

# FIRST PRESS

THE NEWSLETTER  
OF  
First Presbyterian Church

JANUARY 9, 2023



From the young to the  
young at heart all  
enjoyed our  
Epiphany Workshop,  
Sunday, January 8.



First Presbyterian Church  
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email: [office@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:office@oldfirstchurch.org)  
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[www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch](https://www.facebook.com/oldfirstchurch)

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:15 a.m.

Adult Church School Meet and  
Greet on Zoom & In Person in the  
Westminster Room Program starts  
at 9:30 a.m.

9:15 a.m.

Nursery open for  
infants – two-year-olds.

9:30 a.m.

Younger Children's Class  
Room 306

Older Children's Class  
Room 301

11:00 a.m.

Worship in the Sanctuary.  
Childcare is available for children  
younger than kindergarten.



In Person and  
Live-Stream Worship

Visit [www.oldfirstchurch.org](http://www.oldfirstchurch.org) to  
download Sunday's bulletin and  
view the service. Services are  
recorded and available for later  
viewing on YouTube  
@FPCTallahassee.



## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Monday-Friday



## **A Message from Our Pastor** **Rev. Anne H.K. Apple**



Our youngest daughter, Abigail, will graduate from Loyola University in Chicago in May. She was in the graduating high school class of 2020 - that class who navigated the onset and disruption of the pandemic as they finished high school. The pandemic made for awkward, messy, and unconventional endings. One thing we learned in the pandemic is that endings are hard work and simple rituals helped us to navigate those complicated places.

As Abigail makes her way towards being a Political Science and Studio Art graduate, another ending for her, she has asked me to join in a daily ritual in the Spring Semester of 2023. She asked that she provide a verbal prompt, that we both sketch it, and then share our drawings. So, put simply, draw a sketch daily from a given word. Eight days in, the words she has provided are: fog, smell, something fish could be in and a fish, buff, chicken, resistance, dumpster fire, and dance.

Y'all. This is not easy. Last year, we had a weekly ritual of making a prayer collage that incorporated the news of the day and a scripture text. Glue sticks, torn pieces of newspaper, and scripture are more in my comfort zone. And, nevertheless, I am trying and being stretched one day, one word, one drawing at a time.

Following worship yesterday, we passed out Epiphany Star Words, chalk and a blessing card, and chocolate. The chocolate as a hopeful reminder - that God provides as God promises. Just as God provided through Moses and Joshua, the people were led into the land of milk and honey. The Chalk and blessing to mark the doorway of our homes with a blessing, "May Christ Bless this House." After church I had a text from a church leader who said, "Figured I'd ask forgiveness instead of permission in chalking the education building door." I am fully in support of a visual reminder that asks "Christ to Bless this House." The asking for forgiveness instead of permission is fodder for another reflection, another day.

I have two pastor friends who drew Epiphany Star Words for me - one drew, "prophecy," the other, "restoration." The invitation with these star words is to imagine: what might God be asking me to receive, to experience, and to share? Not to be flippant, but, "The Lord only knows." Prophecy and restoration. A prediction and the act of bringing back. I'm beginning to explore through this ritual of two star words and intentional reflection.

One of my favorite prophets in scripture is Anna. Her name means “grace.” And, she is forever in the church, day and night, worshiping, fasting, and praying. As Simeon blesses Jesus he says hard words to Mother Mary. He says “a sword will pierce your soul” because of this child, Jesus. At that moment, Anna turns and praises God. She models something important to those people who were gathered and longing for restoration - a hopeful word of praise.

I invited prayer in Advent through a specific hymn refrain, “Christ be our Light.” For this Epiphany season, which lasts until Transfiguration Sunday, February 19th, I would invite you to intentional three part prayer around a star word. What is God asking me to receive? What is God asking me to experience? What is God asking me to share? If you did not get a star word, click on this link, <http://wordoftheyear.me/index.php> to receive a star word. And, be curious! Ask your church friends what they are learning through a ritual with a star word and three part prayer!

