



Lifting Up Christ . . . Building Up People

First Presbyterian CHURCH OF BARTOW

355 S. Florida Avenue • (863) 533-5005 • Fpcbartow.org

Rev. Barry Gray, Pastor

December 1, 2024 - 10:15 AM



The Two Faces of

Advent



Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10, & Luke 21:25-36

The mission of First Presbyterian Church of Bartow is:
making it simple for people to find and follow Jesus

- ♦ experience a personal relationship with Jesus Christ,
- ♦ grow in faith,
- ♦ live their lives in loving relationship with Christ, and
- ♦ minister to those outside the Christian faith.

As a church family, we are committed to being people who **LOVE**:

1) Jesus 2) God's Word 3) One Another 4) Our City 5) Families 6) Stewardship

Continued on next page



Lifting Up Christ . . . Building Up People

First Presbyterian CHURCH OF BARTOW

355 S. Florida Avenue • (863) 533-5005 • Fpcbartow.org

Rev. Barry Gray, Pastor

December 1, 2024 - 10:15 AM

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRAISE AND ADORATION

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACOLYTES

*WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

Hymn #227 in *Hymns of Grace* Hymnal

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

See Him in a manger laid Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, With us sing our Savior's birth.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

CCLI Song # 7014589 © Words: Public Domain CCLI License # 1266294

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE — Luke 1:16-17

Ariel Forker

The First Sunday of Advent: Hope (Prepare the Way)

Luke 1:16-17:

¹⁶ And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, ¹⁷ and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

Advent is a season of hope. Hope is a glory promised by God. That our God did not abandon us to our wickedness but came down from glory to be born a man to save us from our sins.

We light this candle to remind us that we should ready our hearts today for the coming of our Lord, by telling the good news of the gospel to all and celebrating that the light of the word has come and will come again.

Continued on next page



Lifting Up Christ . . . Building Up People

First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF BARTOW

Rev. Barry Gray, Pastor

December 1, 2024 - 10:15 AM

*SONGS OF PRAISE

"O Come Let Us Adore Him"

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him. Born the King of angels.
O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him.
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.
O come all ye faithful. Come let us adore Him.
O come all ye faithful. Come let us adore Him.
Sing choirs of angels, Sing in exultation.
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above.
Glory to God. Glory in the highest.
O sing hallelujah. Come let us adore Him.
O sing hallelujah. Come let us adore Him.
Yes Lord, we greet Thee. Born this happy morning.
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.
O come all ye faithful. Come let us adore Him.
O come all ye faithful. Come let us adore Him.
O sing hallelujah. He alone is worthy.
O sing hallelujah. He alone is worthy.

CCLI Song # 6089319 Autumn Hardman | C. Frederick Oakeley | John Francis Wade | Matt Crocker | Ryan Taubert
© 2011 Hillsong MP Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI License # 1266294

"King Of Kings"

In the darkness we were waiting, without hope, without light,
Till from Heaven You came running. There was mercy in Your eyes.
To fulfil the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.

Chorus: Praise the Father, praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit, three in one.
God of Glory, majesty, Praise forever to the King of kings
To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost,
To redeem the whole creation You did not despise the cross.
For even in Your suffering, You saw to the other side.
Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus, for our sake You died.

Repeat Chorus

And the morning that You rose all of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good, for the Lamb had conquered death.
And the dead rose from their tombs, and the angels stood in awe,
For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored.

Continued on next page



Lifting Up Christ . . . Building Up People

First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF BARTOW

Rev. Barry Gray, Pastor

December 1, 2024 - 10:15 AM

And the Church of Christ was born, then the Spirit lit the flame.
Now this Gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not faint.
By His blood and in His Name, in His freedom I am free,
For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me.

