

IF YOU'RE A GUEST TODAY, PLEASE FILL OUT A GUEST CARD  
OR SCAN THE QR CODE FOR ONLINE GUEST FORM.



## Sermon Notes

SERMON SERIES - Stories of a Watchful Church  
"Working to Return with Interest"  
Matthew 24:45-51 (p.701)

To find notes and discussion questions on this  
week's and previous week's sermons, click on the  
QR code to the right or go to  
[firstprotestant.com/sermon-study/](http://firstprotestant.com/sermon-study/).



**FIRST PROTESTANT**  
CHURCH OF NEW BRAUNFELS  
A SPIRITUAL HOME IN THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24, 2025  
CANDLELIGHT SERVICES  
3:30 PM, 5:30 PM, & 7:30 PM  
LIVE NATIVITY 4:30 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY, DEC. 25, 2025  
FAMILY SERVICE 10:00AM

SUNDAY, DEC. 28, 2025  
COMBINED FAMILY SERVICE 10:00 AM

SUNDAY, JAN. 4, 2026  
EPIPHANY PAGEANT 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

WEEKLY SUNDAY SERVICES  
TRADITIONAL - 9:30 AM  
FAMILY BRUNCH - 10:30 AM  
CONTEMPORARY - 11:00 AM  
BIBLE STUDYCLASSES  
9:30 & 11:00 AM

**Prelude** - "Sing We Now of Christmas/I Wonder as I Wander"  
arr. M. Sherrill Kelsey - Kirsten Boyd, piano

**Welcome** - Pastor Andrew  
Comings & Goings Announcement

**Lighting of the Advent Candle of JOY**  
Gary & Danielle Krieg and William & Autumn

**Choral Call to Worship**  
"Rejoice, Rejoice the Savior Comes" arr. M. Burkhart

**\*Hymn #172** "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

**Service of Baptism**  
Gianna Rose Geron  
Born on November 2, 2025 in New Braunfels, TX  
Parents are: Zachary and Angelica Geron

**\*Hymn #195 v. 1** "Silent Night"

**\*Apostles' Creed**  
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and  
in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord, who was conceived by  
the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell; the third day He  
rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the  
right hand of God the Father, Almighty; from thence he shall come to  
judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the One Holy  
Universal Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of  
sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

**Gloria Patri** "Kyrie" from Mass of St. Timothy by M. Maher  
The congregation should echo the cantor on the phrase  
"Kyrie Eleison" and "Christe Eleison"

**Service of Prayer and Lord's Prayer - Lynn Herr**

**Hymn #183** "I Wonder as I Wander"

**Scripture** - Matthew 24:45-51 (p.701) -

**Anthem**  
"O Come, All Ye Faithful" by J. Behnke - FPC Handbell Choir

**Message** - Stories of a Watchful Church  
"Working to Return with Interest"  
Rev. Dr. Andrew Keuer

**Offertory**  
"Birthday of a King" by William Neidlinger- Hillary Schranze, soprano

**\* Christmas Doxology #171 verse 1** - "Joy to the World"

**\* Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Hymn #182** "How Great Our Joy"

**Blessing**

**Postlude**

## Gift Options to FPC

Calendar year 2025 is soon to end. Do you have tax issues?  
Would an income tax deduction moderate these issues? If so,  
please consider a gift to FPC through the following options:

**Gifts by Check:** When writing a check, the gift is complete when  
the check is mailed. So, as long as you mail it by Dec. 31st, you  
can deduct it for the current year even if the charity does not  
cash it until the next year, as long as it is postmarked the 31st.

**Pledges:** If you have made a pledge in a given year, or given  
a personal note, you cannot deduct this as a charitable  
contribution in that year unless you actually satisfy the pledge  
by Dec. 31st.

**Gifts of Appreciated Property:** Gifts of property that would  
result in a capital gain, if sold, produce even greater benefit  
for you than gifts made in cash, by check, or by credit card.

**Gifts of Loss Property:** Loss property is property that would  
generate a tax-deductible loss if you sold it. When you give  
the property to charity, you lose your deduction for the loss.  
However, when you sell the property, you can take the loss as  
a deduction, and then use the proceeds of the sale to make  
your deductible charitable gift.

**Gifts of Stock:** A gift of stock to a charity is considered  
complete, and thus deductible, when either (1) the stock  
certificate is endorsed over and mailed to the charity, or (2)  
ownership of the stock certificate is changed to the charity on the  
books of the corporation issuing the stock.

For questions or help, please contact Doreen Schaeffer in the  
church office at 830-609-7729 x 121.

COMINGS & GOINGS  
RETIREMENT  
ANNOUNCEMENT

ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026  
WE INVITE THE CONGREGATION TO JOIN  
IN A SPECIAL RETIREMENT BRUNCH  
HONORING JERALD SCHROEDER'S  
30 YEARS OF SERVICE  
AT FPC IN VARIOUS ROLES

MORE INFO TO FOLLOW IN EARLY 2026  
- PASTOR ANDREW



### Next Sunday at FPC

9:30 am

Lessons & Carols

Join us for our annual Lessons & Carols service, where Scripture and song come together in a tradition dating back to the late 19th century. The Scripture readings interweave with lyrics to recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to proclaim the Good News of Christ's redemption. This year's music features works by Hal Hopson and Elaine Hagenberg, along with classic Christmas hymns. With the First Protestant Sanctuary Choir and orchestral guests, this joy-filled service will lead you into the heart of the season.

