

Park Cities
Presbyterian Church

November 29, 2026

Advent is a paradoxical season: a season of waiting and anticipation in which the waiting itself is strangely rich and fulfilling, a season that looks back at the people who waited in darkness for the coming light of Christ and yet forward to a fuller light still to come and illuminate our darkness. Advent falls in winter, at the end of the year, in the dark and cold, but its focus is on the coming of light and life, when the Ancient of Days becomes a young child and says, 'Behold, I make all things new.' The Latin root of the familiar word 'Advent' is *veni*. It speaks of 'coming', the coming of Christ in every way. —Malcolm Guite

That the Great Angel-blinding light should shrink
His blaze, to shine in a poor Shepherd's eye;
That the unmeasur'd God so low should sinke,
As Pris'ner in a few poor rags to lye,
That from His Mother's Breast He milke should drinke,
Who feeds with Nectar heaven's faire family,
That a vile Manger His low Bed should prove,
Who in a Throne of stars Thunders above;

That He whom the Sun serves, should faintly peepe
Through clouds of Infant Flesh! That He the old
Eternall Word should be a Child, and weepe;
That He who made the fire, should feare the cold,
That Heaven's high Majesty His Court should keepe
In a clay cottage, by each blast control'd;
That Glories self should serve our Griefs and feares,
And free Eternity submit to years,

Let our overwhelming wonder be.

Richard Crashaw
c. 1613–1649

Order for the Worship of God

November 29, 2026
8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements — The Rev. Sam Leopold 8:00, The Rev. Mark Davis 9:30/11:00

*** Call to Worship**

Minister: Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

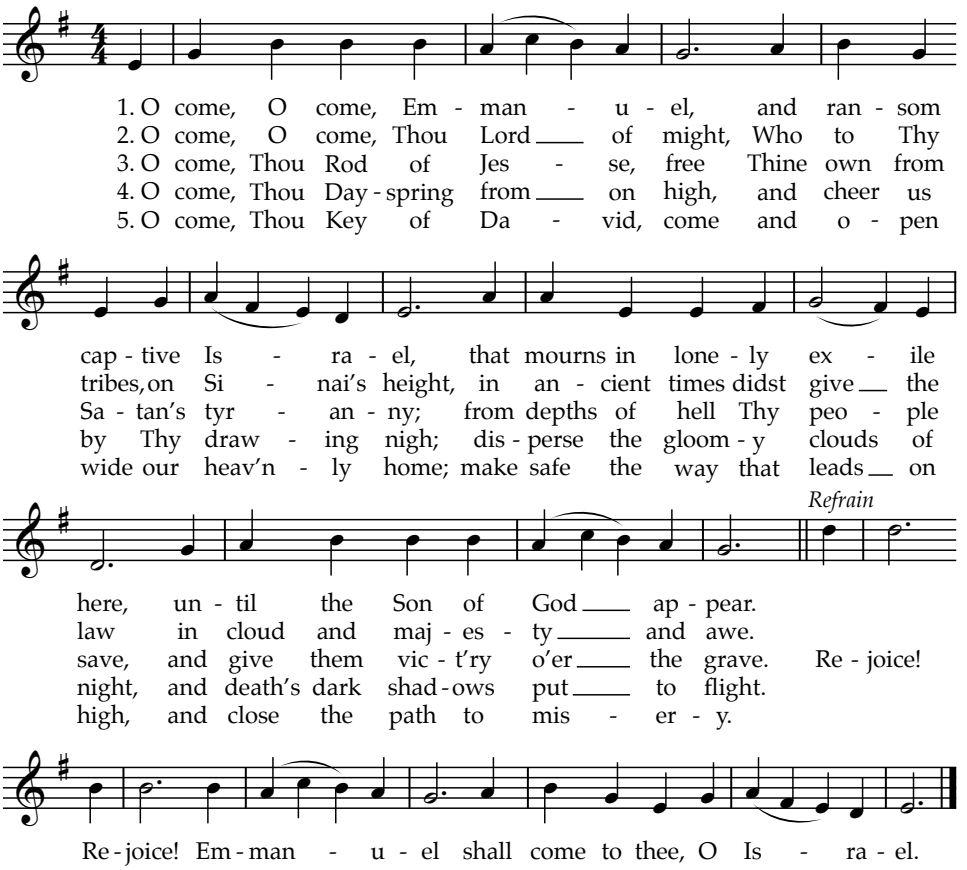
People: A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Minister: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;

People: The uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain." *Isaiah 40:1–4*

*** Carol of Anticipation and Adoration**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *VENI EMMANUEL*



Please be seated.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath—The Prophecy Candle—Isaiah 7:14

