

Announcements

Zoom, Zoom, a Caroling will be held this Sunday, December 20 at 2:00 PM. Join Sandi Rabas and others for 45 minutes as we sing and share some of our favorite Christmas carols via Zoom. Here is the Zoom link that you can type or copy and paste into your web browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87467214982>

Christmas Eve services will be held this Thursday, December 24 at 5 PM and 10 PM. Due to the pandemic, we are asking people to attend just one service. Both of the services will include carols, candle lighting, and a message of hope. Both will also be streamed on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/fpcbillings.

Poinsettia orders will be received through December 21. If you would like to designate a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one, please fill out the form which will be in the bulletin. You can also e-mail Jeanne at mainoffice@fpcbillings.org or call the church at 252-3434. The cost is \$15 per poinsettia and a list of donors will be published on Christmas Eve and also in the January newsletter.

Angel Tree: Thanks to everyone who donated items for our Angel Tree. Three group received Christmas gifts: low income kids in our community, those served through the Presbyterian Mission Agency, and some of our shut-ins who have been isolated during this pandemic. Special thanks to Sue Bentley for organizing the tree once again this year.

Turning Point: Pastor Dave concludes his class, *Turning Point* this Sunday at 9:15 AM. This three week class is looking at the Old Testament book of Isaiah and discover why it provides a turning point in our faith. Although written 700 years before the birth of Jesus, the prophet Isaiah had the wonderful gift of being able to look ahead to what awaits us. Amid our pandemic, what can we learn from this book that enables us to look forward to what God has in store for us? This class is being held in the Fireside Room and is also available online at www.facebook.com/fpcbillings.

Staying Encouraged: Our church is here to help you through this pandemic. Pastor Dave, Stephen Ministers, and Deacons are available to talk, pray, or read scripture with you via the telephone or in person. Feel free to use these resources as we want to help and encourage one another.

Pledge cards continue to be received. If you have yet to receive a pledge card, you can pick one up at the church or request that one be mailed to you. Thanks!

Sanctuary flowers: Our flower sign-up sheet for 2021 is now available to designate flowers in memory or honor of someone. Please find the sheet as you enter the sanctuary. Suggested donation is \$25.

Kids' Sunday School: Our children's Sunday school program is being offered on-line. Jaki Harada, a student at MSUB, is putting together a weekly lesson that is being sent out via e-mail.



First Presbyterian Church
2420 13th Street West
Billings, Montana
252-3434
www.fpcbillings.org

December 20, 2020

Prelude *Sandi Rabas , accompanist*

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: Joy to the world, the Lord has come;

People: Let earth receive her King.

Leader: Let every heart prepare him room,

All: And let all of heaven and nature sing of his praise.

***Christmas Carol # 2** *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

***Prayer of Confession (In Unison)**

Holy God, we come before you this morning in humility. You have chosen to come to us as an innocent and vulnerable baby in order that we might have forgiveness of sin and life everlasting. You entered our world of sin and sadness to bring us this amazing gift. May we receive this gift with open and willing hearts and may we in turn share this gift with others. We thank you and praise you for your love that comes to us through Jesus our Lord.

(Continue in silent confession)

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Song # 44** *“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (verse 4 only)*

Passing the Peace of Christ

L: May the peace of Christ be with you. **All:** And also with you.

Children’s Time

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Scripture: Psalm 89:1-8 *pg. 545*

New Testament Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12 *pg. 2*

Sermon Series: “Come to Bethlehem and See” *See Sermon Helps Part 4 of 4: “Returning”*

***Christmas Carol # 56** *“The First Nowell” (verses 1-3 and 6)*

Worshipping God With Our Offerings

The Offertory

***The Doxology** *pg. 592*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer (Debts/Debtors)

***Christmas Carol # 46** *“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”*

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Sandi Rabas, accompanist

*** Indicates to stand, if able and comfortable.**

Music license for use in worship and live streaming is provided via CCLI #20735174

Giving Mobile App: Check out our mobile giving app. You can simply text fpcbillings to 77977 and give a one-time gift or set up reoccurring gifts. If you have any questions, you can talk with Jeanne or Pastor Dave. We appreciate your generosity to our ministry!

This Week @ FPC

This Sunday (Dec. 20) *Turning Point* class in the Fireside Room 9:15 AM
Worship service 10:30 AM
Zoom, Zoom, a Caroling 2:00 PM
No reFuel groups

Monday Monday morning work crew 9:00 AM
No afternoon reFuel group
No Better Together Preschool

Tuesday No Women's Bible Study
No afternoon reFuel group

Wednesday No Better Together Preschool
No Youth Group—resumes on January 6

Thursday Christmas Eve Worship 5:00 PM
Christmas Eve Worship 10:00 PM

Friday Merry Christmas!

Sunday (Dec. 27) No Sunday school
Worship service 10:30 AM
No reFuel groups

Last Sunday: Attendance: 70 Offering: \$ 36,462.00

Church Staff Information:

Ministers: All Members

Pastor: The Rev. Dave Thompson pastordave@fpcbillings.org

Office Manager: Jeanne Raney mainoffice@fpcbillings.org

Music Accompanist/Organist: Sandi Rabas

Choir Director: Janie Sutton

Custodian: Kent Fellingham

Sermon Helps

Designed to help you get the most out of the sermon

Sermon Series: "Come to Bethlehem and See"

Part 4 of 4: "Returning"

A. Wise Lessons:

1. Within this story we see the intersection of _____ and faith.
2. We see a great _____ by the Wise Men as they travel hundreds of miles to Bethlehem.
3. The story of the Wise Men is truly a story about _____ as they come to worship Jesus.
4. After meeting Jesus, the Wise Men _____ their course in a different direction.

B. Thought to Take With You:

"A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great." —Proverbs 18:16