God’s peace and presence to you,  
Anne



If you need reserved parking,  
please call Lori at 222-4504, or  
email [office@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:office@oldfirstchurch.org).



## **CALLING FOR COUNTING HELP**



Every Sunday our financial offerings get counted, recorded and deposited in the bank. We have a dedicated group of members who perform this service, some of whom have been on counting teams for more than thirty years. But time and illnesses have taken their toll and we are in need of some new volunteers. We have four teams of two or three that rotate serving for a month each quarter. On most days the task can be accomplished in approximately 30 minutes or less. Please consider volunteering to serve on a team or as a backup. If you have questions call Jim Davis at the church or Norma Meier at 850-443-9925.

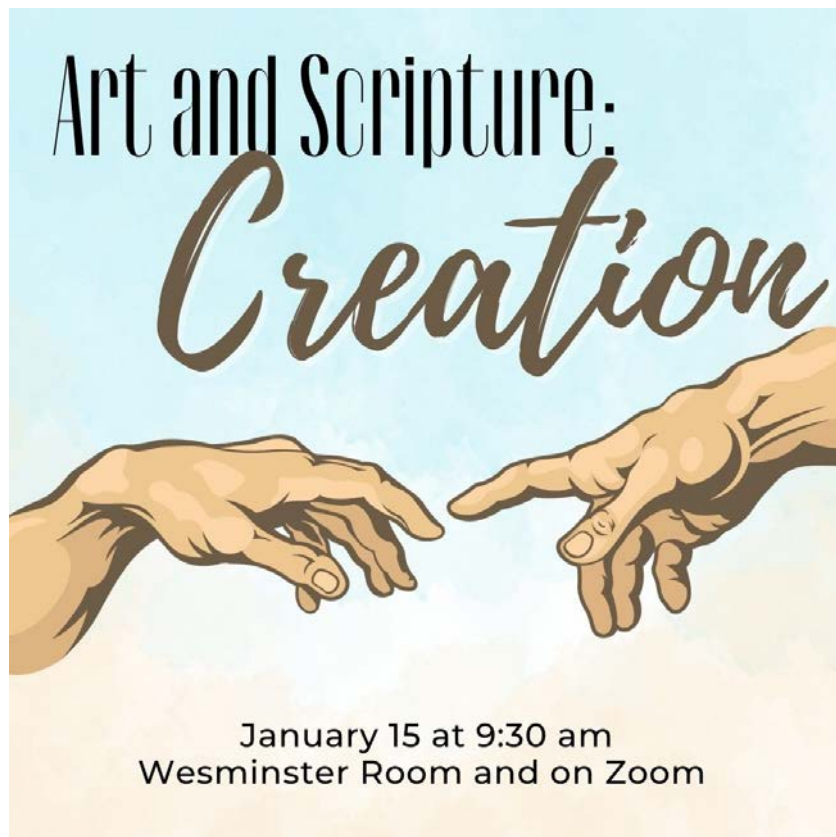


**Tallahassee Area Catholic Committee on Scouting  
has been sponsoring a 10 Commandments Hike  
for the past 13 years.**

The Ten Commandments Hike is an annual interfaith event that takes participants on a five-mile hike with stops at five houses of worship, each where a religious leader or designated speaker provides a 15-20-minute presentation introducing youth to their faith and place of worship and discussing two of the Ten Commandments. To learn more about the Hike go to [TACCOS.org](http://TACCOS.org).



Peggy West and Pastor Anne Apple were co-presenters as the scouts (Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Trail Life USA) stopped by to learn more about our faith and life at First Presbyterian Church and to get a tour of the sanctuary.



