

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHRIST IS PREEMINENT

December 7, 2025

582 Southwood Drive, Eden, NC, 27288
www.fpceden.org | 336-623-3962

Welcome, Announcements, & Congregational Greeting

Gospel Greeting

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to whoever will come – this church opens wide her doors
and offers her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Scripture Meditation: *Isaiah 61:10*

(Recite in Unison)

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Introit & Silent Preparation

*** Call to Worship: *Isaiah 25:9***

Leader: Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.

Congregation: This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.


*** Prayer of Invocation**

*** Please stand if you are able.**


* Congregational Hymn: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*




1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
 2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
 3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.

REFRAIN

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King."

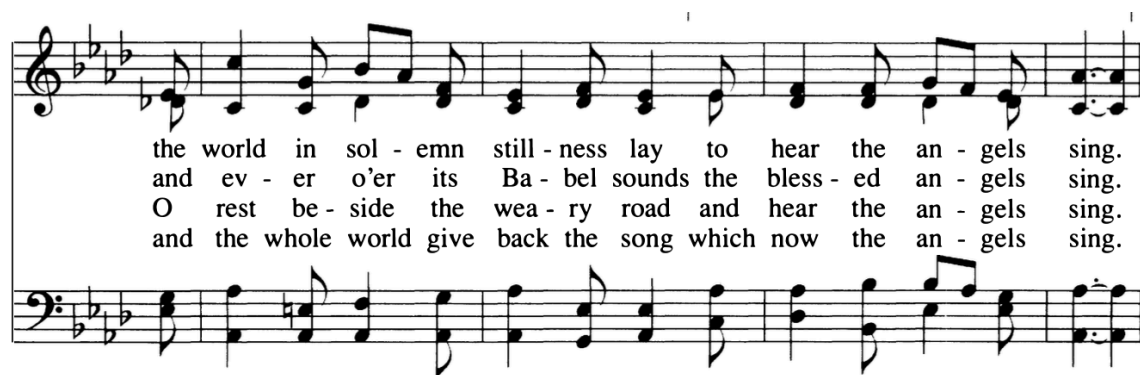
Author: Charles Wesley | Tune: MENDELSSOHN | Trinity Hymnal #203

* Congregational Hymn: *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, with peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3. And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4. For lo, the days are has - t'ning on, by proph - et bards fore - told,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world:
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow,
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years comes round the age of gold;

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heav'n's all - gra - cious King";
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
 look now! for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing:
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



Author: Edmund H. Sears | Tune: CAROL C.M.D. | Trinity Hymnal #200

Reading of Scripture: *Luke 1:46-55*

And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

Corporate and Personal Confession of Sin

(Recite in Unison)

I, poor sinner, confess myself before God Almighty, that I have gravely sinned by the transgression of his commandments; that I have done many things which I should have left undone, and I have left undone that which I should have done, through unbelief and distrust in God and weakness of love toward my fellow servants. God knows the guilt I have incurred, for which I am grieved. Be gracious to me, Lord. Be merciful to me, a poor sinner. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: *Psalms 103:10-12*

(Recite in Unison)

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Giving of Tithing & Offerings

Choir: Angels are Making Their Rounds

* The Doxology

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

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

(Recite in Unison)

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*** Children Dismissed for Children's Bible Study***

* Congregational Hymn: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;
2. For Christ is born of Mar - y; and gath - ered all a - bove,
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n!
4. O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

a - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by:
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
where meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

Author: Philips Brooks | Tune: ST. LOUIS | Trinity Hymnal #201

* Prayer of Illumination

The Reading & Preaching of God's Word

LUKE 2:8-14 – EVERLASTING PEACE HAS ARRIVED

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

* 'The Apostles' Creed

(Recite in Unison)

