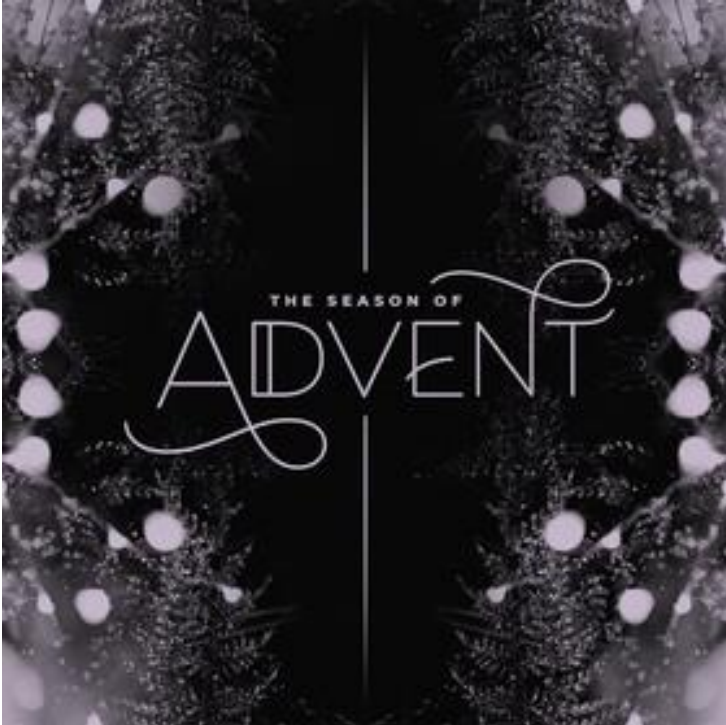




FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of Lynn Haven



-MORNING WORSHIP-
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 12, 2021
10:00 AM

ADVENT | CHRISTMAS | EPIPHANY
LENT | EASTER | PENTECOST



Welcome to all who gather to worship this day! We are in the season of Advent, which focuses on preparing for the birth and coming again of Jesus into the world. It is our hope that you feel the warmth of God's presence and welcome here. If this is your first time joining us, we are honored by your presence and hope to see you again soon! To stay informed, scan the QR code or visit www.firstchurchlh.org and subscribe to our weekly email.

- About the Service -

Each worship service is filmed for later access on Facebook and our church website. Please refrain from loud conversation once the Prelude begins!

The People's words are in **bold text**. *Indicates that the congregation may stand.

Offering plates are in the Narthex (sanctuary entrance) before and after worship.



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of Lynn Haven

a member congregation of:

The Presbytery of Florida,
The Synod of South Atlantic, and
The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Session (spiritual leaders of the church):

Moderator: **The Rev. Lisa Martin**

Clerk of Session: **Rosa Stanley**

Class Of 2021: **Marcia Burden, Steve Gabbard**

Class Of 2022: **Rich Kangas, Nancy Mills, Wanda Wallace**

Class Of 2023: **Huey Hayes, Ann Fyfe**

- CHURCH STAFF & CONTACT INFORMATION -

Rev. Lisa Martin

Pastor

revlwmartin@gmail.com

Brad Thoreson

Music Director, Organist

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Aline Trusell

Administrative Assistant

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WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

“Prelude on ‘O Come, O Come, Emmanuel’”

Brad Thoreson

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

CHOIR & CONGREGATION

“While We Are Waiting, Come”

Don Cason

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus our Lord Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

With pow’r and glory, come; with pow’r and glory, come.
Jesus our Lord Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come Savior, quickly come; Come Savior, quickly come.
Jesus our Lord Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus our Lord Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-present God, you are always with us, rejoicing over us with gladness. Yet we continue to look for joy peace in other places. We fill our lives with noise and do not slow down long enough to hear your still, sweet voice. Forgive us, we pray. Restore us so that our shame may be turned into praise. Renew us in your love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

SOLO

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

NETTLETON

*Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's Strength and Consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear Desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart*

*Oh come, Thou mighty, humble Savior
God incarnate as a child
Laying aside divine behavior*

