

ADVENT 2016



anticipate...

**"But as for me, I watch in hope for the LORD,
I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me."
Micah 7:7**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 27, 2016

9:30 a.m.

Gathering Time

Passing of the Peace

Greeting

Please complete the connect card and place in the offering plate.

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn 140

Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

Lighting of the Advent Peace Candle

Karl, Sue, Zachary and Jonathan Peterson

Hymn of Response 141 vs 2

Come, Lord Jesus

Scripture Reading

Psalm 122, Jorge Martinez

Matthew 24:36-44, Sam David

*Songs

You are Holy (Prince of Peace)

Did You Feel The Mountains Tremble

Giving and Living Out of Our Abundance

Choral Offertory

Call to Advent (J. Jerome Williams)

Children in grades Pre-K through 2nd grade are invited to continue worshipping in Children's Church.

Please meet the teachers in the back of the Sanctuary after the offertory.

Message

anticipate.....PEACE

Pastor Anne Vining

Prayer of the People

*Closing Hymn

I Heard the Bells On Christmas Day

*Sending Words

Micah 7:7

Postlude

Once He Came With Blessing (arr. Micheal Burkhardt)

Prayer Time for health and wholeness is offered in the Prayer Chapel following Worship.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Visit our Advent Resource Table in Upper Fellowship Hall, where you will find "Anticipate", FCC's Advent Guidebook/Calendar, "Rediscovering Advent", a devotional book from Christianity today (suggested donation: \$1), along with other resources for children, youth and adults.

Stay connected: Stop by the Welcome Center to order a CD of any worship service. Weekly worship bulletins and podcasts can be found on the church website under the Worship and Arts tab.

Christmas Memorial forms and envelopes are available today at the Welcome Center. The poinsettias that brighten the sanctuary for Christmas are purchased with the donations given in memory of loved ones, who will be listed in the bulletin on Christmas Eve. Include the names of your loved ones on the form, along with cash or a check made out to First Covenant Church. Place the envelope in the offering plate or Rachel Hank's mailbox in the church office. **The deadline is Sunday, December 18.**

GENEROUS LIVING AND GIVING

Adopt a Cop - it is time to send our Adopt-A-Cop Christmas cards. Please have your greeting to your officer at church by Sunday, December 4th, placing it in the Adopt A Cop mailbox in the church office. We do have 2 officers who would like a person/family to pray for them. If you would like to send a Christmas card and pray for a St. Paul police officer, please contact Jan Mollet (Adopt a Cop Coordinator): 651-329-1221, rjmollet@gmail.com.

Generous Living & Giving options:

If you would like to give, there are three options to make a financial gift to FCC:

- **Envelope giving:** weekly or monthly envelopes will be available soon. Beginning December 4, please verify our list that will be in Upper Fellowship Hall if you have been receiving envelopes in the past or would like to use them for 2017.
- **Online giving via checking or savings account or credit card:** go to FCC's website and click on GIVE. Follow the directions to set up a secure account.
- **Automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account:** hardcopy forms are available –a voided check or deposit slip is needed. For more information, please contact Rachel Hanks, Financial Secretary, 651-234-9844, rachelhanks11@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

***Please see the "Advent 2016 Anticipate" booklet (found on the Advent Resource Table), for information on most events in December.**

Oliver Rehearsals begin! Wednesday, November 30, 6:15-7:30pm

Lower Fellowship Hall

Children grades 1-6 are starting musical rehearsals this week. Rehearsals will take place on Wednesday nights, 6:15-7:30pm, and also on Sundays, 11:00am-12:00pm (starting December 4). Please make sure to fill out a release form at check in. If you have questions, please see Richard Voth, richard@first-covenant.org. or Donovan DeGaetano, donovan@first-covenant.org.

Men's Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, December 3, 8:00-9:30am

Upper Fellowship Hall

Join other men of all ages for our monthly prayer breakfast. All are welcome!

Seniors Only Sunday School, December 4, 11:00am-12:00pm, *Graffiti Room*

12th graders! You are invited to join our college prep team for a monthly check in. Bring any deadlines you know of as we will create a calendar for the coming year. Seniors should also bring any essays or other materials that they are working on if they need input. See you there! Questions? Ask Kate Makosky.

Ushers / Greeters / Safety Team Meeting, Sunday, December 4, 12:00-12:20pm

Lower Fellowship Hall, (stage area)

We will be having a meeting to update procedures in all 3 of these volunteer areas including our Christmas Eve Service procedures. Questions? Please contact Richard Voth at richard@first-covenant.org or 651-774-0344 x 217.

Children's Special Christmas Music Performance, Sunday, December 18, 9:30am

Our little ones will be providing special music for the December 18th Worship Service, singing a Christmas carol, delighting us with hand bells, and performing a Christmas poem. Sandy Whitby will be rehearsing with them on Sundays during the Sunday School hour, (11:00am-12:00pm, starting today), and on Wednesdays during Little Big G's, (6:30-7:30pm, starting November 30). There will be a final dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 17th, from 10:00-11:00am.

Please contact Sandy Whitby with any questions: sandywhitby3@gmail.com.

Black Nativity: A Tradition of Love and Light, Wednesday, December 21, 7:30pm

Penumbra Theater, 270 N. Kent Street, St. Paul, MN 55102

First Covenant Church is joining our partner, Family Values for Life, as a limited number of specially priced tickets are available to us for only \$5. Purchase tickets at the table in the Upper Fellowship Hall area following Worship, using cash or a check (made out to Family Values for Life). This event is sponsored by FCC's M68 Team and FVFL. There is free, on-site and street parking. Ticket purchase deadline is December 4. For more information, contact Susan Carlson, 651-247-8082.