Praise the Father, praise the Son, Praise the Spirit, three in one.
God of Glory, majesty, Praise forever to the King of kings

CCLI Song # 7127647 Brooke Ligertwood | Jason Ingram | Scott Ligertwood © 2019 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia | Fellow Ships Music | So Essential Tunes | CCLI License # 1266294

PRAYER

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT VIDEO

After Offering, children K-5th grade may be excused to Children's Church

GOD'S WORD TO US

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; Luke 21:25-36

SERMON

The Two Faces of Advent

Rev. Barry Gray

PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*SONGS OF RESPONSE

"Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery"

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, In the dawning of the King.
He the theme of heaven's praises, Robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness, Now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ, who condescended, Took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, He the perfect Son of Man.
In His living, in His suff'ring, Never trace, nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam, Come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ, the great and sure fulfillment Of the law, in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, Christ the Lord upon the tree,
In the stead of ruined sinners Hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption, See the Father's plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory; Grace unmeasured love untold.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, Slain by death, the God of life.
But no grave could e'er restrain Him. Praise the Lord, He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliv'rance, How unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected, As we will be when He comes.

Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Michael Bleecker CCLI Song #7026028
© 2012 Getty Music Hymns and Songs; Getty Music Publishing; Love Your Enemies Publishing; Bleecker Publishing; McKinney Music, Inc. CCLI License #1266294

Continued on next page



Lifting Up Christ . . . Building Up People

First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF BARTOW

Rev. Barry Gray, Pastor

December 1, 2024 - 10:15 AM

"Doxology"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

CCLI Song # 4255578 David Crowder | Thomas Ken
© Words: 2004 CCLI License # 1266294

*CLOSING PRAYER

*BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO MORNING WORSHIP! — We are so glad you're here! We hope you are able to feel God's presence here as you worship with us this morning! We invite everyone, members, guests and visitors alike to please take a moment to **sign in using the red attendance pad located in each pew and pass it down to your neighbor**. You can also scan, tap, or click the QR code to access the online check-in page. We hope you find our time together inspiring, meaningful, challenging and perhaps even a little fun. Thanks for coming!



Thank You for your help!

Thank you to all the volunteers who came yesterday morning and helped decorate our sanctuary and fellowship hall for the Christmas season.



Lifting Up Christ . . . Building Up People

First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF BARTOW

Rev. Barry Gray

December 1 2024 - 10:15 AM

Christmas

A Treasured Anthology

Join us on Sunday, December 8th at 10:15 a.m. for our annual Christmas cantata. This year's cantata, *Christmas — A Treasured Anthology*, includes traditional favorites, narration and also some not so familiar songs that are sure to touch your heart as you listen to the words and reflect on the true meaning of the Christmas Season.

Christmas — A Treasured Anthology will be presented by the First Presbyterian Church Choir & Orchestra under the direction of our Choir Directors, Kent and Charissa Kesler. Invite your family and friends to this beautiful service of song and praise as we gather together to rejoice in the birth of our Lord and Savior.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER — Mica Barrington, Jesse Beeles, Laurie Benton, John Bianco, Sonja Bianco, Wayne Blount, Drew & Priscilla Boren, Becky Braswell, Michael Brinsley, Dr. Bill Brown in China, Kathi Colvin, Marsha Dalley, David Delph, Becky Falcone (Owen), Sarah Hallock, Dot Harris, Doug Hartsaw, Matt Heidel, Dell & Rose Henderson, June Hollingsworth, Travis Hoover, Melody Horne, Shirley Johnson, Robert Jones, Johnathan Kimble, Fred & Sheila Lepley, Bill McClintock, David McClintock, Monette Monroe, Ezra Myers, Becky Arnold Pate, David Patt, Jerry Patt, Willene Pawley, Benjamin Sanchez, Luke Shaver, Lisa Shenson, John Stansel, David Stewart, Toni Strickland, David Tanner, Vicki Tillis, Debbie & Ted Turbe, Cathy Whistin, Glenda Wiggins, Pam Zeigler and Family, Patrick Zier, Our Pastor & family, Our Elders and Staff, Our Children & Youth, Our Military & their families, Our Nation, Leaders, Community & Our Church.

