



December 3, 2023 – First Sunday of Advent

To love someone means to see that person as God intended that person to be. ~ Fyodr Dostoevski

GATHERING MUSIC

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME Rev. Brian Paulson

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

The Christian Family

SONG OF PRAISE

Awesome Is the Lord Most High Chris Tomlin

SONG OF PREPARATION

Grace and Peace to You Greg Scheer

CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

SONG OF RESPONSE

Litany of the Word

Bernadette Farrell

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Deacon Tucker Olson

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

(As the congregation stands to sing, children are greeted and depart for Sunday School).

SONG OF BLESSING

Come Light of Lights from a Celtic chant of the Cèile Dè; music by Ruth Cunningham

ENCOUNTER WITH THE WORD

MEDITATION God Is Faithful Dr. Paulson

SONG OF AFFIRMATION

Let the Life I've Lived Speak for Me
American Traditional (Joe Carter)

TABLE TALK

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND RESOURCES

OFFERTORY SONG We Were Made for These Times Clarissa Pinkola Estes

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

SONG OF SENDING

Canticle of the Turning STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

PRAYER OF RESPONSE

THE CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Community Notes

Learn more in our online *Parish Life* newsletter at www.firstpreslibertyville.org

The flowers in the Chapel today are placed to the glory of God by Brent and Marilyn Roland in celebration of the 97th birthday of Marty Powell.

Deadline for Giving Tree items is next Sunday

Help us provide love and hope to those in need! Gifts given through the Giving Tree program provide hope and love to those in need through several partner organizations. Please keep gifts in the \$25-\$30 price range maximum and return gifts to the Sanctuary Narthex by noon on Sunday, Dec. 10.

TODAY: Advent Wreath Workshop & Crèche Piece Pick-up

Join us after worship today in Social Hall as we prepare for the arrival of the Advent season. Lunch will be served!

TONIGHT: Advent Vespers Service

Don't miss this year's Advent Vespers Service this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Our Vespers Choir will present "Carols and Lullabies, Christmas in the Southwest," Conrad Susa's beautiful setting of 10 Spanish carols featuring harp guitar & percussion.

NEXT SUNDAY: Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser from 8:30-9:30 AM

Our youth will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser next Sunday, Dec. 10 in Social Hall before the Major Work. There is no fee for the breakfast, but the youth will be accepting financial donations to help pay for their 2024 trips. Breakfast will be served from 8:30-9:30 AM. A gluten-free option will be available. Come to church early next week and have some delicious, hot pancakes before enjoying the musical gifts of our congregation.

NEXT SUNDAY: Chancel Choir & Orchestra Major Work at 10:00 AM

Join us for worship in the Sanctuary for the Chancel Choir & Orchestra's major work: "Gloria" by Antonio Vivaldi!

Poinsettia Dedications Due by December 11

Dedicate a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone special. Costs: \$16. The dedications will be included in our Christmas Eve worship bulletin. Fill out the dedication form at www.firstpreslibertyille.org.

Ecumenical Advent Service: Incarnational Wonder on Dec. 13

Join us on Wednesday, Dec. 13 for our annual Ecumenical Advent Worship Service in the Chapel. This lovely contemplative service will be led by women in ministry from First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville and other area churches. Come at 6:30 p.m. for a twinkly-lighted reception in the Social Hall and then join us for worship at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel. All are welcome!

PRAYER BOX - Sunday - December 3, 2023

For those experiencing loss:

Chris and Dana Sullivan on the loss of their close friend, Shannon Schweiger

Margaret Danckers on the loss of a close family friend, David McKin

For those in need of prayer:

Cynthia Dane, wife of Phil Dane

Jeanne & Larry Streeter, parents of Liz White

Louise Tischendorf

Caroline Kearns

Harriet Donndelinger, mother/mother-in-law of Sally and Connie Kowal

Lynn Dowell and her son, Chris Dowell

Paul and Louise Ouillman

Other:

Pray for world peace.

Pray for the people of war-torn Israel and Ukraine.

Pray for all missionaries around the world who spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pray for our Mobile Food Pantry guests, workers and helpers.

Pray for all immigrants seeking asylum in different parts of the world.

Pray for our sister churches in Chicago, Cuba and Italy.

Pray for the elderly, the marginalized, the lonely, the homeless, and the hungry.

Pray for those who carry the heavy load of grief and loss.

Pray for those who struggle with addiction and abuse.

Pray for those who suffer from serious and long-term health challenges.