



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 9, 2018**

**Fort Street Presbyterian Church**

**631 W. Fort Street**

**Detroit, MI 48226**

**Phone (313) 961-4533**

**[www.fortstreet.org](http://www.fortstreet.org)**

**[www.facebook.com/fortstreet](https://www.facebook.com/fortstreet)**

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 9, 2018

GOD GATHERS US TOGETHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Johannes Brahms

WELCOME

OPENING SENTENCES

Theodore Cooke

Jesus says: I am coming soon.

**Amen. Come Lord Jesus!**

God has promised us a new creation  
**where righteousness will be at home.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, you sent prophets to us to preach repentance.  
and prepare the way for our salvation.  
Help us listen to them, and look on us with kindness  
that we may welcome Jesus with joyful hearts  
when he comes. **Amen.**

\*LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Children's Sunday School

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.  
As the Lord has promised, in days to come,  
The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the goat,  
**the calf and the lion and the sheep will lie down together,**  
**and a little child shall lead them.**  
Let us walk in the light of the Lord. **Amen.**

\*HYMN 82

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, we have not kept watch for you.**  
**We have stayed busy doing what we want to do.**  
**We have not waited to find what you want us to do.**  
**We have not noticed the needs of the people around us.**  
**We have not been thankful for the love other people show us.**  
**Forgive us for not noticing when people have cared for us.**  
**Help us to know your will.**  
**Help us to look out for the needs of others.**  
**Help us to work and watch for your coming. Amen.**

**\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE SONG 591

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

HALLE, HALLE

**\*SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we too should forgive one another.

**And also with you.**

*(Exchange signs of Christ's peace with those worshipping with you.)*

**WE HEAR THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Philippians 1:3-11  
(p.185 in Pew Bibles)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

*O Light of Life!*

Mack Wilberg

*O Light of Life! O pure Light Divine! Thou art in us; our ember is thine. Kindle our faith, Give hope when we fear, deepen our love, thy fire appear!*

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 3:1-6  
(p.56 in Pew Bibles)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**"A Clear Path Through"**

Pastor Eric Lange

**\*HYMN 163**

*Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice*

ABERYSTWYTH

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

Microphone Available

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

*Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates*

arr. Hal Hopson

\*RESPONSE 606

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Communion today is served by distribution. Elders will distribute the elements to you in while you are seated in the pews. After all have been served, we will eat the bread and then drink the cup at the same time.*

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Three questions:

**What are we going to do at this table?**

**Why do we share bread and juice?**

**But I wasn't there with Jesus. What should I remember?**

*Children and family members can return to their seats to take communion with their families.*

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING AND 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.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**WE ARE SENT OUT TO SPREAD THE WORD**

\*HYMN 36

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

AR HYD Y NOS

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Sleepers, Wake!*

J.G. Walther

Liturgist

Theodore Cooke

Soloist

Dorothy Duensing

Sound Tech

Nancy Jackson

Worship Coordinator

Kalu Uduma

**Advent Candle Lighting:** This year, we are inviting participants from different programs in the church to light advent candles. In each case, we connect the hope and spirit of these programs to the Advent hope of our faith. Many thanks to members of our Children's Sunday School for lighting our advent candle this week, and for the ways they lead us in worship and in our community.

**Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:**

- Hearing-Assist System
- Wheelchair Access Ramp
- Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary
- Handicap-Accessible 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](mailto:firstcircleinc@sbcglobal.net). or Nancy Jackson at [nancymottershawjackson@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:Sharrow13@gmail.com). The church office will contact you for your floral dedication.

## This Week's Announcements

There will be a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, December 23rd, 2018, immediately following worship to receive the report of the Nominating Committee for the Elder and Deacon nominees for the Class of 2021. No other business may be discussed at the meeting.

### **Celebrate Ben and Jane's Marriage at Coffee Hour This Sunday!**

Ben Solomons and Jane Tolson were married in September in India, and they are hosting a special coffee hour at FSPC next Sunday, December 9th. Come and celebrate Ben and Jane and wish them the best in their marriage!

