



First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2016

Advent is for preparing for Christmas--for preparing our ears to hear the delicate rustle of angel wings, our eyes to see the star, our feet to hurry quietly to the stable, our knees to bow humbly before Christ, our minds to comprehend, and our hearts to adore.

Alexander T. Coyle

Fort Street Presbyterian Church

631 W. Fort Street

Detroit, MI 48226

Phone (313) 961-4533

Gathering the Community

PRELUDE *"Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming"* Johannes Brahms
Marilyn Biery, Organist /Music Director

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. Bob Agnew

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Edward Kingins
and family

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God...In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (Isaiah 40:1, 3)

**Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the
mouth of the Lord has spoken. (Isaiah 40:5)**

Be patient, therefore beloved, until the coming of the Lord...Strengthen your hearts for the
coming of the Lord is near. (James 5:7a, 8b)

Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. (Luke 12:37)

*HYMN # 93 *"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"* TRURO

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Greg Jenkins

**Almighty God, you have spoken through the prophets of old to prepare a way, but too
often we don't want to wait or become so impatient we miss signs of your presence along
the way. Have mercy upon us. In the classroom of waiting, keep hope alive, faith strong
and love constant. May we gain a wider perspective of your power and glory as Christ
dwells in our hearts and minds as the King of kings and the Lord of lords. O come, O
come Emmanuel. Amen.**

*SILENT CONFESSION

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE SONG # 447 *"We Are Forgiven"* WE ARE FORGIVEN

*SHARING THE PEACE Greg Jenkins

The Peace of the Living Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE WORD

SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SONG FOR ILLUMINATION # 626

"As the Deer"

AS THE DEER

SOLO

"Stir Up Thy Power, O Lord"
Leslie Douglass Mason, Soprano

James Biery

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Psalm 27:1-4, 13-14
(pp. 476-77 in pew Bibles)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Greg Jenkins

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:

Matthew 25:1-13
(pp. 26-27 in pew Bibles)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Dr. Bob Agnew

SERMON

"A TIME TO WAIT"

Dr. Bob Agnew

SERMON TEXT: *"Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."*
(Matthew 25:13)

THE RESPONSE

*HYMN # 82

"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(A Brief Statement of Faith)

Greg Jenkins

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.**

**We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE 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.

OFFERING OF THE PLEDGES AND GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE # 647** *“Give Thanks”* *GIVE THANKS*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Greg Jenkins

***HYMN # 362** *“Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers”* LLANGLOFFAN

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *“Wake, Awake for Night is Flying”* J.S. Bach

(If you wish to do so, we invite you to sit quietly and enjoy the postlude as part of your worship.)

+ + +

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

Thank you for gathering with us for worship this morning. Following worship, there will be a coffee hour in the small dining area. Please join us!

Organist/Music Director	Marilyn Biery
Soloist	Leslie Douglass Mason, Soprano
Liturgist	Greg Jenkins
Sound Tech	Tom Marshall
Worship Coordinator	Beth Brown



Sanctuary flowers are in memory of Don Boyce and Peter Boyce.

The Church office will be closed on Thursday, November 24 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The church office will reopen on Monday, November 28, 2016 from 8:00am to 4:00pm.

Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:

- Hearing Assist System
- Wheelchair Access Ramp
- Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary
- Handicap Restroom--use elevator to second floor

We are delighted that you are here!

- * Visit the information and display tables in the narthex.
- * During the worship service, child care is provided for children through age 4. Ushers can provide directions. Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in Sunday School, which follows the Children's Message. A Christian Education staff member will lead the children downstairs. Parents may pick them up after worship. For additional information about our Sunday School program, please contact Judith Sheldon at firstcircleinc@sbcglobal.net. or Nancy Jackson at nancymottershawjackson@gmail.com.
- * You may add to the beauty of our weekly worship by contributing a floral donation. Flowers are usually given in memory of or in honor of persons or events. Contact Pam Sharrow at Sharrow13@gmail.com. The church office will contact you for your floral dedication.

Prayer List for the month of November 2016

Gabrielle Abrego, Don and Lois Bardwell, Lynne Bieniek, Lorraine and Harrison Coleman, Jerry Johnson and family, Geraldine Adams Jones, Valorie Kimbrough, Virginia Lorimer, Kathy Payne and family, Jane Petrie, Bob Ponder, Richard and Suellen Sale, Sabrina Smith and family.

Prayers for Military loved ones.

(We are seeking to update our Military Roll. Please contact the church office with any changes.)

Lt. Harrison L Coleman USN; Jonathan Heyler USN; SSGT Shanell Howard USAF; Maj. Michael Kurtti USAF; Capt. Theo Moran USAF; Major Katy Spicer USMC; Lt. Mark Webster USAF.