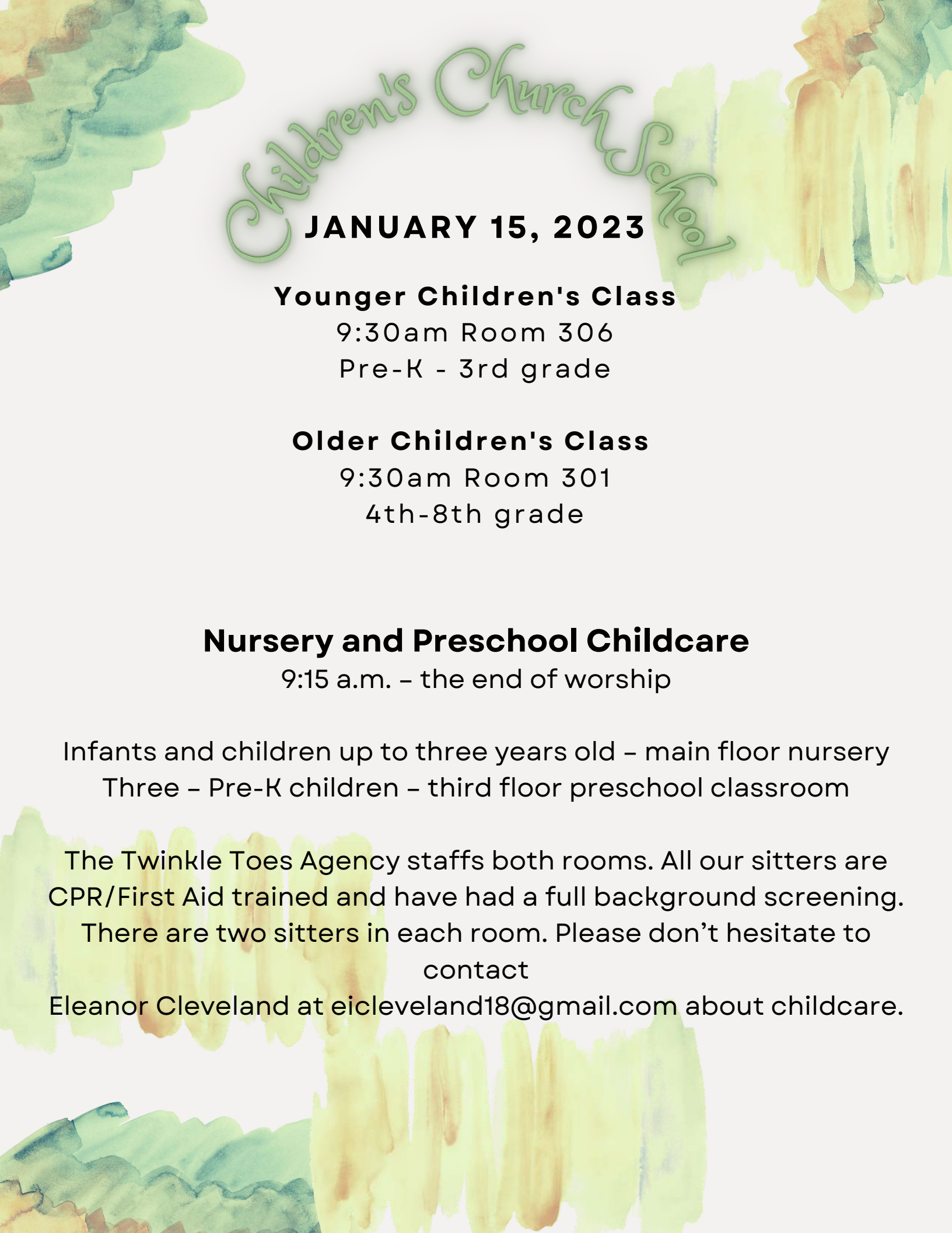
## *Adult Church School*

**Sunday, January 15, 2023**

**9:30 a.m. start time**

**(9:15 a.m. meet and greet)**

**This Sunday, the Adult Sunday School class begins our 4-part Art and Scripture series, looking at stories of creation in the Bible and curated art selections inspired by those stories. We will also invite the class to make art in a spirit of curiosity, growth, and with no judgment or pressure, as we consider the theology of "making" and the immortal words of Bob Ross: "I think there's an artist hidden at the bottom of every single one of us."**



# Children's Church School

**JANUARY 15, 2023**

## **Younger Children's Class**

9:30am Room 306

Pre-K - 3rd grade

## **Older Children's Class**

9:30am Room 301

4th-8th grade

## **Nursery and Preschool Childcare**

9:15 a.m. – the end of worship

Infants and children up to three years old – main floor nursery

Three – Pre-K children – third floor preschool classroom

The Twinkle Toes Agency staffs both rooms. All our sitters are CPR/First Aid trained and have had a full background screening.

