kept for personal confession)

As we wait for the advent of peace, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Leads us from despair to hope, from fear to truth.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.

All: Let peace fill our hearts, our church, our world, our universe. We ask if for your own name's sake. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

One: The good news of the gospel is that while we were yet broken, Christ came to make us whole. Christ is still coming - on the wings of grace and truth, in the fullness of love and time - to bring shalom.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayer Response #417 “Lord Jesus, Think on Me” *Southwell*

Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin.

From earthborn passions set me free, and make me pure within.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

The Word Spoken

In the beginning was the Word

And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Psalm 34:1-14

Pew Bible, OT, Page 508

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Word with the Children

Anthem “Light of Peace” by Joel Raney

The Word Declared: “The Whole Self” Rev. Karen Ware Jackson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Gratitude, praise, hearts lifted high, voices full and joyful – these you deserve. For when we were nothing, you made us something. When we had no name and no faith and no future, you called us your children. When we lost our way or turned away, you did not abandon us. When we came back to you, your arms opened wide in welcome. And look, you prepare a table for us offering not just bread, not just wine, but your very self so that we may be filled, forgiven, healed, blessed and made new again. You are worth all our pain and all our praise. So now in gratitude, we join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven.

Sanctus #100 “Canticle of the Turning” v. 1 *Star of the County Down*
My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!

Lord God, as we come to share the richness of your table, we cannot forget the rawness of the earth. We cannot take bread and forget those who are hungry. Your world is one world and we are stewards of its nourishment.
Lord, put our prosperity at the service of the poor.

We cannot take wine and forget those who are thirsty. The ground and the rootless, the earth and its weary people cry out for justice.

Lord, put our fullness at the service of the empty.

We cannot hear your words of peace and forget the world at war, all those fleeing violence and oppression, and the global threat of terrorism.

Show us quickly, Lord, how to turn weapons into welcome signs and the lust for power into a desire for peace.

We cannot celebrate the feast of your family and forget our divisions. We are one in spirit, but not in fact. History and hurt still dismember us.

Lord, heal your church in every brokenness.

We cannot look to you as King, and forget the discord and partisanship in our nation.

Lord, give our leaders the wisdom to listen and the courage to work together.

We pray for those who are ailing in body, mind, or spirit...

We prayer for those who grieve...

So as we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room, send down your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine that they may become for us your body, healing, forgiving, and making us whole. And that we may become for you, your body, loving and caring in the world until your kingdom comes.

Until that day, we pray as you taught us saying,

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

Words of Institution

Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread, broke it and said, “This is my body, broken for you. Do this remembering me.” And later he took the cup and said, “This is the new relationships with God, made possible because of my death. Take this – all of you – to remember me.” Look, here is your Lord coming to you in bread and cup. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion of the People

*Communion Hymn #507 “Come to the Table of Grace” *Table of Grace*

1. Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace. This is God's table, it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.
2. Come to the table of peace...
3. Come to the table of hope....
4. Come to the table of joy...
5. Come to the table of love...

Prayer After Communion

Emmanuel, God with us, you have put your life into our hands. Now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

Presentation of Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

Offertory “Thank You, God” By J. Paul Williams and David Lantz III

***Doxology** “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” *Old Hundredth*
 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below;
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Closing Hymn #753** “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” *Prayer of St. Francis*

WE GO IN GOD’S NAME

***Charge**

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

** Please rise in body or spirit*

INFORMATION AND PRAYER LISTS

November 29 - December 6

Today:	9:30 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Coffee and Conversation
	11:00 A.M.	Worship, Communion
Monday:	11:15 A.M.	Staff Meeting
Tuesday:	6:30 P.M.	Choir Practice
Thursday:	8:00 P.M.	Narcotics Anonymous
Friday:	8:00 P.M.	Narcotics Anonymous
Sunday:	9:30 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:15 A.M.	Children’s Choir Practice
	10:30 A.M.	Coffee and Conversation
	11:00 A.M.	Worship, Communion

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRAYER LIST:

Ann Adkins (Betsy Rule’s friend)	Jo Anne Jennings
Margaret Avent (Rev. Larry Avent’s wife)	Sara Kearns
Rick Barreau	Tommy Knight (Betsy Rule’s cousin)
Lois Bazhaw and Family	Marge Mack
Priscilla Christiansen	Gladys Maready (Bonnie Maready’s mother-in-law)
Bertha Collins (Ralph Bazhaw’s sister)	Family of Keith McNeal
Carolyn Cook (Betsy Rule’s cousin)	Family of Lisa Moran
Family of Fran Cuthbertson	Andy Moye
Davidson Family (Friends of Karen Ware Jackson)	Garth Payne
Bonnie Evans	Inky Payne
Kem Gomo	Georgia Renfrow
‘Cile Gorman	Betty and Jim Rissmiller
Pat Greeson	Karen Thomas (Helen Hall’s daughter)
Helen Hall	Stephen Ware (Karen Ware Jackson’s father)
Harold Henderson	
Judy Herron and Family	

Salem Presbytery Church Prayer List

Francisco Church, Westfield
 First Presbyterian, Greensboro

Bulletin Acknowledgements

The Call to Worship is from Rev. Whitney Wilkinson, Reader: Ann Weems, *Toward the Light*. The Prayer of Brokenness is adapted from *Iona Abbey Worship Book*. The Communion liturgy is from *A Wee Worship Book: Fourth Incarnation*. Wild Goose Worship Group. The image on the bulletin cover is from Pinterest.

Announcements

- **Chair Exercise Class** is on hiatus until the new year.
- We’re forming a **children's choir for Christmas**. Children will sing a song in worship Sunday, December 20. They will practice with Stephanie in the sanctuary at 10:15am on Dec. 6, and Dec. 13. Get a CD of the music and lyrics from Stephanie!
- The **mission group** will not meet in December.
- **Bread and Wine with Jesus** is next meeting at 7 – 8:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 7th The reading is Ch. 6 of “Permission Granted.”

Do you want to know more about the new life happening at Faith?

“Like” us on Facebook! We post pictures, music, questions, pastor’s blogs, and lots of other great stuff on this page!

Sign up for our weekly email update! Give us your email on the friendship pad, or contact faithpresgsonc@gmail.com to get on the list. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Check out our website www.faithpresgso.org – for more information about who we are and what we believe, as well as weekly updates of bulletins and monthly newsletters

Grab a newsletter! You can pick up a current copy of the newsletter on the table in the narthex and can see previous copies on our website.

Join us for our monthly brunch! Every month on the 4th Sunday, we head down to the fellowship hall after worship for yummy food and good conversation.

Pastoral Team

Rev. Karen Ware Jackson, Pastor
 Rev. Jim Rissmiller, Pastoral Team
 Stephanie Lindley, Music Director
 Beverly Lucas, Office Administrator

WELCOME TO FAITH PRESBYTERIAN



“The Whole Self”

We embrace inter-generational worship and welcome the giggles, questions, tears, and even shouts that enliven our oh-so-orderly service. We do have a **professionally staffed nursery** available for babies and toddlers, but we encourage our youngest members to learn with and from us throughout the worship service.

There is a “**PrayGround**” available for children and adults at the front of the sanctuary. Feel free to join our young people in their interactive worship activities! **These experiences are great for active learners of all ages, and our children and their parents appreciate your engagement and support.**

We want to be a true family of faith and that means celebrating the gifts, questions, and talents of each of our members from young in age to young at heart!

November 29th, 2015
 11:00 A.M.

Service for the Lord’s Day
 1st Sunday of Advent

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