

## Welcome to First Pres SLO!

We are a Christian community in the heart of this city, open to all people seeking Christ's touch and blessing. A healthy church is built on a foundation of Jesus Christ, and expressed through *fellowship, worship, discipleship* and *mission*. As God's church we exist to fellowship sincerely, worship actively, grow in our knowledge and understanding of Jesus, and to offer ourselves in service to this community and the world.

Welcome—we're glad you've decided to join us today.

### In worship we...

Praise the Lord in song, blending old and new and in-between  
Profess our faith in God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
Confess our sins and receive words of pardon  
Hear the Word of God proclaimed in preaching  
Offer prayers of petition and thanks  
Share freely in the sacraments: communion and baptism  
Give gifts of time and financial resources in support of the church's work.

### An Invitation to Prayer

Prayer is a dynamic and vital part of our journey of faith in Jesus Christ. We pray, not as we shop for goods—with a list in hand and limited funds to spend—but rather as faithful people bringing our lives before God, whose love and power and resources have no end. In prayer we learn to align our vision and desires with those of God himself, and in the process become mature disciples, ready for service.

*We invite you to join us in this journey of discovery!*

### Please pray:

For the vision and ministry of this church  
For the specific needs of individuals and families in our community  
For the world—for peace, justice and the spread of the Gospel of Jesus.



**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**  
*San Luis Obispo*

## Service for the First Sunday of Advent December 3, 2023



Rev. John A. D'Elia, Pastor

Church Office: (805) 543-5451 | Email: [churchoffice@fpcslo.org](mailto:churchoffice@fpcslo.org)

For more information visit our website,  
[www.fpcslo.org](http://www.fpcslo.org)

# WORSHIP AT FIRST PRES

Thank you for joining us!

## PRELUDE

“Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella”  
*Please use this time for quiet reflection*

Dr. Scott Glysson

## CALL TO WORSHIP

“O Come O Come Emmanuel”

## WELCOME AND INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Jen Rabenaldt

## ADVENT READING

Representing Older Adult Ministry  
Deon Dunaway, Linda Banken, Bob Gordon

## WORSHIP IN SONG

“People Look East” (#12)  
“Ancient Words”

## THE CONFESSION AND PARDON

Kate Murray

## NEWS OF THE CHURCH

## PRAYER

## ANTHEM

“Lo, How a Rose Er Blooming” arr. Deborah Govenor

Choir

## OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”  
*Please stand as we sing the Doxology(#592)*

Dr. Scott Glysson

## WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

“Apostles’ Creed”

## SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 118:24

## MESSAGE

“The Hope of Now”  
John 8:12

Joel Drenckpohl

## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S TABLE

*\*Gluten free available at all stations.*

*If you prefer to stay seated, servers will bring the elements to you.*

## SONG OF COMMITMENT

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (#2)

## DECLARATION OF MISSION AND BLESSING

*Friends, what is our mission?*

Our mission is to glorify Jesus Christ and to be instruments of God’s healing, reconciling, life-giving presence in the world.

## POSTLUDE

“Wachet Auf”, J.S. Bach

Dr. Scott Glysson

*The flowers this week were donated by Karen Wiles  
in memory of Kirsten.*

**Participants:** Participants: Jen Rabenaldt, Joel Drenckpohl,  
Dr. Scott Glysson, Andrew Vigil, Lloyd Esola, Sean Anderson,  
Craig Updegrove, Callie Schmidt, Melissa Scarpelli, Lauren Webb,  
Ryan Miller, Kate Murray