I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

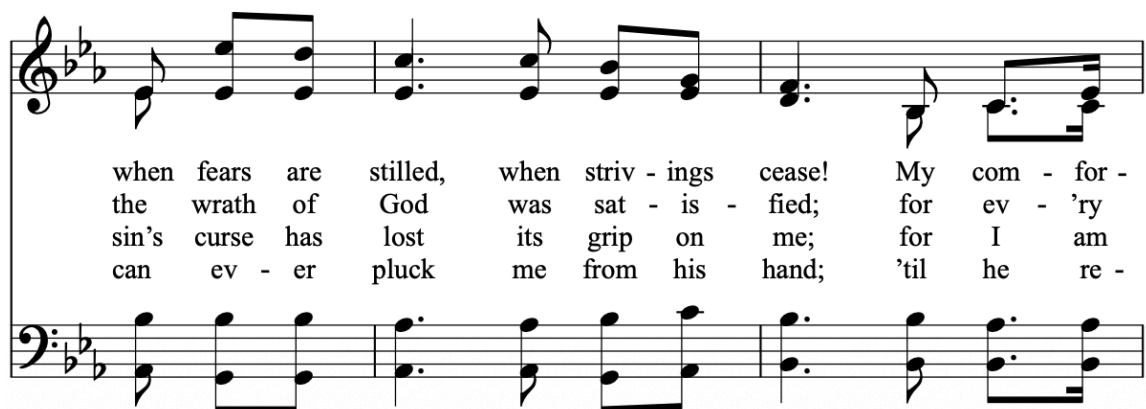
I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy catholic church; the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

* Congregational Hymn: *In Christ Alone*

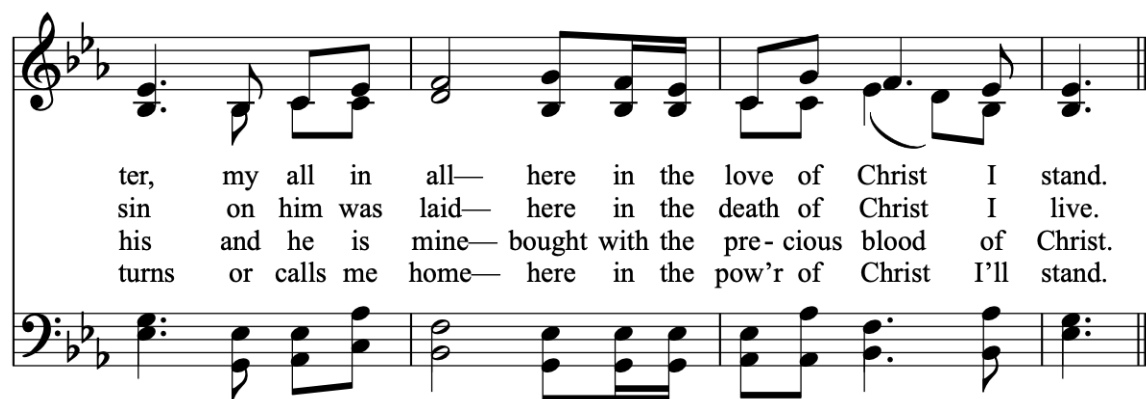
1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my
 2. In Christ a - lone! Who took on flesh, full-ness of God in help - less
 3. There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the world by dark - ness
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death: this is the pow'r of Christ in

song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground, firm through the
 babe! This gift of love and righ - teous - ness, scorned by the
 slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, up from the
 me. From life's first cry to fin - al breath, Je - sus com -

fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace,
 ones he came to save. 'Til on that cross as Je - sus died,
 grave he rose a - gain! And as he stands in vic - to - ry,
 mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,



when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - for -
the wrath of God was sat - is - fied; for ev - 'ry
sin's curse has lost its grip on me; for I am
can ev - er pluck me from his hand; 'til he re -



ter, my all in all— here in the love of Christ I stand.
sin on him was laid— here in the death of Christ I live.
his and he is mine— bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
turns or calls me home— here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Author: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend | Tune: IN CHRIST ALONE | Sing! Hymnal #181

* **Benediction: 2 Corinthians 13:14**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

* **Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

* **Postlude & Dismissal**

While the gathering has ended, service to Christ continues; let us go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit, serving our Lord as His ambassadors!

