

# BEHIND THE CURTAIN

The Book of Revelation



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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December 22, AD 2024  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
9 am



## GATHERING TO PRAISE

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*Assisting with Worship: Jaime Carnaggio*

### **\*Welcome and Advent Call to Worship**

*From Isaiah 65*

“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind.

**I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.**

No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days.

**They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD,**

The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, they shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain,” says the LORD.

**Even so, come Lord Jesus! Come to us in worship today!**

### **\*Songs of Praise**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

“Light of the World”

### **\*Blessing God**

### **\*Song of Praise**

“Revelation Song”

## **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

The Candle of Love will be lit by the Hornsby family: Sarah, Easton and Iva James.

## **Infant Baptism**

Thomas Michael Croskrey  
Parents are Maegan and Daniel Croskrey  
Sponsoring Elder is Lynn Courtney

## **\*Affirmation of Faith**

*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
And born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The holy catholic Church,  
The communion of saints,  
The forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **\*Greeting and Announcements**

*Children ages three through kindergarten are invited to Children's Church.*



## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

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### **Time with God's Word**

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

*Revelation 22:1-5*

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

*Revelation 22:17*

The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy,  
**And blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it  
for the time is near.**

### **Sermon**

Gerrit Dawson

"Come Lord Jesus!"



## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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### **Time of Reflection**

### **\*Song of Response**

“Come, Jesus Come”

*Please bring your offerings and prayer requests forward.*



## INTERCESSION

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### **Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**



## BENEDICTION

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### **\*Song of Response**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

### **\*Response**

**Blessed be the LORD I AM, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, amen!**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Christmas Offering for City Ministry.** Our annual Christmas offering (December 15, 22, 24 & 29) goes directly to support The Christian Outreach Center and the daily operations of Gardere Community Christian School. Offering envelopes are in the pew racks or you may use the online donation form.

**Christmas Eve Worship.** Three festive Christmas Eve services of carols, candlelight and communion: 11 am, 4 and 6 pm. Childcare will be available at all services. There will be no worship December 25.

**Additional Parking on Christmas Eve.** Both the Old Governor's Mansion and 7th Street parking lots will be available for free to First Presbyterian churchgoers on Christmas Eve.

**December 29 Worship.** Join us for our one 10.30 am service on December 29, 2024.

**Kids Hope USA Seeking Volunteers for Special Epiphany Lesson.** Kids Hope USA is hosting an after-Christmas Epiphany event at Gardere Community Christian School on Thursday, January 9. Ten volunteers are needed to reflect God's love to each Gardere classroom. Contact Annette ([annette@fpcbr.org](mailto:annette@fpcbr.org)) for more information.

**All They Want for Christmas!** We still have seven McKinley teachers without an encourager! Consider adopting a teacher and blessing them throughout the year. Contact Laura Shaw to sign up (225.387.0617 or [laura@fpcbr.org](mailto:laura@fpcbr.org)).

**More Baptisms Today!** Congratulations to the Pourciau family. Ellie Klein Pourciau will be baptized at the 11 am service this morning.

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*Prayer Time: Join us at 10.10 am each Sunday for additional prayer in the Prayer Room (just to the left of the elevator in the Sanctuary building). One or more pastors/elders, along with others willing to intercede on your behalf, will welcome you.*

*Scripture for Next Week: 2 Samuel 24:1-4, 10-25  
Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.  
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DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

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