THE CELEBRATION OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH

Fort King Presbyterian Church

November 29th, 2026

First 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

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY Pledge Reminder

& Interfaith Emergency Services Food Drive — Steve Layendecker

Fellowship – Carols & Cookies and Dinners 4 Eight — Bernice Henry

PRELUDE *Nobody Fills My Heart Like Jesus*

We Prepare to Hear the Word

CALL TO WORSHIP (remain seated)

Leader: In the dark of the year, we light a candle.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and make your home among us.

Leader: In a world with too little room, we open the door.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and make your home among us.

Leader: This Advent we reflect on hospitality. Advent is a season of waiting and watching: a door kept ready, a light left on, a household that expects a guest. Advent begins not with certainty but with attention, and with people who learn to listen for the knock. Over four weeks we will light the candles and ask what it means to open the door.

The first purple candle is lit.

Leader: We light this candle for the open door.

People: May we be watchful for the stranger, and generous before we are certain.

PRAYER

*HYMN, #93 *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

For the times we are afraid of the stranger, for the times we refuse the stranger, because we think our resources are just too meager, Lord, forgive us.

For the times we stereotype the stranger as enemy, as dangerous, as inferior somehow, Lord, forgive us.

For the times we are too busy trying to impress our guests— the times we think we are being hospitable, but instead serve only our own needs— Lord, forgive us.

For the times we miss the gift of the stranger, for the times we close our door in fear, for the times we miss your face in the other, Lord, have mercy. Forgive us.

Silence is kept

~ from the Columbia Presbyterian Church, Decatur, Georgia.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news:
The God who welcomed us when we were strangers does not turn us away.
When we were far off, Christ came near and opened the door.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

*RESPONSE, #92 *While We Are Waiting, Come* v1 repeat 1x

We Hear the Word of God

FIRST READING:	Hebrews 13:1-5	
ANTHEM	*Will We Know Him?*	Chancel Choir
SECOND READING:	Mark 13:32-37	
SERMON	I'll Leave The Light On For You	Rev. Dr. Holly Dillon

We Respond to the Word with Gratitude

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: Where do we see God's welcome?

All: We believe in God, whose love created room for all people and whose grace welcomes us home.

One: How do we know this welcome?

All: In Jesus Christ, who welcomed strangers, ate with outcasts, and made room for those pushed aside. Through his life, death, and resurrection, he opened the way to new life and called us to love our neighbors as ourselves.

One: How does the Spirit lead us?

All: The Holy Spirit gathers us into one body, gives us courage to cross boundaries, and teaches us to make room at our tables, in our church, and in our lives. With God's help, we will practice welcome, seek justice, and share the hope of Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY	*Dominique*	Soeur Sourire

*RESPONSE, #606 *Doxology* OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We Are Sent to Share Christ's Love

*PARTING HYMN, #749 v1 *Come! Live in the Light!*

Come, live in the light
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord
We are called to be light for the kingdom
To live in the freedom of the city of God

We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Leader: Go from this light into a world awakened to those who need a place at the table. Make room for hope where fear has taken root and seek to see Christ in every neighbor you meet.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

[indicates all should rise in body, or in spirit]*

Assisting with Today's Service:

Fort King Ministers: *All our members and friends*
Worship Leaders: *Pastor Holly Dillon, Judith Bullen*
Advent Wreath: *Chris Berryhill and Stephen Barrett*
Executive Assistant: *Mary Wald*
Music Director: *John Leschak*
Flowers: *Cathy Beebe - In Honor of my church and the PNC*
Ushers: *Art 4 All*
Zoom: *Hal Brown, WELCOME BACK!*, A/V Operator: *Sally Layendecker*
Nursery: *Tammy Keeslar and Marlene Wittenwyler*
Cover Art: *John Stewart, www.stushieart.com*

ANNOUNCEMENTS - for week of November 30th, 2026 – December 6th, 2026

11/30	Mon:	6:30	Scouts (FH/CE)
12/01	Tue:	3:30	TOPS (FH), 3:30 Mission (Sr/Zm), 6:30 PNC Meeting (SR)
12/02	Wed :	3:30	PW Council
12/03	Thur:	7am	BNI (FH), 10:00 Sit & Stitch (HH), 3:00 Tai Chi (FH/Zm)
		4:00	Choir Practice, 6:00 Scouting District Meeting (FH),
		7pm	Adult Discipleship (Zm)
12/06	Sun:	9:00	Crossroads (SR/Zm)
		10:30	Sunday Worship in person and on Zoom
		5:00	Christmas Caroling & Cookie Exchange (FH)