First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn

First Sunday of Advent — Sunday, November 29, 2026

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *Once He Came Among Us* David Paxton

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minute For Mission– Christmas Joy

**Please stand in body or spirit*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Advent Candle Lighters

Reader: Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath.

People: We light the first candle as a sign of hope.

(Light one of the purple candles.)

Leader: Hope is not the same as optimism. Optimism expects things to improve. Hope keeps watch when there is no evidence yet, and refuses to go to sleep.

People: We are the clay. You are the potter. We are the work of your hand.

Reader: Keep awake, Jesus said, because you do not know when I will come to you.

People: Come, Lord Jesus. We are waiting. We are awake.

Reader: Let us pray. God of the torn-open heavens, we grow tired of waiting for a world that has not arrived. Do not let our tiredness become resignation. As this candle burns through the longest weeks of the year, keep us watchful, keep us open, and keep us hopeful—not because things are fine, but because you are not finished.

People: Amen.

***HYMN #88** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: You know what time it is:

People: Now is the time to wake from sleep.

Leader: Salvation in near!

People: Let us confess our sin.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of night and day, there is no shadow that can conceal our sin from you and no secret that you will not bring to light. For our clinging and seeking to possess, forgive us, O God. For our controlling and seeking to harm and destroy, forgive us, O God. Merciful God, forgive us our sins, renew us in love, and teach us to live in a way that brings honor and glory to your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[A time of silent, personal prayer.]

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: God's forgiveness gives us joy, and our joy increases when it is shared. Friends, the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

(*Please greet your neighbors in the ways you are comfortable.)*

***RESPONSE #91** *Come, Come, Emmanuel* (verses 1-4)

WE HEAR THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 26:36-38

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Habakkuk 1:1-14; 2:18-20

SERMON *Reduced to Silence*

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI #581** *Glory Be to the Father*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Keep Your Lamps!* Arr. Andre Thomas

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WE FOLLOW THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***SENDING HYMN #104** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (Savior of the Nations, Come) Johann Georg Herzog (1822-1909)

Participating in this morning's service are Rev. Tom James; Liturgist, Carole Higgins; Organist, Dr. Ye Mee Kim; Advent Wreath, Carole & Matt Higgins; The Sanctuary Choir

Welcome Dr. Kim

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Ye Mee Kim will be serving as our Interim Organist and Choir Director. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan's Doctoral Program in Sacred Music. Please join us in giving a warm welcome to Dr. Kim!

The flowers in the chancel this morning are placed in honor of

Janet and Larry Witkowski's 48th Wedding Anniversary.

They are placed by their children and grandchildren, Anne, Mike, Katie,

Natalie, and Joel Witkowski

Calendar

Sunday, November 29
Advent Begins
9:15 a.m. Music Practice
9:45 a.m. Nursery
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

Tuesday, December 1
6:00 p.m. Worship & Arts Mtg.

Wed., December 2
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Treasure Chest
1:00 p.m. Personnel Meeting
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, December 3
10:00 a.m. PW Bible Study

!! ATTENTION!!

Cookie walk 2026 is coming to First Presbyterian Church Presbyterian Women is in need of homemade cookies and/or candy. Donations will be collected on Saturday December 12, 2026 after 10 am.

Presbyterian Women will be selling cookie boxes in Mitchell Hall immediately following worship on Sunday December 13, 2026. Please bring your appetite and check books.

Church Staff
Rev. Tom James, *Senior Pastor*
Ye Mee Kim, *Organist*
Tameria Metiva, *Office Administrator*
Rachel Woods. *Business Administrator*
Kristin Parden, *Custodian*

Saturday, December 5
7:00 p.m. The Detroit Lutheran Singers
Come to Bethlehem Concert

Sunday , December 6
Communion Sunday
9:15 a.m. Music Practice
9:45 a.m. Nursery
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
3:00 p.m. Music Medley

NOEL: A Christmas Festival

Featuring: FPCD Choir & The Great Lakes Ukulele's
Annual Christmas Dinner Catered by Szegedi's

First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
Sunday, December 13, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Donation: $20 adults $10 children - Tickets on sale in narthex
Contact Jane Mykytenko: 313-657-2776 - janeel1@me.com



The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
600 N. Brady Road, Dearborn MI 48124
(313) 274-1313, info@firstpresdearborn.org
Come Home to God's Love

Church Office hours: Mon-Thurs 9 :00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.