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### **Longest Night Service**

Dec 21, 6:00pm

On the longest night of the year, FSPC is hosting a service that honors people who are feeling 'blue' during the holidays. As we hear the story of Jesus' birth, this space is open for those who struggle with darkness and grief faced by those living with loss, illness or sadness.

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### **Pledge for 2019 Stewardship**

Pledges of giving are now being received for the 2019 year. We are reflecting on the gifts we have to share in ministry. Please prayerfully consider what gift you have to share in and through Fort Street in the new year. Pledge cards are available in the narthex, and you can drop your pledge card in the offering plate during worship. You can pledge on the church website, [fortstreet.org](http://fortstreet.org), or by emailing Alison Grosch your pledge at [om@fortstreet.org](mailto:om@fortstreet.org).

### **Advent Home Groups**

This Advent season (December 2 – 23) will provide opportunities for Fort Streeters to spend time visiting one another in their homes. Join one (or many) of these gatherings as you are able, taking place around metro Detroit.

**Sun., Dec. 9, 6:00pm** - Diana Hocking

**Thurs., Dec. 13, 6:00pm** Jennings

**Fri., Dec 14, 6:00pm**, Callas Family

**Sat., Dec 15, 6:00pm** - Jacksons

**Sat., Dec 22, 4:00pm** - Woods Family

Attend as many gatherings as you wish. Sign-up sheets are in the Great Hall!

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### **Order a Christmas Poinsettia!**

Add to the beauty of Fort Street's sanctuary by ordering a poinsettia for Christmas Eve! Order forms can be found in the Great Hall and the Narthex. Each Poinsettia is \$20, and orders are due on Sunday, December 16th.

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### **Christmas Eve at Fort Street**

7:00pm - Musical Prelude

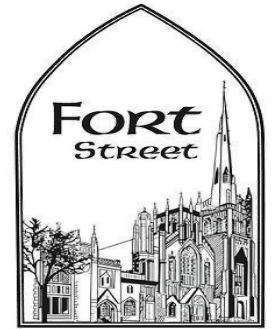
7:30pm - Service begins

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On **Sunday, December 30th**, we will welcome Michael Barconey as our guest preacher as our pastors are on vacation. There will be no Fifth Sunday potluck that day.

## FSPC Mission Statement

Fort Street Presbyterian Church is an oasis in an urban environment, building a caring Christian community where diversity is celebrated and programs are developed 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 Jesus Christ.



## FSPC Prayer List

Lynne Bieniek, Melanie, Jim and Ella Fenton, Motoko Huthwaite, Alex Kade, the family of Mia Hart, the family of Iola Jackson, Sandra Marowski

## Prayers for Military Loved Ones

Jonathan Heyler USN; Ssgt Shanell Howard USAF; Maj. Michael Kurtti USAF; Capt. Theo Moran USAF; Lt. Mark Webster USAF

## Fort Street Staff

### Church General Staff

**Alison Grosch** | Operations Manager

**Jerry Johnson** | Building Engineer

*Parking and Custodial Staff*

**Darryl Reynolds**

**Richard Echols**

**Frank Hickey**

### Music at Fort Street

**Marilyn Biery** | Director / Organist

**Mike Mitchell** | Interim Chorale Conductor

### Donlin Center & Christian Education

**Judith Sheldon** | Director

**Karen Wright** | Donlin Staff

**Lakita Wyatt** | Donlin Staff

### Fort Street Open Door

**Trish Hubbell** | Director

**Sheila Williams** | Floor Coordinator

**James Anderson** | Security

**Herman Hall** | Custodian

**Damien Hines** | Custodian

**Jewell Everette** | Cook

### *SCSEP Participants*

**Brenda Boykin**

**Gleatus Jones**

**Mary McCray**

### Weddings at Fort Street

**Loretta Stanton** | Coordinator

**Vanessa Carthron** | Assistant

**Austin Brantley** | Assistant

**Darryl Fowler** | Assistant

**Interim Co-Pastors:** Anne and Eric Lange • [pastor@fortstreet.org](mailto:pastor@fortstreet.org)

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

**Music Director Emeritus:** Edward Kingins