

PEACE

PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU. MY PEACE I GIVE YOU....
DON'T BE TROUBLED OR AFRAID.



JOHN 14:27 (CEB)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HADDON HEIGHTS

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 7, 2025
2nd Sunday of Advent

*Large-print bulletins are available at both entrances to the sanctuary.
Activity bags & bulletins for kids are available in the narthex.*

***Indicates those who are able may stand.**



**TODAY'S
HYMNAL**

All hymns today are in the **RED Hymnal, *The Worshiping Church***, unless otherwise noted.



*The Chancel flowers today are given by Phyllis Bozek,
in honor of her brother, Bruce Warnke, on his birthday.*



Welcome & Announcements

Joys & Concerns

Prelude

Mike Rugge, Organist

We Come Into God's Presence

Call to Worship (L—Leader / P—People)

Luke 1

L: Blessed by the Lord God of Israel,

P: God has looked favorably on God's people;

L: God has raised up a mighty savior for us.

P: Just as God spoke through the holy prophets of old,

L: God has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors:

**P: To give light to those who sit in darkness and guide our feet in
the way of peace.**

L: Let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

#167

Lighting the Second Advent Candle

The Antrobus Family

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30AM

28 Seventh Avenue, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035
(856) 547-6139 † www.fpchaddonheights.org

Rev. Eliza C. Jaremko, Pastor

Dr. Chris Thomas, Director of Music 🎵 Mike Rugge, Organist



We Prepare to Hear God's Word

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of Grace, we confess that we are not ready for you to come into our world—not quite yet. We cling to the known and familiar, afraid of the transformation you bring. Yet you are always a step ahead of us—a voice crying out in the wilderness, inviting us into bold new ways of discipleship. We repent and turn to you in love. Forgive us so that we may once again walk in the glory of your name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

L: The One who has begun a good work in us promises to bring it to completion.

P: We are grateful for God's promised peace.

L: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Gloria Patri

#807 (Red Hymnal)

*Affirmation of Faith:

John 1

P: We believe there was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

L: He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

P: He himself was not the light,

L: But he came to testify to the light.

P: For the true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

We Read and Proclaim God's Word

Time with Our Children

First Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:5-20

(NT p.56)

*Hymn: "What Child Is This?"

#150

Second Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

(NT pp.56-57)

Hymn of Preparation: "Listen to the Word that God Has Spoken"

Listen to the Word that God has spoken;

Listen to the One who is close at hand;

Listen to the voice that began creation;

Listen even if you don't understand.

Sermon: "Dreams of Angels"

Rev. Eliza C. Jaremko

We Respond to God's Word

Invitation to the Offering and Pledge Dedication

Offertory: "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" *arr. Jay Althouse*
Chancel Choir; Dr. Chris Thomas, Director of Music

*Doxology: "We Three Kings of Orient Are" #185 (refrain)

*Prayer of Dedication



Please note that all bread provided for the Eucharist is gluten-free.

Holy Communion

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Communion

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for all the mysteries that surround the birth of your son, especially for the mystery that you are present to us in the bread and cup. Grant that we may go into the world to give ourselves for others as Christ gave himself for us. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray together:

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 Go to Live God's Word

*Closing Hymn: "Once in Royal David's City"

#161

Benediction (unison)

May the Lord watch between me and thee, while we are absent one from the other.

Choral Response

L: Our worship together has ended.

P: Now our service begins.

Postlude

Mike Ruggie, Organist



PRAYER CONCERNS



Please keep these people in your prayers this week:

- Adin Borden
- Sally Burrough
- Nancy & Bob Celebre
- Donna & John Duca
- Joe & Marie Guerra
- Sandy Langford
- Evelyn Miraglia
- Carmen Muni
- Shirley Renshaw
- Dottie Rheinbold
- Michael Sabolcik
- Ken Sichel
- Lynn & Tom Spina
- Ed Trout
- Nancy Wilk
- Deborah Blackiston
- Lauren DeCorte, Sue Hawco's daughter
- Marlowe Muni, Kim & Carmen's grandson
- Steve, friend of Tony Logandro
- The Berkelbach family, Karen Mazak's daughter & son-in-law
- Meegan Hussain, friend of the Heusers
- Carol & Dick Boyle, sister & brother-in-law of Candace Lowden
- Rev. Daniel Park, friend of the Heusers
- Will Baberick, Polly Mitchell's son

pray without ceasing
1 Thessalonians 5:17

Sunday, December 7

- 10:10am - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30am - Worship in Sanctuary & on FB
- 11:30am - ADVENT SPECTACULAR!!

Tuesday, Dec. 9

- 9:30am - Friendship Circle Christmas Gathering, in the Parlor

THIS WEEK @ FIRST PRES...