There are two sitters in each room. Please don't hesitate to  
contact

Eleanor Cleveland at [eicleveland18@gmail.com](mailto:eicleveland18@gmail.com) about childcare.

# “LET FRIENDSHIP REDEEM THE REPUBLIC”

JANUARY 20, 2023 @ NOON

**\*GOD SQUAD EDITION**



On Friday, January 20 at noon The Village Square's God Squad will continue the 2022-2023 season with Let Friendship Redeem the Republic: God Squad Edition. In our year-long celebration of the superpower of healthy friendships across differences, you'll meet God Squad's friends who they don't quite agree with (and we'll encourage the audience to bring their own).

Joining us for God Squad are Pastor Betsy Ouelette Zierden of the United Methodist Church, Father Tim Holeda of St. Thomas More Co-Cathedral, Pastor Latricia Scriven of New Life Community Church, and Retired Rabbi Jack Romberg.

This event will be held at First Baptist Church of Tallahassee. Meet the panelists and RSVP for the January 20th program here:

<https://tlh.villagesquare.us/event/friends/>.

All God Squad forums are free and open to the public.

Lunch is available for \$10 if you RSVP by 1/17 and \$15 with a late reservation or at the door.

Questions? Contact [eliza@villagesquare.us](mailto:eliza@villagesquare.us) or at 850-281-1223.



*e pluribus unum — out of many, one*  
**the village square**



# Dogwood Acres Upcoming Events



Pause”, a women’s yoga and mindfulness retreat (January 20 – 22) will be a weekend aimed at helping women in the Presbytery breathe deeply and consider the New Year with new intentions. There will be time to be still, silent, to hike and to enjoy fellowship, to journal, to practice gentle yoga, to take a class or take a nap.



## Point in Time 2023 Count Jan. 24 and 25

The annual count of those who are homeless in Leon County will take place on Jan. 24 and 25. If you wish to volunteer to help, please sign up here:

<https://bigbendcoc.org/pit23/>

- Dogwood Youth Conference (February 3–5) is a winter retreat bound to set faith on fire! Led by college students at UKirk Tallahassee, middle and high school youth will be invited to consider the Matthew 25 scripture and how it impacts our lives. In-between the keynote addresses, worship, small group discussions and artistic renderings will be bonfires, s’mores, field games and hikes.

Learn more about each event:

<https://www.dogwoodacres.org/events/>.



**Food Offering  
for Elder Care Services and  
Second Harvest of the Big Bend**

**OUR FOOD GIFTS ARE GREATLY  
APPRECIATED.**

Thank you so much for your wonderful support of our First Sunday Food Collection efforts these past three months! Your food donations are brought alternately to Second Harvest and to Elder Care Services (ECS), and have been converted to literally hundreds of meals for our hungry and food insecure neighbors. We have all seen the increased prices in the grocery store, and ECS food pantry organizer, Linda, recently shared that the need in our community now is even greater than it has been. So please mark your calendars now for our next food collection date on **Sunday, February 5, 2023.**

Please consider including in your grocery list some items for those food-insecure neighbors around us. For questions, please contact Jan Bush. A list of the most-needed items is provided here for your convenience.

**Cereal**

**Peanut Butter**

**Canned: Fruits, Vegetables, Meats, and  
Hearty Soup/Stew**



**The Choir meets at 10:15  
a.m. on Sundays and 7:00  
p.m. on Wednesdays and we  
are open to all singers.**

**Contact Ethan Murphy or  
the church office for more  
information.**



**Join the Tallahassee Guns to  
Gardens Movement**

Guns to Gardens is a grassroots ministry that safely and legally dismantles and destroys unwanted firearms. The remaining metal pieces are then forged into life-giving garden tools.

