



First Presbyterian
Maumee
LOVE FIRST



10:45 Traditional 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

Prelude: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (arr. Ijames)

Rachel Steele & Kristen Woodard

Welcome

Pastor Clint Tolbert

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Andrew & Nate Oliff

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.

***Hymn of Prayer, No. 781: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"**

With Children's Handchime Choir

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**

***Response, No. 763: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" (verse 5)**

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;
evermore your voices raising to thee eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

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

***Hymn 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.

Choral Anthem: "All Praise to Thee" (Hagenberg)

Chancel Choir

Offering & Your Giving at Work

Offertory: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (arr. Larson)

Sue Stephenson, violin; Wayne Whitten, piano

Prayers for God's People & the Lord's Prayer

(Visit "First Pres in Prayer" in the FYI for greater detail of prayers requested.)

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

GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S OWN CHILDREN

***Charge and Blessing**

***Postlude: "In dulci jubilo" (Bach)**

** Please rise, in body or in spirit.*

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.

OFFERING

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.

FLOWERS

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

ADVENT AT FIRST PRES MAUMEE

Advent means coming or arrival, and in the church year it marks a season of waiting and anticipation. We wait as we prepare to celebrate Christ's coming into the world as a child, and we watch with expectant hope for the day when Christ will return and make all things new.

This year, our Advent focus comes from the words of the Nicene Creed: **"Light from Light."** Together we will reflect on what it means that Jesus is both fully divine and fully human—and on the hope this brings to us as people living between two Advents: after Christ's first coming, yet still longing for his promised return.

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 will resume on Sunday, January 4
9:00 Modern Service & 10:45 Traditional Service*