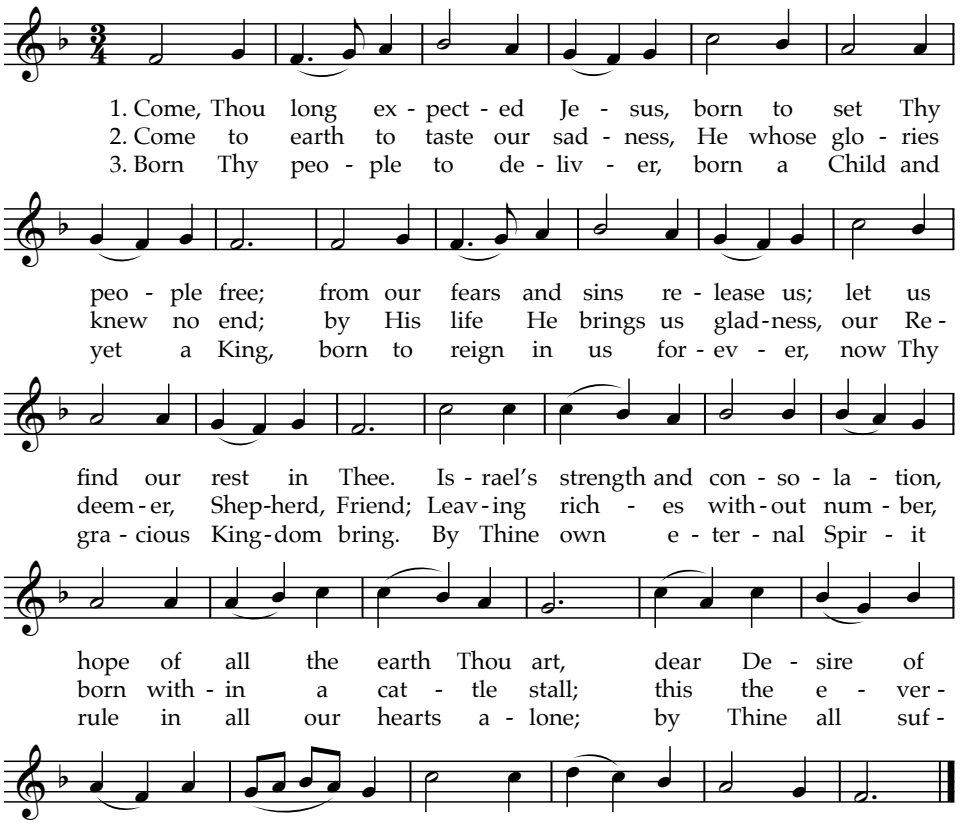
Natalie & Luc Heuer 8:00
The Hunt Family: Molly & Robert, Catherine, Lucy, and Bobby 9:30
The Fijan Family: Bethany & Bobby, John Ransom, Susannah, and Margaret 11:00

Prayer

* **The Prophecy—The Hope** The Rev. Robby Higginbottom

For thus says the LORD of hosts:
Yet once more, in a little while,
I will shake the heavens and the earth
and the sea and the dry land.
And I will shake all nations,
so that the treasures of all nations shall come in,
and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts.
Behold, I send My messenger,
and he will prepare the way before Me.
And the Lord whom you seek
will suddenly come to His temple;
and the Messenger of the covenant
in whom you delight,
behold, He is coming, says the LORD of hosts. Haggai 2:6–7; Malachi 3:1

* **Carol** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus *HYFRYDOL*



Public Confession of Sin

Lord Christ,
we confess our willingness to be loved
but also our reluctance to love.
We confess our readiness to accept Your forgiving love
but also our refusal to forgive.
We confess our eagerness to grasp Your offer of redeeming love
but also our resistance to follow You without question.
In this Advent time, forgive us our failure
to respond as we should.
Come to us anew, and by Your grace, assist us to receive You
with joy, as the shepherds;
with gratitude, as Simeon;
with obedience, as Mary;
with love, as You have loved us.
Even so: Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Private Confession

Musical Reflection

9:30/11:00 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" *arr. Nelson/McDonald*
Chris Adkins, *cello* · Stephen Nielson, *piano*

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. *Isaiah 9:2*

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Prayer of Intercession & Offertory Prayer

In addition to giving via passed offering plates, you are also welcome to give online at pcpc.org/give or text "give" to 214-833-7724.