MORNING PRAYER PERSON — Linda Munroe

POINSETTIA SIGN UP — Sign up sheets for poinsettias are available in the Narthex. The cost this year is \$9.00 per plant. The poinsettias will decorate our sanctuary beginning Sunday, December 8th and may be taken home after our Christmas Eve Service. You may pay for your poinsettias by check, cash, or online. When paying by check or cash please designate the amount for Poinsettias on the memo line or envelope. To pay online scan the QR Code to be taken to our secure order form.





Lifting Up Christ . . . Building Up People

First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF BARTOW

Rev. Barry Gray

December 1, 2024 - 10:15 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP — SUNDAY AT 4:00 PM IN CHURCH OFFICE — the Intercessory Prayer Group gathers Sunday afternoon at 4:00 PM in the church office to pray for the needs of our church family and friends. All are invited to come and join the prayer group.

WOMEN OF THE CLOTH — Join Women of the Cloth sewing group **Mondays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm in the East Room**. Stay for the day or drop in for a bit. The ladies are currently making blankets for the homeless and cloth bags to present to Guardian ad Litem for foster children in transition.

CHRISTMAS SOCK DRIVE — Between now and December 15th, the Thursday Morning Ladies' Bible Study Group is collecting new socks and hotel / travel size shampoo to be included in Christmas gift bags for our Grace Diner guests. You may bring your donations to church next Sunday or drop them off at the church office through the week.

2025 FLOWER CALENDAR — The 2025 Flower Calendar is now available in the narthex. Fresh flowers in our sanctuary every Sunday morning is a beautiful tradition and a wonderful way to honor or memorialize a friend or loved one or a special celebration. Take a few moments this morning and reserve a date to place flowers in our Sanctuary. The cost is \$45. You may make your check payable to *First Presbyterian Church* and please write *flowers* on the memo line. You can also pay online at fpcbartow.org/give and click **Give Here**. Select "Flowers" from the **Fund** drop down menu.

COME TO GROWTH WEDNESDAY — Growth Wednesday happens each Wednesday from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. We invite you to come and grow as an individual and as a church family by joining together for a time of community, learning, growing, and fellowship. **Childcare is available in our nursery. GROWTH WEDNESDAYS WEEKLY SCHEDULE:**

- **5:15 - 6 p.m. — Handbell Choir Rehearsal** — Choir Room
- **5:30 - 6 p.m. — Supper** served in the Fellowship Hall. Suggested donation - \$5 per person.
- **5:30 - 7 p.m. — 'Made for More' Life Coaching with Deena Fussell;**
10-15 minute appointments available; text (863) 327-5007 to make appointment
- **6:00 - 6:15 p.m. — Worship Together** — Praise and Prayer in the Fellowship Hall
- **6:15 - 7:30 p.m. — Student Ministry Small Groups;** Student Ministry Rooms upstairs, Education Building
- **6:15 - 7:30 p.m. — Wednesday Warriors Kids Ministry;** Rooms West 3 & 5; Downstairs
- **6:15 - 7:30 p.m. — *The Chosen* — Film / Discussion;** Small Group Study; East Room
- **6:15 - 7:30 p.m. — Choir Rehearsal;** Choir room
- **6:15 - 7:30 p.m. — Abide Women's Bible Study;** meet in Library.

THURSDAY MORNING MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — 7:15 AM every Thursday at PalletOne Corporate Office, 6001 Foxtrot Ave., Bartow.

THURSDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE STUDY The Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study meets each **Thursday** morning at 9:30 AM in the East Room.



Lifting Up Christ . . . Building Up People

First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF BARTOW

Rev. Barry Gray

December 1, 2024 - 10:15 AM



It's the time of the year
when best cookies are made!
What fun to make extra
in order to trade!

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after church on
Sunday, December 8th for a
Christmas Cookie Exchange

Please bring a few dozen of your favorite
Christmas Cookies and the recipe to share.

Email your recipe to office@fpcbartow.org or bring with you to
the Cookie Exchange and we will make copies for you to share!