

Wait



First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: WAIT/BAPTISM

November 29, 2015

10:00 a.m.

**please stand in body or in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

“Pastorale”

Lee

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tom Watson

CENTERING SILENCE

INTROIT

“Wait for the Lord”

Taizé

Festival Choir

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

The Marth Family

Keep awake. Stay alert. The Kingdom of God is near.

We wait for the Lord, our souls wait, and in God’s word we hope.

The days are coming when God will fulfill the promise.

We wait for the Lord, our souls wait, and in God’s word we hope.

A righteous branch will spring up and will bring forth justice.

We wait for the Lord, our souls wait, and in God’s word we hope.

Stand up. Raise your hands. Your redemption is near.

We wait for the Lord, our souls wait, and in God’s word we hope.

As we light this first Advent candle, may we be patient in our waiting,

trusting in God’s promise that hope is being born into the world.

*HYMN

“My Lord, What a Morning”

Hymnal # 352

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Katie Estes

God of Light, who shines in the deepest darkness, we hear you calling us out of hopelessness into hope. But we are frightened by your call. We are afraid of taking chances; we are afraid of following your light, because it leads us into the places where you need us. We don’t want to see how your people hurt. We don’t want to see your light shining in the eyes of our neighbor. Yet we know that in those places your grace shines; help us to seek your light. Guide us in your way, that we might be your children of day. Through the Light of the World, we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (responsive)

God is light! In God there is no darkness! Arise! Shine! Our Light awaits!

We are forgiven. Our future awaits us with hope.

We will walk in the light of God’s grace.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



INTRODUCTION & QUESTIONS

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

BAPTISM

Sylvia Louelle Roberts

daughter of Sarah and Andrew Roberts

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (unison)

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church
to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.**

*RESPONSE

"Like a Child"
(v. 1)

see insert

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Jim Marschinke

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, speak once again into our lives your
surprising word of hope. Shatter our reasoned expectations, fill us with
patience and wonder, courage and faith, that we would hear your promises to
us and go forth into the world to fulfill them. Amen.**

PSALTER

Psalm 25: 1-10

O.T. p. 502

ANTHEM

"Now Thank We All Our God"

arr. Parker, Shaw

GOSPEL

Luke 21: 25-36

N.T. p. 85

SERMON

While We Were Waiting

Tom Watson

*HYMN

"While We Are Waiting, Come"

Hymnal # 92

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

RECEPTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

INVITATION TO SHARE

OFFERTORY

"My Soul in Stillness Waits"

Haugen

For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits; truly my hope is in you.

*O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory, your radiance shines in all who look to you;
come light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.*

*O Spring of Joy, rain down upon our spirits; our thirsty hearts are yearning for your word;
come, make us whole, be comfort to our hearts.*

*O Root of Life, implant your seed within us, and in your advent, draw us all to you,
our hope reborn in dying and in rising.*

***RESPONSE** “As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought” *Hymnal # 712*
(v. 2 only)

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

With these gifts, O God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts, which rejoice in your goodness and love. Let these gifts point to your presence in the world, and further your hope for the world through Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Amen.

***HYMN** “The Days Are Surely Coming” *Hymnal # 357*
(vs. 1 - 2)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE** “The Days Are Surely Coming” *Hymnal # 357*
(v. 3)

***POSTLUDE** “Toccatà” *Buxtehude*



SERVING US TODAY

Greeters: Margaret Braun, Laura Doty

Ushers: Tom Brazill, Becky Finkle,
Jodelle Ista, Dian Rech

Lector: Jim Marschinke

Coffee Servers: Jan Mahoney &
Confirmation Students

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Music Director: Linda Kachelmeier

Organist: Jen Bierlein

Pastors: Katie Estes, Tom Watson

Youth Coordinator: Ruth Buller

Church Administrator: Eleta Pierce

Prayer Chain Contact:
Church Office (651) 451-6223

First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul

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Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul. We are delighted that you have joined us to worship the Living God. **If you are a first time worship guest**, we extend a special welcome to you. Know that as our guest, you are invited to participate in any of the programs offered and we do not expect you to contribute when the offering is received. Today, your presence with us is your offering to God.

Photos and/or video may be taken during this worship service. FPC-SSP reserves the right to use said photos or video in church publications, including, but not limited to, bulletins, newsletters, the church website, and social media sites. If you prefer not to appear in these photos or video, please talk to one of the ushers.