Musical Offering

8:00 "Sleepers, Awake!" *WACHET AUF*
Mr. Nielson, *piano* *J. S. Bach/F. Busoni*

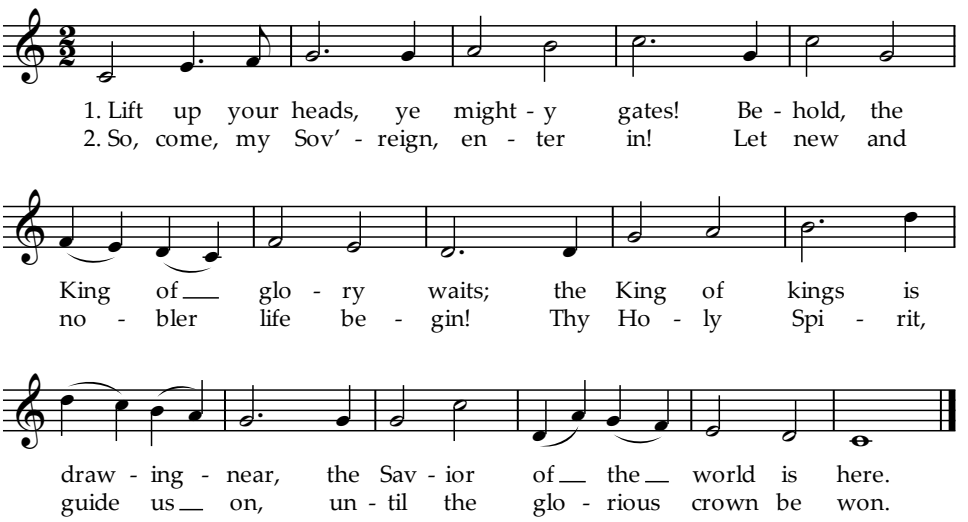
9:30/11:00 "No Small Wonder" *Wigmore/Edwards*
Chancel Choir · Mr. Adkins, *cello* · Josiah Hamill, *organ*
Dr. Nathan Davy, *conductor*

Small wonder the star,
small wonder the light,
the angels in chorus,
the shepherds in fright;
but stable and manger for God—
no small wonder!

Small wonder the kings,
small wonder they bore
the gold and the incense,
the myrrh to adore;
but God gives His life on a cross—
no small wonder!

Small wonder the love,
small wonder the grace,
the power, the glory,
the light of His face;
but all to redeem my poor heart—
no small wonder!

*** An Advent Doxology** *TRURO*



Worship Explorers will not meet today,
and we encourage families to worship together.

Zest Quests are available so your children can follow along with the sermon.

Extending the Kingdom: Boxes of Blessing Jim Morris, *elder*

*** The Scripture Reading: Luke 1:8–23**

8 *Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on*
duty,
9 *according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter*
the temple of the Lord and burn incense.
10 *And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of*
incense.
11 *And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side*
of the altar of incense.
12 *And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him.*
13 *But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer*
has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall
call his name John.
14 *And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,*
15 *for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong*
drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's
womb.
16 *And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God,*
17 *and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the*
hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of
the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

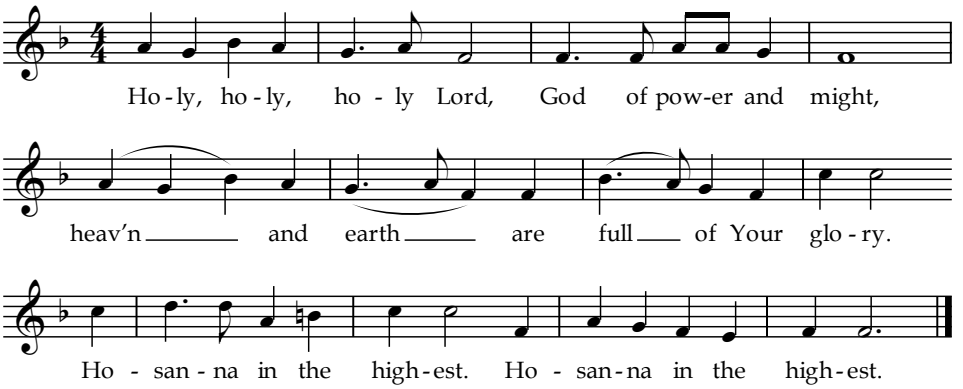
18 *And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years."*
19 *And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.*
20 *And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time."*
21 *And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple.*
22 *And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute.*
23 *And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.*

Sermon "Silence" Mr. Leopold 8:00
Mr. Davis 9:30/11:00

Worshipers at 9:30 and 11:00, please continue at the closing hymn.

