

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Welcome friends in Christ! We are glad you have come to worship today and to celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ. We extend a warm greeting of Christian Fellowship to you..

*Congregation standing for those who are able

The Words of Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the Friendship pads and pass them back to the center aisle.

After worship please greet your neighbors by name.

Our Approach to God

Prelude

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 660

J.S. Bach

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – the Candle of Hope

The good news of Advent is this:

Christ is coming!

Christ is always coming, always entering our troubled world, always ready to enter a wounded heart.

Let us prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

For the next four weeks, it's important to set aside some of the hectic busyness of the holiday season and prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the coming of Jesus.

May we remember the promise of the baby born in Bethlehem.

As we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of hope, we begin our journey to Christmas. *(light the first candle)*

We light the candle of hope and dare to express our longing for peace and healing.

Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Let us prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ and find our hope in him. May the light of hope shine in our hearts and may we share that hope with others. Lord, make us your candle of hope.

*The Hymn of Praise

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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*The Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Almighty God, we thank you for your promises and their fulfillment which we celebrate this season. We anticipate with joyous hope your good gifts -the gifts of speech by which we can communicate with one another and the gift of knowledge by which we can grasp the wonder of your works. We praise you that you give us your grace that helps our lives reflect your love and peace as we share with others the Advent hope.

*The Gloria Patri

Glory Be to the Father

579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.**

The Word of God

The Epistle Reading

Romans 13:11-14

page 1617

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 24:36-44

page 1413

The Sermon

“Hope in the Midst of Uncertainty” Rev. Mark Morningstar

Our Response to Serve

*The Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed (Ecumenical)

Hymnal, page 15

*The Hymn

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

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The Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

The Offertory

Emmanuel, Come Soon

D. Angerman

Chancel Choir

*The Doxology

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

*The Prayer of Dedication

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer (using sins)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

(Hold the bread until all have been served. We will eat it together symbolizing our unity in Christ. Drink the cup when it is served symbolizing your individual relationship with Christ.)

Prayer

*The Hymn *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* 8

*The Charge and Benediction

*The Congregational Response Go with us, Lord 535
Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, That in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to You.

*Postlude Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 599 J.S. Bach

* Congregation Standing – for those who are able.

Liturgist and Advent Wreath Lighter: Connor Rousseau and family

Ushers: Sayre Nichol

Greeter:

Fellowship Hour Host: Genie Herter

Communion Servers: Karen Kalina, Cheryl Kelley, Anne & Wally Schmidt

The flowers today are to “ Celebrate the faith in God and the Wolverines that Carol Poole has”. – Anonymous

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Second Presbyterian Church

2665 Midland Rd., Saginaw, MI 48603

Phone: (989) 792-1023

November 30, 2025



Seeking and Serving Christ. We are a Place for Growing Christians.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

2nd @ Second meets today at 10:15 in the library. We plan to learn about Bethsheba.

Poinsettias:



If you would like to order a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone the order forms are in the gathering area. **The deadline to order is TODAY.** These beautiful poinsettias are \$10.00 each and have multiple large blossoms. Take your poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve service.

Rescue Mission Lunches:

Saturday, **December 6**, please join us in the church kitchen to assemble bag lunches for the Saginaw Rescue Mission. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the church kitchen (Please enter from parking lot through Fellowship Hall door) to visit and share in the work of making sandwiches and lunches for those struggling with hunger.

Angel Tree:

Angel Tree provides gifts to children of incarcerated parents. There are some tags still available on the table in the gathering area. Thank you for your generosity and support to those most vulnerable in our community. **Please return gifts by December 14.**



2026 Directory:

In order to print an accurate church directory, we are making sure that we have your correct information. Sonia and/or Adam will be at the table in the gathering area with printed information sheets. Please stop by and make sure we have all your information correct. If you take the sheet home, please make sure to bring it back.



All women of the church are invited to join us on **Wednesday, December 10**, at Sullivan's Food and Spirits 5235 Gratiot Rd, Saginaw, MI 48638, at 9:30 a.m. If you plan to attend, please reach out to Carol Poole @989-793-7485.

Music Notes:



On Sunday, December 14, at 4:00pm, Concerts at First Presbyterian Saginaw presents the second annual Handel's Messiah concert. The concert will include the Saginaw Bay Youth Orchestra and the Saginaw Choral Society, and features the Christmas portion of Messiah, plus the Hallelujah Chorus.

On Sunday, December 14 at Second Pres., the children are going to sing during the service. This is a time honored Season of Christmas tradition here at SPC that everyone enjoys, but we need your kids and grandkids to make it a success. Please contact Thomas for more information @ music@prcsaginaw.org.



Estimate of Giving:

Thanks to all who have submitted Estimates of Giving for 2026. If you have not already done so, please turn in your 2026 Estimate of Giving slip by either mailing it to the church or dropping it in the offering plate. We are working on our budget for 2026, and many programs of the church depend upon your Estimate of Giving. Thank you for your faithfulness!

Romans 13:11-14 New International Version

¹¹ And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴ Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.