



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Greer, South Carolina

100 School Street
Greer, SC 29651
(864) 877-3612
www.fpcgreer.org

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

I Vow to Worship You

Walker

Call to Worship & Lighting of the Advent Candle

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
Advent means coming.
We are preparing ourselves for the days
when the wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Hymn # 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
verses 1, 2, & 6

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
who orderest all things mightily:
to us the path of knowledge show;
and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, coming Christ,
in the strangeness of this pandemic year and Christmas season
may we keep open a space in our hearts for silence, for wonder, for angel songs.
Forgive us when our fear overrides trust in your future
and our gift-giving depends on boxes and packages
delivered to our doorstep by essential workers.

May our journey to Christmas experience the peace of Christ
and joy in your strength and not be conformed to disappointment and loneliness.
Remind us that your birth was also in a time of social and political and religious upheaval.
As we admit our frustration, even anger,
may we remember we are each other's angels.

Assurance of Pardon

Response # 92	<i>While We Are Waiting, Come</i>	WAITING
Prayer for Illumination		
New Testament Reading	1 Corinthians 13:1, Luke 2: 8-20	
Sermon	<i>"The Sounds of Christmas"</i>	
Prayers of the People		
Offering	<i>Light of the World</i>	Daigle/Duncan/Mabury
Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer		

Hymn # 123	<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</i> verses 1 , 3, & 4	CAROL
-------------------	---	-------

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth,
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven's all-gracious King":
the world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and we at war on earth hear not
the tidings that they bring;
O, hush the noise and cease the strife
to hear the angels sing!

And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow,
look now, for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing:
O, rest beside the weary road,
and hear the angels sing.

Charge & Benediction

Benediction Response # 119	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i> verse 1	MENDELSSOHN
-----------------------------------	--	-------------

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

Welcome to worship on this Second Sunday of Advent. Please indicate your presence by emailing Lisa Johnson at lisaj@fpcgreer.org.

Special thanks to the FPCG Praise Team for leading the music today: Crystal Adams, Micah Arms, Wendi Arms, Mike Branham, Ameka Cruz, and Lee Loftis.

Please note that we now have the capability to accept your offering via text message. Please text GIVE to 18649993612. You may also give on our website or by mailing a check to the church office.

2021 Offering Envelopes are available for pick up at the church during regular office hours (Mon.-Wed., 9:00-4:00 and Thurs., 9:00-3:00). The envelopes are located in the hallway at the Door A entrance.

Heart disease is the number one killer in America. Our church has developed an American Heart Association certified First Responder program to provide life saving skills should someone suffer a cardiac arrest or heart attack. Please consider joining our 26 trained First Responder team members. For more information, contact Bill Koehler at koehlern@aol.com or 864-968-9238.



Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Interim Pastor: The Reverend Dr. Pete Peery
Associate for Pastoral Care, Adult Education and Mission: Whitney Moss
Parish Associate: The Reverend Dr. Al Masters
Director of Youth Ministry: Victoria Robinson
Director of Music: Lisa Dillard
Assistant Director of Music: Pam Turnage
Praise Team Leader: Wendi Arms
Director of Operations: Maggie Wentzky