PRAYER REQUESTS

****If you have a prayer request, please submit it to Jeni Hartley at jhartley@fpceden.org****

Our Congregation

- Mike & Martha Corum
- Pat Morris
- Frank Parker
- Stuart Peele
- Jonathan Smith
- Rick & Debbie Taylor

Our Missionaries

- Stephanie Black – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Ben and Ellie Childs – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Al and Joy Doomy – Outreach to Asia Nationals
- Bradley and Jessica Long – Frontier Fellowship
- Brent and Marianne Pilson – Café 1040

December Birthdays

- Dec. 2 Tra Wyatt
- Dec. 12 Dan Harrison
- Dec. 13 Charlie Hall, Sherry Tilley
- Dec. 14 Jeni Hartley
- Dec. 15 Larry Helms
- Dec. 17 Cheryl Lauzau
- Dec. 20 Betty Matthews, Jan McGuire, Martha Corum, Cheryl Jenkins
- Dec. 21 Cayden Hinson
- Dec. 25 Rhonda Hale, Abigail Underwood
- Dec. 30 Mike McDaniel
- Dec. 31 Jonathan Smith

***Father, help us to be a God-glorifying, Christ-exalting, Spirit-led, Bible-saturated,
Mission-driven, and Fellowship-focused people.***

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

The Lord's Supper

Our next celebration of the Lord's Supper will be on January 4, 2025.

Session

Paul Sasser (2026)
Bruce Nooe – Stated Clerk (2027)
Kenny Mabe (2028)
Everall Peele (2028)
Bill Robertson (2028)
Jennifer Shafer (2028)
Pastor Brad Milks

Ministries

Sunday School | Sunday 9:00am
Worship Service | Sunday 10:00am
Pastor's Study | Wednesday 10:00am
Church Prayer | Wednesday 6:30pm
Choir Practice | Wednesday 7:00pm
Puritan Fellowship | Thursday 7:00am
Romans Bible Study | Saturday 7:15am

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Bradley Milks
Pastor's Email: brad@fpcden.org
Treasurer's Email: beth@fpcden.org

Events

See Christmas Bulletin

Contact Information

582 Southwood Drive, Eden, NC
Office: 336-623-3962
Website: www.fpcden.org
www.facebook.com/FPCEden

Stewardship (10/30/25)

Operational Budget
YTD Received: \$247,405
YTD Expenses: \$244,068
Budget YTD: \$3,337

Session & Committee Meetings

Session – 2/3 at 7:00pm
Missions – 12/9 at 5:00pm
Congregational Care – 12/11 at 1:30pm

Building Fund

Building Need: \$151,310
Building Received: \$144,914
Building YTD: -\$6,396

Pennies for Hunger Offering (Missions/Outreach)

Sunday, January 4, 2025

NEW TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

We are thankful you have gathered with us this morning as we worship the living triune God! We pray you encounter the Lord's presence and glory through singing, the fellowship of God's people, and the preaching of His Word.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SESSION CALLS A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON DECEMBER 14, 2025, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE. The purpose of the meeting is threefold: 1) Elect individuals for the Nominating Committee, 2) Present the 2026 budget, and 3) Present the Pastor's terms of call to be voted upon.

New Sunday School Class! We will begin a new Sunday School class on Sunday, January 11, 2026. The class will study Joel Beeke's latest book, *Essentials of Reformed Systematic Theology*. Theology is not meant to be an academic subject. This book intentionally ministers to the mind, heart, and hands. Do you want to learn more about our great God and what Scripture teaches? Join us at 9:00am in the Adult Discipleship Room. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Brad before the class begins.

New Ladies Bible Study. Ladies, join us for Women's Bible Study on Thursdays at 6:45PM starting January 15th at FPC! We are beginning a brand new study through the book of Acts using the study "Saved: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Acts," by Nancy Guthrie. Study books are \$8. For more information, contact Kristin Milks at milksfam10@gmail.com.

Thank you! Thank you so much for the wonderful cards everyone sent me for my work anniversary! It has truly been an honor to work for FPC for 27 years. Merry Christmas,
Beth

Principal Giving Update. Session would like to thank all those who gave above and beyond for the Principal Loan offering last month. A total of \$57,796 was given, which will be used to pay down the principal on the smaller loan. We are thankful for how the Lord continues to care for our daily needs in all areas of our church.

Church Office Closed. The Church office will be closed from December 24, 2025, to January 1, 2026.

To parents with children: We are glad you, your family, and your children are here this morning. Children are a blessing from the Lord. Sometimes they wiggle and squirm throughout the service. Children are not a distraction to the church. They are a gift from the Lord.

To children: If you want to doodle all over this bulletin – go for it! We are glad you are with us.