*** The Great Thanksgiving** 8:00

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And with your spirit.
Minister: Lift up your hearts!
People: We lift them up to the Lord!
Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
Minister: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.
People: Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name; evermore praising You, and singing:



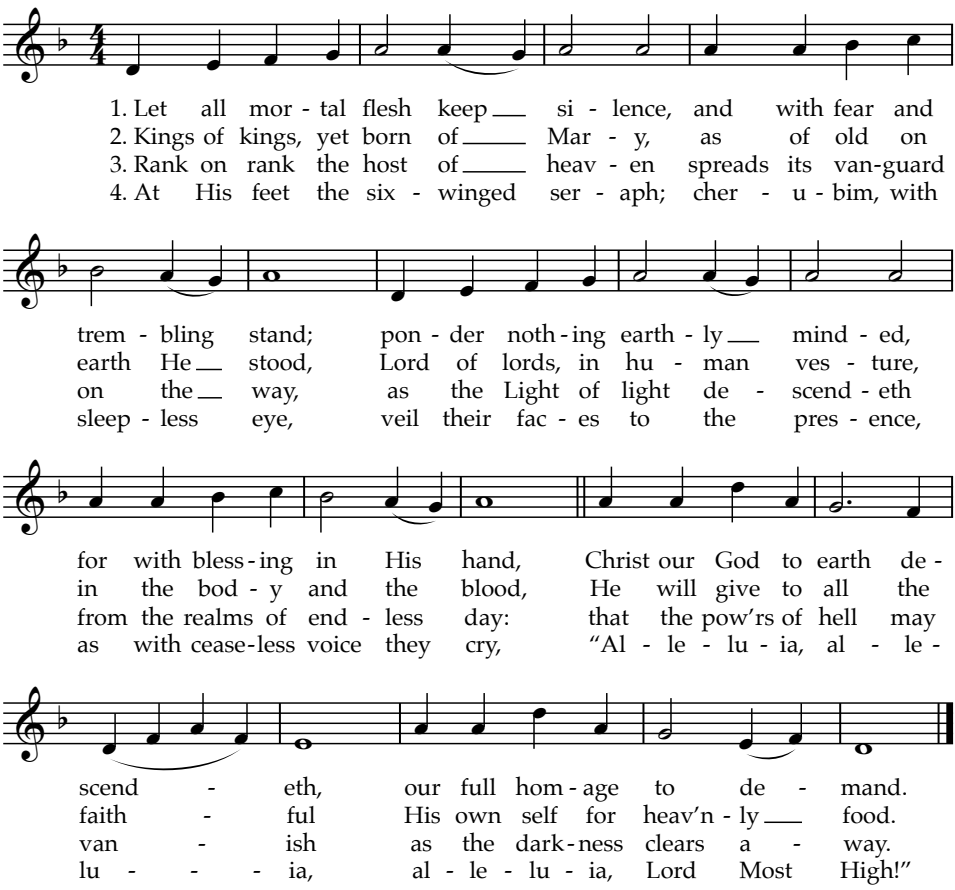
Minister: Holy and Gracious God,
People: We do not come to Your Table trusting in our righteousness, but resting in Your abundant grace and rich mercy.
Help us, O Holy Spirit, to earnestly examine our repentance, love, and new obedience, that we may partake worthily.
Amen.

*** The Words of Institution** 8:00

*** The Lord's Table** 8:00

Please remain seated.
You will be served by your elders, and we will all partake together when so instructed by the pastor.
The bread being served is gluten free.

*** Closing Carol** "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" *PICARDY*



*** Benediction**

Minister: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. *Isaiah 60:1*

People: Thanks be to God! Amen!

Postlude

8:00 "Angels We Have Heard on High" *GLORIA*
Mr. Nielson, *piano* *arr. S. Nielson*

9:30/11:00 "Savior of the Nations, Come" *J. S. Bach*
Dr. Davy, *organ*

** Please stand if you are able.*

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.



Park Cities Presbyterian Church exists to extend the transforming presence of the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ in Dallas and to the world.

Ministers: The members of this church family who, in serving their Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, extend His Kingdom in Dallas and to the world.

Senior Pastor
The Rev. Mark Davis

Assistant Pastors

The Rev. Dr. Pete Deison *(emeritus)*
The Rev. Matt Fray
The Rev. Pete Hatton
The Rev. Robby Higginbottom
The Rev. Dustin Hunt
The Rev. Bill Lamberth *(emeritus)*
The Rev. Sam Leopold
The Rev. Dr. Mark McDowell
The Rev. Tommy Overton
The Rev. Dr. Robert Rucker

Session

The Rev. Mark Davis
Moderator

Greg Russell
Clerk

George Ball
John Bateman
Don Dillahunty
Pete Flowers
Jerry Gibson
Lance Gurley
Eric Horan
Houston Hunt
Tim Jeffress
Bob McCamey
David Newman
Rick Owens
Kirk Pogoloff
Dennis Roossien
Randy Wood

Music printed by permission: CCLI #364068

Sermon Notes

Luke 1:8–23
"Silence"

Discussion Questions

The following questions help us engage with the sermon, music, and liturgy in this morning's worship service, and may be useful during personal devotions, group studies, and family worship.

