

9 am and 11:30 am Worship Services

**OUR TEACHING SERIES CONCLUDES — Hope for Our Troubled Times: The prayers and songs of Revelation**

**Preacher:** Rev. Amanda Golbek

**Scripture:** Revelation 19:1-10 (*New Testament pp. 247-248*)

**Title:** Salvation, Glory and Honor Belong to God

9 am and 11:30 am Worship Services - December 2 - First Sunday of Advent

**NEW SERIES: Anticipation: Finding Jesus Before Christmas**

**Preacher:** Rev. Raymond Hylton

**Scripture:** Jeremiah 33:14-16 (*Old Testament pp. 757-758*)

**Title:** Tenacious Hope

**Listen to Sunday Sermons** on the FPCE website or via the “First Presbyterian Church of Evanston” iTunes podcast. Sermons are usually uploaded by Tuesday evenings.

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First Presbyterian Evanston

1427 Chicago Avenue  
Evanston, IL 60201  
847-864-1472

[www.firstprevevanston.org](http://www.firstprevevanston.org)

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## Highlights

**Christmas Eve Pageant rehearsals begin Nov. 29.** All children and youth 3 years old through high school are invited to participate in the 4 pm Christmas Eve pageant. Rehearsals will be Thursdays 5:15-6 pm, Nov. 29-Dec. 20. Special dress rehearsal Sunday, Dec. 23. Contact Pastor Amanda or Bev Bolsen to let them know your child or youth is interested.

**Our all-FPCE Potluck—Christmas Around the World—takes place next Sunday, December 2, at 12:30 pm, following the Contemporary Service.** Join us as we celebrate the season, honoring the birth of our Lord, Jesus, by embracing the diversity of our family in Christ and savoring bounteous Christmas flavors from around the globe. Visit [firstprevevanston.org/potluck](http://firstprevevanston.org/potluck) to sign up to bring a dish, and/or to help set-up or clean-up. For more information, contact Gina at [ginachang888@gmail.com](mailto:ginachang888@gmail.com).

**Thank you to all of you who have taken home Angel Tree “Angel” ornaments!** Be reminded that gifts need to be returned to the FPCE front desk, wrapped and labeled, no later than Sunday, December 2.

**FPCE will host a Gingerbread House Decorating Party, Sunday, December 9, from 2-5 pm.** This fun family event is a perfect way to gather all generations to take part in this creative, relaxed, and sometimes messy craft activity. Registration is required. Each gingerbread house kit is \$10. Visit [firstprevevanston.org/gingerbread](http://firstprevevanston.org/gingerbread) no later than December 2 to save a spot and order your gingerbread house kit.

**Please be a part of helping to decorate our gingerbread houses (see above)!** We’re asking the congregation to donate different candies for families to use as they decorate. Please bring store-bought, unopened candies of all kinds to the Children’s Ministry table on Sundays, or to the front desk during the week, now through December 9.

## Worth Noting

**Come join us for the next Senior Varsity gathering, Thursday, December 6.** The topic is: **“I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the Land of the Living”** presented by Lisa Fortini-Campbell. Lisa converted to Catholicism ten years ago at the age of 53 and will tell us about how that transformation happened through the many people God brought into her life. Registration will begin at 10:30 am, the presentation at 11, and lunch will be served at noon (cost: \$5 for lunch). Please register by December 4 at the front desk by calling (847) 864-1472. All are welcome, especially seniors.

**The Parish Nurse Book Club will meet on Tuesday, December 11, 1:30-3 pm in room 102.** We will be reading *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman. According to Goodreads, it is “the story of a quirky woman whose social misunderstandings, mental health issues, and unabashed wit make for an irresistible journey as she realizes that the only way to survive in the real world is to open her heart to friendship”. All are welcome to join us!

**Advent 2019 Devotionals are now available at the front desk and at the back of the sanctuary.** Enjoy this free resource with daily meditations by Tim Keller, Fleming Rutledge, Sandra McCracken, and other thoughtful writers, ushering us into the waiting and wondering of the Advent season.



## Missions

cweinberg@firstpresevanston.org

### Pray for Our

#### Mission Partners

**Pray for Christians who are often discriminated against, ridiculed, marginalized and in some places persecuted.** The believer who faces constant pressure from his or her surroundings can feel overwhelmed, alone and even question the goodness of God. The cost of following Jesus in the Middle East/North Africa (MENA) is high. Pray that people can focus on Jesus and know His presence even in hardship. Pray for encouragement, perseverance and freedom. *(This month we are praying for the concerns facing the people of the Middle East/North Africa, with guidance from Voice of the Martyrs).*

**Volunteers will be needed the nights of January 27-February 9, 2019, to serve at the overnight shelter at First Presbyterian.** If you have never received training before and are interested, attend any of the following one-hour sessions on: November 6, 7, 12, or 15 at various locations in Evanston. Contact Charlene Parris for details at c.parris@comcast.net.

