

**THE CELEBRATION OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH**  
**Fort King Presbyterian Church**  
*December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025*  
**The Third Sunday of Advent**



**Fort King Presbyterian Church Mission Statement**

The mission of Fort King Presbyterian Church is to build a loving community of people living and growing in faith as we work for justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God in the world. Fort King Presbyterian Church welcomes all people of any age, gender, color, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, or disability into the full life and membership of this congregation.

**We Gather to Worship God**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

*Twasi in the Moon of Wintertime*

16th Century French Carol

## **We Prepare to Hear the Word**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Cathy Beebe and Jane Beebe

*Today we re-light the Candles of Hope and Peace,  
and we light the Candle of Joy*

\*HYMN OF PRAISE, #134

*Joy to the World*  
*(verses 1-3)*

ANTIOCH

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**As the people of Christ, we know that we have more reason for joy and hope than anyone else! But sometimes, Lord, we allow the cares of this world to steal our joy. And it happens every time we compare ourselves to others, give in to guilt, worry about the future, harbor our hurts, chew on our anger, argue over differences, or take ourselves far too seriously!**

**O Lord have mercy! Forgive our foolish pride, and revive our spirits. Help us to laugh again! Teach us to trust You again. And enable us to love again, even as we are loved; in Jesus' name. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*PASSING THE PEACE

\*RESPONSE, #134, v. 4

*Joy to the World*

ANTIOCH

*He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders, of his love.*

## **We Hear the Word of God**

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

The Joy of the Redeemed

CHANCEL ANTHEM

*Will You Make Room?*

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:46-55

Mary's Magnificat

SERMON

Draw Near to Joy

Rev. Bob Scott

## **We Respond to the Word with Gratitude**

### **\*ADVENT AFFIRMATION**

Daniel S. Berrigan, S.J.

It is not true that creation and the human family  
are doomed to destruction and loss—

**This is true:**

**For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son,  
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.**

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination,  
hunger and poverty, death and destruction—

**This is true:**

**Jesus said, I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.**

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word,  
and that war and destruction should rule forever—

**This is true:**

**Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

**\*HYMN OF FAITH, #100**     *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*  
(verses 1-2)

Trad. Irish Melody

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES**

**OFFERTORY**

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Polish Carol

**\*RESPONSE, #145**

*What Child Is This*

GREENSLEEVES

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## **We Are Sent to Share Christ's Love**

**\*CAROL, #132**

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

IN DULCI JUBLIO

**\*INVITATION AND BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

### **Assisting with Today's Service:**

Fort King Ministers: *All our members and friends*

Worship Leaders: *Pastor Bob, Cathy Beebe*

Executive Assistant: *Mary Wald*

Music Director: *Nancy Copeland, Substituting*

*Annette George, Substituting with Choir*

Flowers: *Bonnie & John Adams*

Ushers: December: *Daniel Banks & Friends*

Zoom Host: *Sally Layendecker, A/V Operator: Charlanne & Hal Brown*

Nursery: *Tammy Kessler and Marlene Wittenwyler*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS - for week of December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

12/15 Mon: 6:30-8:00 Scouts (FH/CE)

12/16 Tue: 3:30 TOPS (FH)

12/17 Wed: 1:00 Midweek Bible Study (SR), 6:30 Session (SR)

12/18 Thu: 2:00 Finance (SR), 3:00 Tai Chi (FH), 4:00 Choir Practice

12/21 Sun: 9:00 Crossroads Adult Class

10:30 Worship in person and on Zoom

### **Blue Christmas: A Service of Healing and Hope**

After our regular service, we invite you to remain with us for a Blue Christmas Service (12:00 Noon). This quiet, gentle time of worship offers space for those carrying grief, loneliness, or heavy hearts during the holiday season. Together, we will seek God's comfort, share hope, and remember that Christ's light shines even in the shadows.

### **You are invited to a BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS TODAY!**

The Annual YAK Christmas Program is tonight at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin the celebration with snacks, appetizers, or desserts provided by **you**. Beverages will be provided. Our gifts for Jesus can be gift basket items for our shut-ins. A full list is available at church. Another gift could be a monetary one placed by the YAK Christmas Tree for the Children's Alliance of Ocala. This organization has a toy drive for children at risk. Join us for singing, cake, and fellowship for Jesus' Birthday!

### **ADVENT**

Download this year's Advent Devotional, "Draw Near." This daily devotional from Presbyterian Outlook magazine, offers a daily invitation for you to "draw near" – to Scripture, to stillness, and to the heart of God. A few copies are available for a donation.

13 NE 36th Avenue • Ocala, FL 34470 • Office: 352-694-4121

Email: [FKPC@ftkingchurch.org](mailto:FKPC@ftkingchurch.org)

<https://ftkingchurch.org>