Wednesday, Dec. 10

- 7:00pm - Session Meeting, Parlor

Thursday, Dec. 11

- 6:45pm - Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal



Greeters

Bruce &
Margie Kent

Deacons

Ro Hudson
Kyle Jaremko
Margie Kent

LiveStream

Korey Owens
Erin Gallagher

Counters

Vicki Clarke
Dan Mullan
Hal Wyckoff

Nursery

Kam Evans
Maria Masi

SS: Adults

Class-led
Room 2

Faith-Walk Class

Pastor Eliza
Nursery

Communion

Vicki Clarke
Marcie Spiegle

SS: PreK-Grade 2

SS: Grades 3-5

SS: Grades 6-8

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY

Scripture Verses for Today's Service

First Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:1-20 (NRSV)

Dedication to Theophilus

¹ Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative about the events that have been fulfilled among us, ² just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, ³ I, too, decided, as one having a grasp of everything from the start, to write a well-ordered account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ so that you may have a firm grasp of the words in which you have been instructed.

The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

⁵ In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶ Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

⁸ Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, ⁹ he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. ¹⁰ Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. ¹¹ Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. ¹⁴ You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵ for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶ He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." ¹⁸ Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I know that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." ¹⁹ The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰ But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

Second Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:26-38 (NRSV)

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

167 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all the earth be silent before him. Hab. 2:20

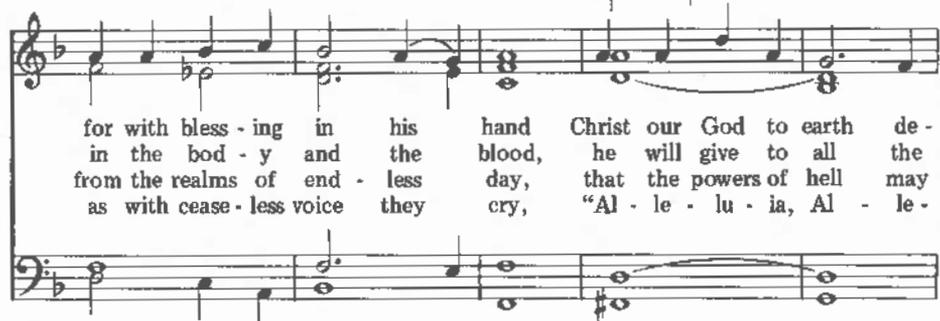
Unison



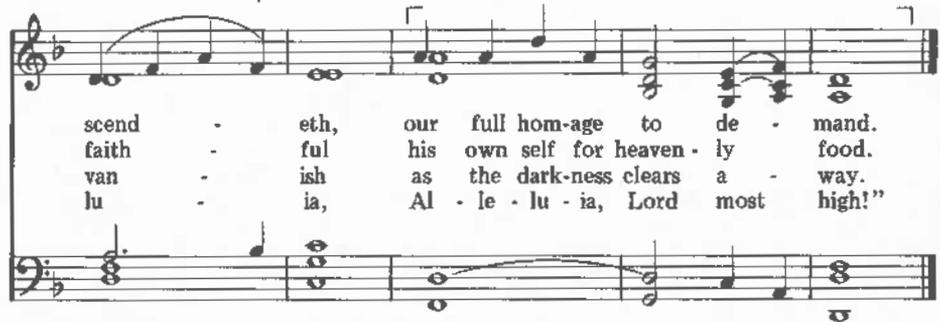
1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
2. King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
3. Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard
4. At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim, with



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly mind - ed,
earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture,
on the way, as the Light of Light de - scend - eth,
sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the Pres - ence,



for with bless - ing in his hand Christ our God to earth de -
in the bod - y and the blood, he will give to all the
from the realms of end - less day, that the powers of hell may
as with cease - less voice they cry, "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -



scend - eth, our full hom-age to de - mand.
faith - ful his own self for heaven - ly food.
van - ish as the dark-ness clears a - way.
lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high!"

150 What Child Is This?

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. Lk. 2:16

1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Ma-ry's lap is sleep-ing,
2. Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come, peas-ant, king, to own him.

whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tians, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

185 We Three Kings of Orient Are

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem . . . Magi from the east came . . . Mt. 2:1

1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I, in - cense owns a De - i - ty nigh;
4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom,
5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God on high.
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds thro' the earth and skies.

Refrain

O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

161 Once in Royal David's City

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you . . . Lk. 2:11

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle
2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of
3. Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern, day by day like us he
4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing

shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
grew, he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and
love; for that child, so dear and gen - tle, is our

man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry was that moth - er
cra - dle was a stall: with the poor and meek and
smiles like us he knew: and he feels for all our
Lord in heaven a - bove, and he leads his chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
low - ly lived on earth, our Sav - ior ho - ly.
sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
on to the place where he has gone.

Church Announcements

THIS
WEEK
DEC 7



SPECTACULAR ADVENT WORKSHOP!

