Those We Are Praying For –December 22nd, 2024

Health and Encouragement

Family of Martha Dean Jansen	

*First time on the prayer list. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month and then be removed unless a request is received to continue on the prayer list. Please help us maintain an-up-to-date prayer list. Notify the church of individuals in the hospital, those who need to be added and when a name can be removed from the list.

Remember Members in Nursing Homes or Retirement

<u>ocnters</u>							
Joan Smith	Martha Garrett	Hazel Brown	Marian Lewis				
Ruth Ryter	Norma Hoag	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					

Please remember those unable to attend, and the following in our Presbytery:

First, Paragould - Church Custodians

Elders

2024 Barbara Allen, Larry Goodsell, Gregg Robbins, Bruce Weidemann

2025 Ron Williams, Liz Larkin, Sheree Miller

2026 Cindy Ford, Pete Leer, Tom Savage, Doug Treptow *Clerk of Session: Jane Webb*

Deacons

2024 Ray Sanford, Laura Thompson, Liz Letsch

2025 Diane Stern Phillips, Gwen Blue, Jo Lynn Gergeni,

Deborah Robbins, Pat Walker

Thank you for worshiping with us.

FIND YOUR WAY TO THE HEART OF JESUS!

Believing God, Bible Study by Beth Moore, starting on Monday, January 6th at 10:00 a.m. in the church library.

Calendar for Dec 22nd – Dec 29th, 2024

Sunday	22nd	9:00am	Sunday School	Library
		9:45- 10:30am	Coffee w/Friends	Narthex
		10:30am	Worship	Sanctuary
Monday	23rd			
Tuesday	24th	Office	Closed	
		4:30pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
Wednesday	25th	Merry	Christmas	
Thursday	26th			
Friday	27th			
Saturday	28th	8:30am	Property Meeting	Library
Sunday	29th	9:00am	Sunday School	Library

Thank you to those who are aiding us in worship today:

Worship Leader: Anne Leer Welcome: Bruce and Bill Weidemann

CHURCH STAFF MEMBERS

Pastor: Rev. John Arnold Accompanist: Ryan Ransdell Choir Director: Bill Hesse

Financial Secretary: Wayne Williams Office Manager: Shirley Parham

Custodian: Liz Letsch

FPELC Director: Amanda Kenney



December 22nd, 2024 First Presbyterian Church of Rogers

'Making disciples for Christ through our worship, study, service and fellowship'
1901 South 26th Street, Rogers, AR 72758



Office phone: 479-636-5542 email: secretary@fpcrogers.com web site: www.fpcrogers.com https://www.facebook.com/FPCRogers

Welcome to FPC of Rogers December 22nd, 2024

Bold text is to be read in unison

*Please stand, as you are able. Large Print Bibles are available.

Ask an usher.

Please sign attendance book in the pew

Attendance for 12/15/24 - 57

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Present at the Manger with the Angel

Sally Goodsell

*OPENING SONG OF PRAISE #93 Lift up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love and gentleness, forgive us for neglecting or hoarding the present of love given at the manger. We neglect this gift when our hearts are hard toward our neighbors. When we hold on to old hurts, complain about others, or quip off with hurtful words, we not only fail to love, we spread hatred. In your mercy forgive us and soften our hearts so that we are ambassadors of your grace. Help is to make this world a more loving place. In Jesus name we ask.

A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news: The Lord is faithful, and he

will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

All: We believe and so we proclaim: In Jesus Christ,

we are forgiven.

*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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit. As the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, may we hear with joy what you say to us today. Remind us of your constant presence and help us to trust in your unfailing promise. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 98:1-4 Pg. #540 Red Bible OT Pg. #678 Blue Large Print Bible

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM Gymnopedie for Christmas Erik Satie, Arr. Ruth

Schram

Sarah Johnson, Flute Soloist

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-14

Pg. #933 Red Bible

Pg.#71 Blue Large Print Bible

SERMON Present at the Manger – Peace John Arnold

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:

God has blessed us with His protection and provision. As we prepare to give our tithes and offerings, let us do so with grateful hearts, trusting in His continued care. If you are worshipping with us online you may join us in today's offering using the link in the comments.



Thank you for worshiping with us. You can join in and support the ministry of our church through a tax-deductible gift online. Giving is convenient, safe and simple. Just scan the QR code or go to https://fpcrogers.com/giving to use our online giving portal.

*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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Most Holy God, we dedicate these offerings to you. Use them for your glory and the work of your kingdom. May they be a sign of our trust in your provision and our commitment to serve others in your name. Bless these gifts and the givers, and guide us in using them to reflect your love and protection in the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only 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 rose 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.

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. 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

SONG OF DEDICATION #119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*SENDING SONG

On Eagle's Wings

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of his hand.

*POSTLUDE

Anthem NoteBill Hesse, Choir Director

"Gymnopédie for Christmas"

The *Gymnopédies*, or *Trois Gymnopédies* ("Three Nude Dances"), are three <u>piano</u> compositions written by French composer and pianist <u>Erik Satie</u>. He completed the whole set by 2 April 1898, but they were at first published individually: the first and the third in 1888, the second in 1895. These short, atmospheric pieces are written in 3/4 time, with each sharing a common theme and structure.

By the end of 1896, Satie's popularity was waning and financial situation deteriorating. <u>Claude Debussy</u>, a friend of Satie's whose popularity was on the rise, helped draw public attention to Satie's work. In February 1897, Debussy orchestrated the third and first *Gymnopédies*.

During the latter half of the 20th Century, the *Gymnopédies* have become almost ubiquitous as a precursor to modern ambient music. The slightly melancholic feelings they evoke have made them, particularly *Gymnopédie No. 1* a go-to for a number of popular musicians, from Blood, Sweat & Tears to Cleo Laine to Janet Jackson. *Gymnopédie No. 1* has also been featured in a number of film and television soundtracks.

Ruth Elaine Schram has composed her own unique setting of *Gymnopédie No. 1*. In our anthem today. By adding her own poetry to the melody, she has created a Christmas lullaby for the Baby Jesus. In addition to the flute solo, the harmonic structure builds in an interesting way. The melody is sung twice, beginning simply and adding more harmony with the new verse. It ends with a coda very much like Satie's original composition.

Coming Events

CHRISTMAS EVE LESSONS & CAROLS WORSHIP

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 4:30 PM. Please celebrate with us God's greatest gift in this lovely candlelight service filled with special music. You are cordially invited to come early and enjoy refreshments in honor of the baptism of Emily Marie Richardson.

GRIEFSHARE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Our regularly scheduled support group at Pinnacle Springs Retirement Community meeting on Thursdays, at 3 pm, will not meet December 26th. We will resume sessions on Thursday, January 2nd.

LIVING DELIBERATELY

Living Deliberately Sunday school class – What if 2025 could be the year you make a difference with one of your gifts? What if this could be your biggest year of growth as a disciple? What if you could take your relationship with God to a new level? These are all possible, but no one drifts their way to success. Join us in Sunday school for a five-week class starting December 29th, where you will identify an area of growth as a disciple. Also, you will learn how to move into that in the new year for your best year ever.

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