Interested in doing this prophetic work with us? All are welcome in the movement! We are especially looking for volunteers with any of the following skills and/or equipment:

- Comfort and experience with power tools
- Firearms safety training and comfort handling firearms
- Blacksmithing
- Welding
- Owns a metal-cutting chop saw
- Pastoral care



**Contact us at:**

**[gunstogardens@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:gunstogardens@oldfirstchurch.org)**

They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. - Isaiah 2:4

# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



## SERVING MEALS AT GRACE MISSION

First Pres has volunteered to help serve Sunday dinner at Grace Mission on the second Sunday of every month. The next date is **Sun. February 12**; we meet at 4 pm and are finished by 6 pm.

If you are interested in helping in this worthwhile effort, please

contact Carol Weissert at [cweissert@fsu.edu](mailto:cweissert@fsu.edu) or go to the Sign Up Genius page directly at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4caca72ca3f85-grace1>

Hope you can join us.



## SECOND HARVEST

### BREAD BOXING

**Friday February 3  
from 9:45 - Noon**

If you are interested in joining your First Pres family in helping provide food for the hungry in December, you can sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050849AAA72DAB9-second>

or

contact Debbie Gibson at [gibsond1207@mail.com](mailto:gibsond1207@mail.com) or 850-656-3659.

We hope you can join us some time soon.



# FIRST PRESS

The newsletter  
of  
First Presbyterian  
Church

The newsletter is prepared on  
Mondays, including  
those Mondays that fall on  
holidays. Please submit  
items for publication to:  
[newsletter@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:newsletter@oldfirstchurch.org)  
**no later than noon** on  
production Mondays; or, if  
possible, earlier the previous  
week.

 **PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**



**OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE**

Gifts can be made online, by calling (800)  
872-3283, by texting PDAUKR to 41444, or  
by check made payable to Presbyterian  
Church U.S.A. with "DR000156-Ukraine" on  
the memo line. Mail to:  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
P.O. Box 643700  
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

## Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

### Post-Hurricane Ian: Disaster Relief



**FLORIDA  
PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE  
NETWORK**  
In Partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PCUSA)



1. Write checks to First Pres and designate  
FLDAPDAN or PDA US Hurricane Response.
2. Send funds directly to FLAPDAN at: Florida  
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network,  
Inc, 3146 NW 13th Street, Gainesville, FL  
32609. Earmark your donation with  
Hurricane Ian. To give with a credit card  
you can click the page's "Give Now" link at  
[FLAPDAN's](#).
3. Send funds to Presbyterian Disaster  
Assistance (PDA) marking your check with  
DR000169 for US Hurricane Response at  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box  
64370, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Call  
PDA with a credit card donation at 800-  
872-3283 Or give with your credit card  
through the [PDA US Hurricane Response  
web page](#).
4. If you have or want to put together a  
mission team to go to the affected areas  
to help with recovery efforts, information  
found at [FLAPDAN Volunteer](#) will get you  
started.

Should you have questions, feel free to  
contact Presbytery FLAPDAN liaison Tim  
Crawford at [tcrawford@cox.net](mailto:tcrawford@cox.net) or (850) 217-  
2597 or FLAPDAN directly at  
[fla.pdan@pcusa.org](mailto:fla.pdan@pcusa.org) or (941) 483-0675.





