

## To Our Visitors, Welcome!

To all who are 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 idle and look for service; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whosoever will come – this church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of Jesus her Lord.

We are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning, and we invite you to join us for fellowship, coffee, and cookies after the service in the parlor.

Children are welcomed and encouraged to remain in the worship service, however a nursery is available for infants and pre-school-aged children. Ask anyone with a nametag for directions. Denim activity bags are available in the Narthex for children to use during the service.

## Minute for Mission

Evangelism has three exciting upcoming outreach opportunities for Advent. The next month will be a special time of fun and fellowship with our church family as we work together to reach out to our community!

All of the gatherings listed here will help to lead the community to our 7:30 PM Christmas Eve service. 1000 full color invitations have been designed and printed and will be distributed throughout the month by church members (and that could be YOU!) at these upcoming volunteer options! Clip boards are in the parlor for sign-up.

### November 28<sup>th</sup>:

- \* Right after the HANGING OF THE GREENS on November 28<sup>th</sup>, we'll meet in the parlor to attach candy canes to those 1000 invites. Decorating starts at 9 AM and attaching candy canes to the invites follows around noon, with donuts in between.
- \* The CHRISTMAS PARADE begins downtown at 6 PM. We will be distributing invitations. We'll meet at the church at 5:30 to get organized.

### December 5<sup>th</sup>:

- \* Meet Zach at FPC at 4:30 to practice singing Christmas Carols before dividing into groups and CAROLING in the FPC neighborhood...and distributing invites!
- \* After caroling, warm up in the church fellowship hall over chili. It's a CHILI COOKOFF! Sign up for the competition in the parlor as well. We already have at least four pots of chili, so there will be lots for ALL to sample!

### December 19<sup>th</sup>:

- \* PARENTS' NIGHT OUT: Those 1000 invites will also contain an invitation to parents in the community to drop off their kids at FPC 5-7:30 so they can have a date night or go shopping. Kiddos will sit down right away to pizza in the Fellowship Hall while watching *Polar Express*, and afterwards they will decorate cookies to take home. Participation is limited to the first 100 children who register. We will need volunteers to help with crowd control, pizza serving, cookie decorating...and clean up!!

## Prayer Concerns

- † Our Prayer and Vision teams
- † For our country and all her officers, our state and all her officers, and our local community and all her officers.
- † For all military men and women and their families, including Brian Barksdale, and especially for those serving in dangerous positions
- † For the EPC Presbytery of the West, specifically for *Cherry Hills Community Church in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, and its pastors, Rev. Shane Farmer, Rev. Dr. Ramona Spilman, Rev. Brett Garretson, Rev. Nathan Hoag, and Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. James Dixon*; our Elders and Deacons; Kenya's Chogoria South Presbytery, the four churches of the Kamwangu Nendini, and Pastor Mackylas; Ali Arhab and Channel North Africa's outreach to new Christians and to Muslims; our EPC missionaries and their families  
*\*Each week we will focus our prayers on one specific church in the EPC Presbytery of the West.*
- † For Christians suffering persecution in Libya, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan; for Christians at risk in Nigeria, Kenya, Algeria, Jordan, Egypt and elsewhere

## Upcoming Events for the week of November 22-29

### TODAY

9:15 Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. Worship/Fellowship

### Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>

8:45 A.M. Worship Comm.  
5:30 P.M. Facilities

### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>

6:15 P.M. Companions in Christ

### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>

7 P.M. Choir

### Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup>



### Next Sunday Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
9:15 Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. Worship/Fellowship

**OT Text:** Malachi 3:1-4  
**NT Text:** Luke 1:5-25  
**Sermon:** "Divine Preparation"

# First Presbyterian Church (EPC)

November 22, 2015



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# Order for the Worship of God

November 22, 2015

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

## \*Invocation

### Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace and peace to you.

**People: And also to you.**

## \*Opening Hymn *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* #715

## \*Call to Worship From Psalm 4

**Leader: Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!**

People: O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? says the LORD.

**Leader: Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. *Selah* Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.**

People: In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

## \*Hymn *I Need Thee, Precious Jesus* #497

## Psalter Psalm 103

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 502, [Red] p. 637  
Reading alternate verses

## Prayer of Confession (in unison) *from Psalm 38*

O LORD, rebuke us not in your anger nor discipline us in your wrath. There is no soundness in our flesh because of your indignation; there's no health in our bones because of our sin. Our wounds fester and are loathsome because of our sinful folly. All our longings lie open before you, O Lord; our sighing is not hidden from you. Our hearts pound our strength fails us; even the light has gone from our eyes. O LORD, do not forsake us; be not far from us, O God. Come quickly to help us, by and through the mercy of Jesus Christ.

~ Silent confession ~ Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon (responsively)

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**All: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Thanks be to God!**

## \*Gloria Patri

#735

## Anthem *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

Arr. Dale Wood

## Prayer for Illumination

## Old Testament Text

Psalm 119:1-12

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 512, [Red] p. 650

## New Testament Text

Luke 1:1-4

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 855, [Red] p. 1087

## Sermon *That We Might Know*

Pastor Mark Tippin

## \*Hymn *I Love to Tell the Story* #478

## Reception of New Members

## Prayers of the People

Thanksgiving

Intercession

For the Church

For the Ministry

For the Nation

For all People

The Lord's Prayer

## Tithes and Offerings

### Offertory

## \*Doxology

#731

## \*Confession of Faith *Westminster Confession 7.1*

The distance between God and his creation is so great that, although reasoning creatures owe him obedience as their creator, they nonetheless could never realize any blessedness or reward from him without his willingly condescending to them. And so it pleased God to provide for man by means of covenants.

## \*Hymn *The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear* #368

## \*Benediction

## \*Postlude

\*Please stand if you are able

## Participants in Today's Service

Pastor	Mark Tippin
Organist	Luke Sorenson
Liturgist	Henry Groenenberg
Head Usher	Nita Christensen
Greeter	Mike Fankhauser
Nursery	Jane Drake, Lexie Tippin

## Information

- † Please call the church office (237-9509) ...  
If you or a member of your family would like a visit while recuperating in the hospital or at home.
- If you have a prayer concern for the Prayer Band.  
If you have a prayer concern for the bulletin.
- † The Session would like for each member to have a copy of the EPC Leadership Training Guide. You can pick up a free copy from the literature rack by the office door.
- † Session requests that each member pay an EPC Annual Asking Amount of \$48 for 2015 (above and beyond your pledge)

## Our Mission Statement

Out of humble gratitude for the free and undeserved gift of grace we have received through Christ, the mission of First Presbyterian Church (EPC) is:

To proclaim, with boldness, God's glory, truth, and love revealed to us in his Word through the Holy Spirit. We seek to worship Him with our entire lives, being continually reformed to Scripture, our only guide in faith and practice.



## New Members

Please help us offer a hearty welcome the newest members of Casper First! Joining our membership today are Jacque Moss, Ted Michenzi, and Jenny Tippin.