



**First Pres** Maumee  
LOVE FIRST

## **9:00 Modern Service December 21, 2025**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
*Series: LIGHT FROM LIGHT*



### **WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!**

Are you new to First Pres? We'd love to get to know you. Connect Cards are available in the pews. Please place your completed card in the offering plate.

### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Open & Mark your Bibles: Luke 1:26-38, 46-55 (p. 1025); Galatians 4:4-7 (p. 1170)

Hymnal: No. 781; No. 735; No. 734

### **GOD'S PEOPLE OF HOPE GATHER**

*Song of Praise: "He Who is Mighty" (lyrics located under Worship Notes)*

Welcome

Pastor Clint Tolbert

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Aaron & Rose Skees

One: In this fourth week of Advent, we rejoice in the good news that God has come near to us in Jesus Christ— the eternal Son, Light from Light, true God from true God, who took on flesh and dwelt among us.

**All: We await the One through whom all things were made, who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven.**

One: Hear the song of Mary, who rejoiced in God's saving love, from Luke chapter 1.  
(*A reading, taken from Luke 1:46-55*)

**All: We rejoice in the God who lifts up the lowly, keeps his promises, and brings salvation through Christ.**

One: Today we light the fourth Advent candle— the candle of Joy— as a sign that Christ's coming brings joy to the world and gladness to all who hope in him.  
(*The candle representing joy is lit.*)

One: As this flame shines brightly, we remember that true joy is found not in our circumstances, but in the Savior who has come to dwell with us.

**All: May Christ, the Light from Light, fill our hearts with his joy, strengthen our hope, and prepare us for his coming.**

One: Come, Lord Jesus—

**All: God of God, Light of Light, Word of the Father. Let your joy rise in us and shine through us.**

*Song of Exhortation, No. 781: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

## **WE APPROACH OUR HOLY GOD**

Prayer of Confession

(Modernized text based on a prayer by Martin Bucer (1491-1551))

**One:** Almighty and eternal God, our Father, we confess that we are born into sin and naturally drawn toward what is wrong, slow to do what is right. We continually break your holy commands and cause further harm to ourselves. We are truly sorry for this and ask for your grace and help.

**All:** **Have mercy on us, gracious and loving Father, through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Fill us and grow in us your Holy Spirit, so that we may honestly recognize our sin, feel genuine sorrow and repentance, turn away from it completely, and live a new life that pleases you.** *(Silence for personal confession.)*

Assurance of Pardon & Passing of the Peace

*Song of Prayer, No. 299: "Show Us Christ" (verse 1)*

*Children's Church Sending – information located under Worship Notes*

## **WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Reading: Luke 1: 26-38, 46-55 (p. 1025)

Molly Elrod

*Song of Praise, No. 735: "Magnificat (My Soul Will Magnify the Lord)"*

Sermon: "The Offspring of Woman" (Galatians 4:4-7, p. 1170)

Pastor Clint Tolbert

## **WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO THE LORD**

***Additional information about prayer and offering is located under Worship Notes.***

*Song of Response: "In the Fullness of Time" (verses 1 & chorus)*

Your Giving at Work & Offering

Prayers for God's 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.**

*Carol, No. 734: "What Child Is This"*

## **GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S OWN CHILDREN**

Charge and Blessing

*Please join us for Fellowship Hour downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after the service.*

---

# WORSHIP NOTES

## PRAYER

If you have a joy or concern that you would like to share with us, so that others can be in prayer with you, please fill out one of our prayer cards (found in the pews or the prayer room) and bring your completed card to one of our prayer team members in the prayer room. To learn and pray in greater detail for those who are named in the service, please visit “*First Pres in Prayer*” in the FYI Newsletter.

## GIVING

The Christian life is an offering of one's self to God. One of the ways we respond to Christ's call to discipleship is by returning some of the financial provision that God has provided to us. Please make your tithes and offerings for the work of the church by giving as the plates are passed, mailing a check to the church office, or by using the “give” button at the top right-hand corner of the church website. A QR code is also available on the giving card in the pews.

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH & NURSERY

Children ages four through fifth grade are invited to join our teachers for Children's Church (a time for child-engaging worship activities). We will send the children off following our song of prayer (*Show Us Christ*) prior to the sermon. They will return after the sermon. If this is your child's first time in Children's Church, please go with them to meet our teachers. The nursery is staffed during the entire service for infants through age three.

## FLOWERS

This morning's flowers are given to the glory of God, by the Rambos, in honor of their wonderful family.

---

### He Who Is Mighty

Kate DeGraide, Rebecca Elliott | CCLI Song # 7031870, CCLI License # 661709

Oh, the mercy our God has shown  
to those who sit in death's shadow.  
The sun on high pierced the night;  
Born was the Cornerstone.  
Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is born.

**He Who is mighty has done a great thing;  
Taken on flesh, conquered death's sting,  
shattered the darkness and lifted our shame.  
Holy is His name.**

Oh, the freedom our Savior won;  
The yoke of sin has been broken.  
Once a slave, now by grace no more condemnation.  
Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is born.

**(to chorus)**

Now my soul magnifies the Lord;  
I rejoice in the God Who saves,  
I will trust His unfailing love,  
I will sing His praises all my days. *(repeat, to chorus)*

---

## UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, December 24**

**2:00, 4:30 & 7:00 pm**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services  
Reminiscent of Christmases past, experience  
Christmas Eve by candlelight  
with lessons and carols in our Historic Chapel

**Sunday, December 28,**

**10:00 am One Service**

Worshipping as One Church Family

*Our regular worship schedule resumes on Sun., Jan. 4  
9:00 Modern Service & 10:45 Traditional Service*