1 Who was Zechariah? Trace Zechariah's response to the angel. Why do you believe he responded the way he did?

2 Who was Gabriel? Trace Gabriel's words to Zechariah. Summarize the message.

3 Why was Zechariah told he would be silent and unable to speak until these events happened? What do you make of this consequence? How might this season of silence in Zechariah's life transform him?

4 What evidence do we have that Zechariah's silence accomplished the needed work?

5 In the Advent hymn "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence", why is silence the appropriate response?

6 What is the Incarnation? Are you in awe of the Incarnation? Why or why not?

7 How does the noise of the season threaten our ability to live in fear and awe of the Incarnation?

8 Where might you find moments of silence this season to meditate upon the Word made flesh?

Highlights NOVEMBER 29, 2026

What's Next?

We have friendly faces waiting to help you connect to Christ and one another at PCPC just as you exit the front of the Sanctuary. Look for the Connect banner on your way to the Grand Hall. We would also love to help you abide in and extend Christ. You can find out more at the Information Center in the Grand Hall. Download the free PCPC mobile app to explore more.

Connection Card

Thanks for joining us today! If you are new or looking to connect with others in our church family, please scan the QR code and fill out our Connection Card, so we can know you were here and help you connect.
pcpc.org/connect

Women's Advent Prayer

Tuesday, December 1
7:00 P.M. | CHAPEL

In this beautiful time of praising God and responding to our Incarnate Savior in prayer, we will set our hearts to worship Him all this Advent season. There will be a time of fellowship afterward in the Grand Hall with desserts and coffee.
pcpc.org/advent

Boxes of Blessing

Saturday, December 5
8:30-11:30 A.M. | 6100 CEDAR SPRINGS RD

Bring your family and friends to help us extend the Kingdom of Christ to our city by filling 11,000 boxes of food. We are looking for people with trucks or large SUVs to help with deliveries to ministry partners again this year. Sign up online.
pcpc.org/boxes

Newcomers' Coffee

Sunday, December 6
10:45-11:00 A.M. | CONNECTIONS MEETING ROOM

New to PCPC? We invite you to Newcomers' Coffee on the first Sunday of each month from 10:45-11:00 a.m. in the Connections Meeting Room at the north end of the Grand Hall.
pcpc.org/news-events

Year-End Giving

In order to comply with IRS regulations, Thursday, Dec. 31, is the deadline for donations to be receipted for 2026. Contact *cheli.conejo@pcpc.org* for stock donation instructions. Please note that mutual fund donations can take up to one month to process. Thank you.
pcpc.org/give

Family Advent Service

Sunday, December 6
4:30 P.M. | SANCTUARY & FELLOWSHIP HALL

Families with children of all ages, but especially preschool through elementary ages, will enjoy the opportunity to reenact the nativity with costumes available for everyone! Dinner reservations will close at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 3.
pcpc.org/advent

Special Events

Advent Memorial Service
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2 | 5:30 P.M. | CHAPEL

Friendsmas Party (Young Adult)
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2 | 7:00 P.M. | OFF-CAMPUS

Pop & Play (Preschool)
FRIDAY, DEC. 4 | 9:00 A.M.

60+ Community Fellowship
FRIDAY, DEC. 4 | 11:30 A.M.

First Friday & bEfriend
FRIDAY, DEC. 4 | 6:00 P.M.

pcpc.org/news-events

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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pcpc.org
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Pastoral Concerns: 214-224-2742
or *pastorsprayer@pcpc.org*
Care & Prayer Line: 214-224-2680
or *prayerministry@pcpc.org*
Sermon Archives: *pcpc.org/sermons*
Every Thought Captive: *etcdevo.org*
eThisWeek News: *pcpc.org/newsletters*

GIVE ONLINE

Scan QR code for pcpc.org/give/, and read PCPC's biblical Principles of Stewardship.

Download the PCPC App with iOS or Android device to give online (including setting up recurring gifts).

GENERAL FUND

2026/2027 Operating Budget	$18,300,000
Jul 1, 2026–Nov 22, 2026 Budget	$5,550,104
Jul 1, 2026–Nov 22, 2026 Giving	$6,204,643
Budget Variance	$654,539