Join us after worship **today** for the **Spectacular Advent Workshop!**

- Lunch in the Social Hall
- Kids station rotation for crafts, games, Christmas Shop, visits with Santa;
- Christmas carols in the sanctuary

We're Climbing the "Pledge" Stairway to Heaven

Even if you don't catch that reference to a famous Led Zeppelin song, it still has meaning. Many blessings have come from our pledge angels so far but we haven't quite made it to the pearly gates, aka pledge goal, yet. As of this week, we are at 81% of the goal, with \$53,602 still needed in pledged dollars to meet the budget. ***If you have not already pledged, you are requested to prayerfully consider your commitment***



for 2026 and let us know as soon as possible. Be part of the final 19% and get us to the top of the stairway! Pledges can be submitted online by scanning the **QR code** here (or using the **link in your e-News**, or by filling out a **pledge card** in the narthex.

STEWARDSHIP 2026

Thank you from Your Stewardship Committee

UrbanPromise Staff Gift Cards

The Mission Committee is hoping to give the staff of our 'adopted' kindergarten class at UrbanPromise an assortment of gift cards for Christmas. Please take a look at the poster in the parlor and choose one of the \$10 gift cards that you would like to purchase for these 3 staff members at the Camden Forward School. Thank you for helping us spread a little Christmas joy!



Staff Gifts for Christmas

We're blessed to have an outstanding staff who work diligently all year long to make our worship experience meaningful & enjoyable. Please remember to show your appreciation for all they do by contributing to a holiday staff gift for them! There's a basket in the parlor to collect your donation, or you can mail a check to FPC (write "Staff Holiday Gift" in the memo). The total will be divided among all our staff members. Thank you for continuing our church tradition of generosity to make their holidays brighter.





Christmas Poinsettia Orders Due Today

All Poinsettia orders are due TODAY! If you haven't submitted yours yet, it needs to be turned in today. Order forms are available in the narthex. Thanks!

Sunday School Update

Don't forget ... there's NO Sunday School on Dec. 28 or Jan. 4. (Come to the Pancake Breakfast on the Jan. 4 instead!) We hope to see everyone on Jan. 11 for a great winter session! **You are needed!** Find smiles,



warmth, laughter and fun teaching a Sunday School class! We have three classes of children waiting for your leadership & care: PreK-Gr.2; Grades 3-5; & Grades 6-8. Give yourself the gift of service and love. A great New Year resolution would be to share your talents by teaching a class, or 2m or 3! You can sign up on the board in the Parlor, by scanning the QR code here, or clicking the link in your weekly e-News.



Christmas Wishes for Our Homebound Congregants

The Care Committee has labeled Christmas cards (available in the pews) which can be mailed to our members & friends that are not able to worship in person with us. We encourage you to take one (or many!) to wish those who are homebound a Merry Christmas and to remind them of how much they're missed.



Can You Help Our Hat & Mitten Tree Grow?

The Mission Committee's *famous* hat & mitten tree will be in the parlor during the month of December. Please bring new or slightly used hats, mittens, gloves and scarves & place them on or around the tree. These may seem like a small thing, but they are crucial for those trying to keep warm.

Village Playbox Holiday Concert

The Village Playbox invites you to attend their annual Christmas event, *Songs of the Season*, on **Saturday, December 12 and Sunday, 13 at 7:30pm at FPCHH.** The program, directed by John Demchak, spans cultures, traditions, & styles. From Mark Hayes' *Shepherd's Joy* to the beauty of his *Magnificat*, the concert weaves together sacred, secular, & multicultural works. Bring family, friends, and neighbors for this celebration of music. **Tickets are \$10** (\$5 for children under 12) and may be purchased at the door.



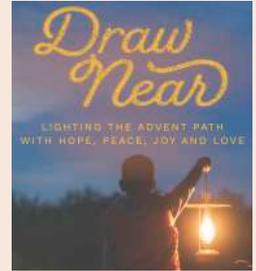


2025 Pledge Reminder!

Just a kind reminder that we're nearing the end of the 2025 pledge period. As we continue our ministry this season, we're inviting everyone to **catch up on their 2025 pledges before the end of the year**. If you have any questions regarding your contributions or your pledge status, please don't hesitate to reach out to Karen Reeves. Thank you for being such a meaningful part of our church family.

Advent Devotionals Available

This year's devotional, provided by Presbyterian Outlook, offers an invitation for each day of Advent to draw near — to Scripture, to stillness, and to the heart of God. Following the traditional Advent themes, you'll light the way week by week with hope, peace, joy and love, preparing not just for Christmas, but for Christ's presence among us. Printed copies are available in the narthex, and a digital copy is linked your weekly e-News for you to download or use online.



Blue Christmas

worship service

SUNDAY | DEC. 21 | 2PM

Audubon United Methodist Church
314 West Graisbury | Audubon

Join churches in our community for a shared service as we lay down the grief we carry through this season & seek reassurance from Christ through lament, prayer, scripture & music.



"They Shall Dream Dreams"

Advent Sermon Series 2025



November 30
Dreams of Dreams
The Prophets



December 14
Dreams of Change
Joseph



December 7
Dreams of Angels
Zechariah & Mary



December 21
Dreams of Warnings
The Magi