

First Presbyterian Church of Willmar, MN
November 30, 2025

Receiving the Gift: It's Too Much!



First Sunday of Advent
"It's Too Much!"

Welcome to worship this morning at First Presbyterian Church! This is the place where we bring our whole selves to God and worship the one who created us and loves us. It is also the place where we grow in community with each other, discovering a family of faith where we love and support each other, accepting one another as we are and learning to follow Jesus more closely in our lives. We are all better because you are here, part of this community.
You are welcome just as you are!

We will be passing the offering plate today during worship. This is about much more than collecting an offering; it is a spiritual discipline that helps us form connections. As the plate is passed to you, we invite you to take a moment to silently dedicate your gifts to God, whether you place something in the plate or give electronically. Or use the opportunity to share your prayer requests or contact information using one of the cards available.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcement

***Call Worship & Advent Candle Lighting**

We are a people of hope.
Our hearts are full of anticipation for the coming of our beloved Christ Child.
For God is to be among us
and we will see a great light in the midst of our night.
Let us light the Candle of Hope.

***Song of Adoration #88 (GG) "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"** Thomas Helmore, John Weaver, VENI EMMANUEL

Call to Confession and Lament

Prayer of Confession and Lament

We confess we have strayed away from your Word. **We cry out to you, O God**

We confess that we have allowed the worries of this world to drive us away from your vision for our lives. **We cry out to you, O God**

We confess that there is strife and contention all around us. **We cry out to you, O God**

Let us confess together:

That we are powerless and have taken our focus off your Word, that we have not allowed your Word to work in our lives, yet we continue to cry out to you in times of trouble and need. Grant understanding and wisdom that we may see your vision and apply it in our lives. Hear our prayer, O God, and call us back to you.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hymn of Gratitude #82 (GG)

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Charles Wesley, Rowland Hugh Prichard, Ralph Vaughan Williams; HYFRYDOL

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11; John 3:16-17

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon "Receiving the Gift: It's Too Much!"

Hymn of Affirmation #92 (GG) "While We Are Waiting, Come" Claire Cloininger, Don Cason, WAITING

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer #1 (SH)

Our Father, in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today, our daily bread; forgive our sins and turn us from temptation. The kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. Amen, amen, amen.

Invitation to Offering

Musical Offering

Prayer of Dedication

***Sending Song #100 (GG)** "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" Cooney, STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

***Charge & Benediction**

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Postlude