## **Sunday Festival Readings**

**January 15, 2023**

**2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

ISAIAH 49:1-7

PSALM 40:1-11

I CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

JOHN 1:29-42



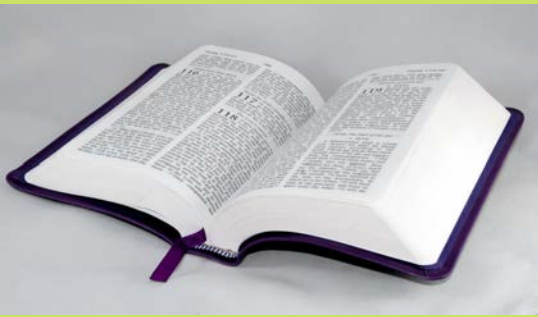
Holy scripture teaches us that God created humankind in god's own image. Christ calls us to love God, with all our mind, soul, and heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. With this comes the sacred responsibility to treat each human being with the love and respect due to a child of God.

We acknowledge the long history of systemic racism that, through violence, laws, policies, and their implementation, was intended to exclude persons who are not Caucasian from benefits and opportunities - from the first European settlers who considered themselves entitled to land and violently displaced indigenous people from their homes, to the equally long history of slavery which built the wealth of this country, to Jim Crow laws to current instances of police brutality and the overwhelming mass incarceration of people of color.

We declare ourselves utterly opposed to all forms of systemic racism. We are committed to standing with those who find themselves on the receiving end of any form of racism. We will seek out opportunities to oppose all forms of systematic racism and to ensure that black lives matter, as do those of indigenous, Asian, and Latinx people and persons of all colors or countries of origin. Our faith tells us that we can do no less, if we truly affirm that all human beings are made in god's image.

We dream of a day in which all persons are treated as bearers of that image.





# DAILY LECTIONARY FOR JANUARY 1- 17, 2023

## **Sunday, January 1**

### **First Sunday of Christmas**

Morning: Pss. 98; 150

Evening: Pss. 99; 8

Isa. 62:6-7, 10-12

Heb. 2:10-18

Matt. 1:18-25

## **Monday, January 2**

Morning: Pss. 48; 145

Evening: Pss. 9; 29

Gen. 12:1-7

Heb. 11:1-12

John 6:35-42, 48-51

## **Tuesday, January 3**

Morning: Pss. 111; 146

Evening: Pss. 107; 15

Gen. 28:10-22

Heb. 11:13-22

John 10:7-17

## **Wednesday, January 4**

Morning: Pss. 20; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 93; 97

Exod. 3:1-5

Heb. 11:23-31

John 14:6-14

## **Thursday, January 5**

Morning: Pss. 99; 147:12-20

Evening: Pss. 96; 110

Josh. 1:1-9

Heb. 11:32-12:2

John 15:1-16

## **Friday, January 6**

### **Epiphany of the Lord**

Morning: Pss. 72; 148

Evening: Pss. 100; 67

Isa. 52:7-10

Rev. 21:22-27 Matt. 12:14-21

## **Saturday, January 7**

Morning: Pss. 46 or 97; 149

Evening: Pss. 27; 93 or 114

Isa. 52:3-6

Rev. 2:1-7 John 2:1-11

## **Sunday, January 8**

### **Baptism of the Lord**

Morning: Pss. 104; 150

Evening: Ps. 29 Isa. 40:1-11

Heb. 1:1-12

John 1:1-7, 19-20, 29-34

## **Monday, January 9**

Morning: Pss. 5; 145

Evening: Pss. 82; 29

Isa. 40:12-24

Eph. 1:1-14

Mark 1:1-13

## **Tuesday, January 10**

Morning: Pss. 42; 146

Evening: Pss. 102; 133

Isa. 40:25-31

Eph. 1:15-23

Mark 1:14-28

## **Wednesday, January 11**

Morning: Pss. 89:1-18; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 1; 33