If you have a prayer request, please use the yellow request cards in the pews. Give the card to an usher before worship or during the first hymn so it can be included in our prayers of the people today and passed on to the prayer chain as well.

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship service. We also have professional childcare available for infants and children up to 5 years. The nursery is located at the top of the stairs in the upper level of the Education wing and is always available on those days your child may be restless. If you have an infant who begins to cry during the service, feel free to go into the library with your child and continue to hear the service on the speaker.

Please join us after the worship service for a time of fellowship in the Commons. Coffee, juice and treats are available for a minimal charge for members and at no cost for guests. Come and connect with old and new friends as we enjoy fellowship together.

On The Calendar

Today, November 29

First Sunday of Advent/Baptism

- 8:30 a.m. Education for All
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
- 11:30 a.m. Confirm. Youth Adopt-a-Family Shopping

- 6:15 p.m. Bells of Praise
- 6:30 p.m. Drumming Circle
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 7:15 p.m. Festival Choir

Monday, November 30

- 11:00 a.m. Bob Channer Memorial
- 7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, December 1

- 6:30 p.m. Property
- 7:00 p.m. Children's Ministry
- 7:00 p.m. Come As You Are
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee

Wednesday, December 2

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 5:30 p.m. Jubilation Ringers

Thursday, December 3

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. NA Board

Friday, December 4

- 7:00 p.m. First Friday Film Forum
- 7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, December 6

Second Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 a.m. Education for All
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
- 11:30 a.m. Kids Club
- 11:30 a.m. Membership Inquiry Class
- 2:00 p.m. Deacons Adopt-a-Family Shopping

Next Sunday, December 6

Scripture: Luke 3: 1-6

Theme: Second Sunday of Advent: Watch

Music: “Shine On Us” Festival Choir

Adult Education: “The Link: Support for At-Risk Youth in the Twin Cities”



Announcements

Don't forget your wreaths and swags.

Those who pre-ordered wreaths and/or swags may pick up theirs at the South parking lot door.

Last Sunday's Scrip profit to church was

\$308.15. The most ever on one day! Those who ordered cards last Sunday can pick them up at the table in the Commons. Additional cards are on hand if you need them. We will take orders this morning – if we have more than \$500, we will do another order and have it available on December 13 to hand out. Please note that December 13 is the last day to order scrip to have before Christmas – an order placed on the 13th will be available for pickup on the 20th.

If you didn't turn in your pledge card last week, please do so as soon as possible.

You may drop your pledge card into the offering plate, turn it into the office, or email it to Lois Glewwe at lglewwe@hotmail.com.

Kids Club: We will be going to the Stepping Stone Theater on Sunday, December 6, to see a production of “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.” We'll gather after worship for lunch, then head to the show. Tickets are \$10 each, regardless of age. Sign up on the kiosk to attend.

Plan now, give now, for the Deacon's Adopt-a-Family event on Sunday, December 6 at 2:00 pm. Monetary donations of any size are needed so that we can shop—please indicate that your gift is for the *Deacon Adopt-a-Family*. Participants are needed for our shopping and wrapping excursion on December 6. Sign up in the Commons.

New Membership Inquiry Class & Lunch, December 6.

Are you interested in finding out more about joining this congregation? Are you wondering what it means to be “Presbyterian?” You are invited to lunch and to learn more about our congregation and active membership in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Attendance does not obligate you to join, but will hopefully help you in making that decision. Please be in contact with either Pastor Tom or Katie if you are interested.

A-caroling we will go to make the season merry for our home-bound members

on Sunday, December 13. We will gather after worship for a soup lunch, then head out to go Christmas caroling. This is a great event for everyone regardless of your singing abilities - families are especially welcome! Song sheets will be provided, sign-up on the sheet on the kiosk in the Commons.

In this season of giving, won't you give your time to *Feed My Starving Children*?

Those who volunteer often comment on how much they receive in good feelings knowing that they are helping to feed the most impoverished children in our world. Our next date to go to FMSC is December 14, 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. Sign up—see you there!

Join us this coming Friday for the First Friday Film Forum.

We will be watching the classic “It's a Wonderful Life.” The movie starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Knox room, followed by hot cocoa and cookies.