*Frailness taking, meek and mild
Here we wait in expectation
Now from Heaven to earth descend
From Thy sweet celestial station
Come to be our loving friend*

*Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne*

*Rule in all our hearts alone
Rule in all our hearts alone
Rule in all our hearts alone*

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT Zephaniah 3:14-20 (see back side fold)

MESSAGE

“Home”

Rev. Lisa Martin

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*DECLARATION OF OUR FAITH (PCUSA)

Jesus, the long-expected Savior, came into the world as a child, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a young woman of faith. Jesus lived as a Jew among Jews. He announced to his people the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth. We affirm that Jesus was born of woman, as is every child, yet born of God's power as was no other child. The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God's promised rule. Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection, Jesus brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended.

PIANO MEDITATION

“He Shall Feed His Flock”

G. F. Handel, arr. Jason Webb

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE DEPART TO SERVE THE RISEN LORD

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*HYMN

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

(see insert)

*BENEDICTION & THREE-FOLD AMEN

DANISH

*POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

THE OLD TESTAMENT Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you^[a] in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
¹⁸ as on a day of festival.^[b]

I will remove disaster from you,^[c]
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- December 12 -

The session has called for a congregational meeting at the close of worship today to hear a report from the church's nominating committee regarding: 1) reducing the size of session from 9 to 6 elders; 2) recommending that Steve Gabbard fill the unexpired term for the Class of 2022; and 3) presenting the nominees for elder for the Class of 2024. The nominees are Kathy Welsh and Don Mowat. The Personnel Committee also presents for approval the pastor's terms of call for 2022.

Pastor Lisa's Zoom Advent Bible Study continues each Monday of Advent. We're exploring how each of the Gospel writers presents the Christmas story. This week we explore Luke. Join us! Contact Pastor Lisa for the Zoom link!

Festive Holiday Covered-Dish Luncheon Next Sunday! Bring your favorite meat, veggie, or dessert and let's share in the joy of the season next Sunday immediately following worship. 'Tis the season!

Next Sunday we receive the Christmas Joy offering which supports retired ministers who have special health needs and low income students at Presbyterian-related schools. Offering envelopes will be included in the bulletin.

New Ministry Opportunity! The Worship committee is sponsoring a new way to minister to our local community – a **Prayer Walk Ministry!** It will be easily accomplished, fun, and healthy, too! PWM involves walking through our neighborhoods and praying for those who live there. Easy, right?!? We have doorhangers that prayer walkers may hang on front doors. No ringing doorbells or knocking, no pressure, no stress for the walkers or folks in the house! Just an easy and healthy way to let our neighbors know that someone prayed for them. If you're interested, please contact Ann Fyfe (Worship chair) at 850-832-3339 / jafyfes2@gmail.com.

Looking Ahead:

- **12/13** Advent Bible Study, 6-7
- **12/19 Advent 4** Christmas Fellowship covered-dish Luncheon & Christmas Joy Offering
- **12/20** Advent Bible Study, 6-7
- **12/24 Christmas Eve** Candlelight Communion worship, 5 pm
- **12/25** Merry Christmas!
- **12/26 1st Sunday of Christmas**, Installation of elders



VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE ... from your bulletin! Simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera and it will allow you to subscribe, view the bulletin, or visit the church website!

123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come, with peace-ful wings un - furled,
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suf-fered long;
 4 And you, be-neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
 5 For lo, the days are has-tening on, by proph-ets seen of old,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heaven-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world:
 be - neath the heaven-ly hymn have rolled two thou-sand years of wrong;
 who toil a - long the climb-ing way with pain - ful steps and slow,
 when with the ev - er - cir-cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gra-cious King":
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov-ering wing,
 and we at war on earth hear not the tid - ings that they bring;
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing:
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,

the world in sol - emn still-ness lay, to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds the bless-ed an - gels sing.
 O, hush the noise and cease the strife to hear the an - gels sing!
 O, rest be-side the wea - ry road, and hear the an - gels sing.
 and the whole world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.