#### Do you know a disabled refugee?

If so encourage him/her to contact suzanne@siriancommunitynetwork.org for information on PRIDE, a UIC research study designed to assist disabled refugees find work. One need not be Syrian to apply.

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/serve/in-the-world/>

## Holy Land tour information available

**June 3-14, 2019, Professor K.K. Yeo and FPCE Senior Pastor Ray Hylton will host a Study and Mission Tour of the Holy Land.** The cost is \$3,398 per person. Those interested in learning more can pick up a brochure at the front desk, or visit [firstpresevanston.org/holy-land](http://firstpresevanston.org/holy-land), where online registration is also available.

## Prayer in the Parlor

**The Parlor on the second floor is open each Wednesday for prayer and meditation from 9 am to 9 pm. All are welcome to come and spend time in prayer and praise in the space set aside for a holy time with God.**

## Children and Families

bbolsen@firstpresevanston.org

### First Kids Choir meets each Thursday afternoon!

Children in 4-year-old pre-K through 5th grade meet to sing from 4 to 4:45 pm. From 4:45 to 5:15 pm, children in 2nd through 5th grades ring chimes. During the rehearsal, the Dining Room and Gym are open for parent-supervised activity for siblings.

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/children/>

## Youth and Families

agolbek@firstpresevanston.org

**High School Youth Group (PYGS) will NOT be meeting this afternoon.** We'll meet again on December 2 from 4-6 pm, with dinner and a discussion of Advent.

**Middle School Youth Group (NUBS) meets each Friday, from 7-9 pm, on the top floor in the Middle School lounge.** On Friday, November 30, we'll meet and discuss the season of Advent!

### Register for the Middle school Winter Retreat!

All 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited to come along Jan. 18-20 for a weekend of wintery activities and digging deep into faith at Camp Timber-lee. Cost: \$100 (scholarships are available) Registration forms can be found at the Youth Board near the front desk or contact Pastor Amanda.

**Registration deadline: Dec. 16.**

### Register for the High school Winter Retreat!

All 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited to come along Jan. 25-27 for a weekend of hanging out with friends, enjoying outdoor activities and exploring God at Camp Timber-lee. Cost: \$100 (scholarships are available) Registration forms can be found at the Youth Board near the front desk or contact Pastor Amanda. **Registration deadline: Dec. 16.**

*More details about Youth events can be found in our weekly email. Text YOUTHGROUP to 42828 to subscribe!*

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/students/>

## Young Adults and Families

hcoates@firstpresevanston.org

### Family Open Gym - Thursdays, 4-7 pm, Roy Hall

Open for parents and their children to come run around, shoot some baskets, play some games. No need to RSVP; just show up and have a great time!

**A women's basketball pick-up game is held at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month in Roy Hall.** All skill levels and abilities are welcome! Reach out to Kathy Grant, kgrant@depaul.edu with any questions.

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/learn/adults/young-adults/>

## 2018 Giving and 2019 Pledge updates

**As of Wednesday, November 14, our 2018 giving totals are as follows:**

Pledge Giving to date:	\$872,783
Pledge Goal 2018:	\$1,075,000.00
Needed to Reach Goal:	\$202,217

Faith Giving to date:	\$105,635
Faith Giving Goal 2018:	\$195,000.00
Needed to Reach Goal:	\$89,365

**As of Sunday, November 4, our current 2019 pledge commitments are as follows:**

Number of Pledges received	182
Pledges received	\$846,785
Pledge Goal	\$1,175,000
Needed to Meet Goal	\$328,215

Faith Giving Commitments Received: 29

If you haven't yet made a pledge for 2019, and wish to do so, please contact Melody Henrie at the church office, text AUTOMATIC to 847-565-2772 to set up automated giving, or fill out a pledge form at the FPCE front desk.

## Clothes Closet Seeks Cold Weather Items

**The Deacons' Clothes Closet has need of your donations of cold weather items:** Jeans (large sizes especially); winter shoes & boots; overcoats & jackets (larger sizes); warm socks; gloves & thick scarves; belts; towels; roller suitcases & duffel bags. Please find it in your heart to find a few of these gently-used winter "things" in your attic or closet this year. Drop-offs should be made by the front desk in the church office. Your Deacons thank you for looking and sharing.