Isa. 41:1-16

Eph. 2:1-10

Mark 1:29-45

## **Thursday, January 12**

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12-20

Evening: Pss. 16; 62

Isa. 41:17-29

Eph. 2:11-22

Mark 2:1-12

## **Friday, January 13**

Morning: Pss. 51; 148

Evening: Pss. 142; 65

Isa. 42:(1-9) 10-17

Eph. 3:1-13

Mark 2:13-22

## **Saturday, January 14**

Morning: Pss. 104; 149

Evening: Pss. 138; 98

Isa. (42:18-25) 43:1-13

Eph. 3:14-21

Mark 2:23-3:6

## **Sunday, January 15**

Morning: Pss. 19; 150

Evening: Pss. 81; 113

Isa. 43:14-44:5

Heb. 6:17-7:10

John 4:27-42

## **Monday, January 16**

Morning: Pss. 135; 145

Evening: Pss. 97; 112

Isa. 44:6-8, 21-23

Eph. 4:1-16

Mark 3:7-19a

## **Tuesday, January 17**

Morning: Pss. 123; 146

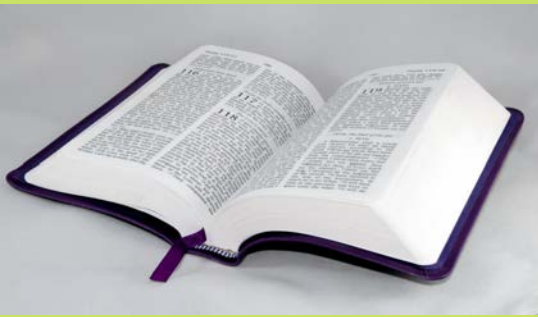
Evening: Pss. 30; 86

Isa. 44:9-20

Eph. 4:17-32

Mark 3:19b-35

If you wish to read these on your computer you  
will find them on the PCUSA website [here](#).



# DAILY LECTIONARY FOR JANUARY 18- 31, 2023

**Wednesday, January 18**

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 48; 4

Isa. 44:24-45:7

Eph. 5:1-14

Mark 4:1-20

**Thursday, January 19**

Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12-20

Evening: Pss. 80; 27

Isa. 45:5-17

Eph. 5:15-33

Mark 4:21-34

**Friday, January 20**

Morning: Pss. 130; 148

Evening: Pss. 32; 139

Isa. 45:18-25

Eph. 6:1-9

Mark 4:35-41

**Saturday, January 21**

Morning: Pss. 56; 149

Evening: Pss. 118; 111

Isa. 46:1-13

Eph. 6:10-24

Mark 5:1-20

**Sunday, January 22**

Morning: Pss. 67; 150

Evening: Pss. 46; 93

Isa. 47:1-15

Heb. 10:19-31

John 5:2-18

**Monday, January 23**

Morning: Pss. 57; 145

Evening: Pss. 85; 47

Isa. 48:1-11

Gal. 1:1-17

Mark 5:21-43

**Tuesday, January 24**

Morning: Pss. 54; 146

Evening: Pss. 28; 99

Isa. 48:12-21 (22)

Gal. 1:18-2:10

Mark 6:1-13

**Wednesday, January 25**

Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1-11

Evening: Pss. 125; 91

Isa. 49:1-12

Gal. 2:11-21

Mark 6:13-29

**Thursday, January 26**

Morning: Pss. 143; 147:12-20

Evening: Pss. 81; 116

Isa. 49:13-23 (24-26)

Gal. 3:1-14

Mark 6:30-46

**Friday, January 27**

Morning: Pss. 88; 148

Evening: Pss. 6; 20

Isa. 50:1-11

Gal. 3:15-22

Mark 6:47-56

**Saturday, January 28**

Morning: Pss. 122; 149

Evening: Pss. 100; 63

Isa. 51:1-8

Gal. 3:23-29

Mark 7:1-23

**Sunday, January 29**

Morning: Pss. 108; 150

Evening: Pss. 66; 23

Isa. 51:9-16

Heb. 11:8-16

John 7:14-31

**Monday, January 30**

Morning: Pss. 62; 145

Evening: Pss. 73; 9

Isa. 51:17-23

Gal. 4:1-11

Mark 7:24-37

**Tuesday, January 31**

Morning: Pss. 12; 146

Evening: Pss. 36; 7

Isa. 52:1-12

Gal. 4:12-20

Mark 8:1-10

If you wish to read these on your computer you  
will find them on the PCUSA website [here](#).