FORT STREET STAFF:

Alison Grosch, Operations Manager; Judith Sheldon, Director of Christian Education; John Glover, Director of Open Door; Marilyn Biery, Director of Music/Organist; Edward Kingins, Director of Music Emeritus, Lola JF Davidson, Secretary; Loretta Stanton, Wedding Coordinator; Jerry Johnson, Building Engineer, Damien Hines, Custodian; Karen Wright, Donlin Center Staff.

Temporary Stated Supply Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Robert Agnew
pastor@fortstreet.org

Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Crilley

Web Site: www.fortstreet.org
www.facebook.com/fortstreet

Fort Street News

MISSION STATEMENT

Fort Street Presbyterian Church is an oasis in an urban environment, building a caring Christian community where diversity is celebrated and developing programs that minister to metropolitan Detroit and the world beyond. We do this in response to the grace of God through Jesus Christ, recognizing the truth of the Gospel: *There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of us are one in Christ Jesus.*

Contact the Church office (313-961-4533) for ticket information or to pick up tickets in person.



MUSIC AT FORT STREET

**Handel's
Messiah**

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 3 & 4, 2016**

3:00 PM

**Featuring the Fort Street Chorale
and Chamber Orchestra**
under the direction of
Marilyn Biery, Music Director

General Admission Tickets \$20.00
Patron Tickets \$35.00
Group Tickets \$15.00
(minimum of 10)



A group photograph of the Fort Street Chorale and Chamber Orchestra. The performers are arranged in several rows, dressed in formal attire (tuxedos for men and gowns for women). They are standing in front of a dark backdrop decorated with gold stars. The photo is positioned at the bottom of the poster.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
December 2016				1 9-11am Open Door 7:30 Chorale Rehearsal	2 Church Offices Closed	3 3:00 Messiah Concert 5:30pm AA 8:30-10:00pm AI-Non
4 9:30am Worship Choir 9:45am Adult Ed 11:00am Worship, 3:00 Messiah Concert 6:30pm NA	5 Risers are taken down	6 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	7 2:00pm Staff mtg 7:00 Session	8 9-11am Open Door 6:30 Chorale Council mtg 7:30 Chorale Rehearsal	9 Church Offices Closed 8:00-9:00pm AA	10 5:30pm AA 6:00pm Wedding Rehearsal 8:30-10:00pm AI-Non
11 9:30 am Worship Choir 9:45am Adult Ed 11:00am Worship, (Communion) 12:30-2:00 CE Movie/ brown bag luncheon 3:00pm Wedding 6:30pm NA Celebration Sunday	12	13 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	14 2:00pm Staff mtg 6:00 Fiscal Mtg	15 9-11am Open Door 11:30 Open Dr. mtg 7:30 Chorale Rehearsal	16 Church Offices Closed 8:00-9:00pm AA	17 5:30pm AA 8:30-10:00pm AI-Non
18 9:30am Worship Choir 9:45am Adult Ed 11:00am Worship 12:30 Breakfast in Bethlehem Coffee Hr. 6:30pm NA	19	20 8:30am Clothes Sort 12-2pm Career Clst 8:00-9:00pm AA	21 2:00pm Staff mtg	22 9-11am Open Door	23 Church Offices Closed 8:00-9:00pm AA	24 5:30pm AA 7:00 Christmas Eve Service 8:30-10:00pm AI-Non
25 9:30am Worship Choir 9:45am Adult Ed 11:00am Worship , (CHRISTMAS) 6:30pm NA	26 Church Offices Closed for Holiday	27 Church Offices Closed for Holiday	28 2:00pm Staff mtg	29 9-11am Open Door	30 Church Offices Closed 6:00 Wedding Rehearsal 8:00-9:00pm AA	31 3:00 pm Wedding 5:30pm AA 8:30-10:00pm AI-Non

Flowers Reminder



Contact the Worship and Arts Committee to purchase flowers for the sanctuary in honor of birthday celebrations, anniversaries, or in memory of a loved one... the list is endless for God's grace. Pam Sharrow is the liaison, at sharrow13@gmail.com. Tell her which Sunday in the year and what you **want printed in the bulletin. You pick the color!** Write a check for \$50 and indicate worship and arts. We'll do the rest!

OPEN DOOR MEAL PROGRAM THURSDAYS 9AM-11AM



This program is open to the public. Between 8am and 9m, woman and elderly guests may shower. They may also receive a hygiene kit and use the clothing bank once a month. Between 9 and 11am, men may shower. They may also get a hygiene kit and use the clothing bank monthly. Guest seeking clothing and hygiene kits must present valid identification. Between 9 and 11am, a full hot meal is served. Guests may get a haircut, and consult with a social worker. Volunteers are welcome.



Join us for our Church Decorating Party Christmas Trees and Greens at Fort Street

Sunday, November 27, 2016 at 12:30 p.m.

Please stay after worship and help swag the Sanctuary, and reforest the Narthex, Great Hall and Stapleton Chapel. The trees will be decorated by everyone in celebration of the first Sunday of Advent. See Nancy Jackson and Nancy Jennings.