11:00 am

Nativity Pageant & Message

Join us for a heartwarming presentation of the Christmas story, brought to life by our children! The Nativity Pageant will feature all the beloved characters—Mary, Joseph, shepherds, angels, Wise Men—and even the animals of the manger scene. Through costumes, narration, and joyful carols, the children will share the wonder of Jesus' birth and the message of peace and goodwill. You won't want to miss this special celebration of the season!

Pastor Andrew will also deliver the final message from the watchful church series in the 11:00 service.



FPC MISSION BOARD PRESENTS

MISSIONARY ANGEL TREE

FIND THE ANGEL TREE IN SCHUMANN HALL OR NEAR THE ENTRANCE OF THE SANCTUARY AND CHOOSE A PRE-ADDRESSED CARD TO A MISSIONARY ADD A FAMILY PICTURE, A NOTE, A PRAYER & A STAMP. THAT'S ALL IT TAKES!

HELP US BLESS OUR MISSIONARIES THIS CHRISTMAS.



POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

HELP BEAUTIFY OUR SANCTUARY DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON!

\$15

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP IS OFFERING POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS YOU CAN ORDER A PLANT IN MEMORY OR IN HONOR OF SOMEONE. THESE FLOWERS WILL BE PLACED IN THE SANCTUARY THROUGH DECEMBER AND CAN BE PICKED UP AFTER CHRISTMAS SERVICES.

I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER \_\_\_\_\_ POINSETTIAS AT \$15 EACH

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

GIVEN BY: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION LEGIBLY.

RETURN THIS FORM VIA THE OFFERING OR TO THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH YOUR PAYMENT.

RETURN FORM BY DECEMBER 16TH

Christmas Music Offering

Consider making a special gift to help with the extra worship opportunities during this Christmas season. These offerings can be made in thanksgiving or in memory of someone, and those names will be listed in our special Christmas Eve bulletins.

Please use the tear out below designating your gift for special Christmas Music & place in the offering. Or donate online and designate the gifts to music, adding the names for your memorial or thanksgiving in the notes section online. Gifts will be listed with both the name of the memorial or thanksgiving and the name of the giver(s). Each gift is greatly appreciated and will be recorded on your giving record at First Protestant.

All thanksgivings and/or memorials received by Monday, December 15 will be included in our Christmas Eve bulletins.

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☐ MEMORIAL ☐ THANKSGIVING \$\_\_\_\_\_Amount of Gift

In the Name of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print clearly — if no name is provided, gifts will be listed "To the Glory of God" with the giver's name.

Sunday School

Sundays, 9:30am Adult Sunday School Classes

The River Rats! (Heritage House, 1st floor) - Rodney Fischer

Sundays, 9:30am Youth Sunday School Classes

Middle School (Bormann Room) Jodi Butler

High School (Bormann Room) Adam Burroughs

Children's Sunday School (The Well) - Lydia Keuer

Sundays, 11:00am Adult Sunday School Classes

Faithful Servants (Heritage House upstairs) – Lynn Herr

Legacy Builders (Heritage House main level) – Celeste Salge

Kingdom Seekers/C.A.L.M. Class (Heritage House upstairs)

Wayne Wise, Chris and Kristi Beabout

Kids' Music & Arts Activities (The Well) - Kirsten Boyd

Mid Week Groups

Band of Brothers (B.o.B.s) – Chris Beabout - 830-560-0262

The B.o.B's meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Open to men of all ages, 6:30-8:00PM in the Well at FPC. No bible experience necessary. Please join us.

Tuesday AM Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study is a diverse group of all ages and denominations. We meet every Tues. morning at 10 am in the church office. We welcome all women to join as we seek to expand our faith and knowledge.

The Tuesday night Women's Bible Study group will begin a new series on the book of Matthew starting Tuesday, Sept. 16th. Contact Sue Saur for information at sue@firstprotestant.com

Flying Fingers (Heritage House) - Sally Voges 830-708-8707

Wednesday mornings at 9:00 for a time of sewing, quilting, fellowship & more! Contact Sally Voges for more info.

Home Groups

Susan and Tim Thomas - Wednesdays, 6:30 pm [timcthomas84@gmail.com](mailto:timcthomas84@gmail.com)




Flower announcements in our church bulletin are dedications of flowers that are given in honor or memory of someone or something. They can be given to celebrate an anniversary, baptism, birthday, or any special occasion. Visit the flower calendar in Schumann Hall or call the church office. 830-609-7729 x 110



Today

Altar Flowers are placed in tribute of 180 glorious years of worship (1845-2025) at First Protestant Church by Leroy and Patti Hardy.

Today's radio broadcast is given in memory of Katherine & Hylmar Karbach, Sr. and John Leissner Given by Carole Leissner



2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO ORDERED THEM. PLEASE CHECK THE TABLE IN THE FOYER NEAR THE RESTROOMS. IF YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.



FIRST PROTESTANT CHURCH OF NEW BRAUNFELS

172 W. Coll Street, New Braunfels, TX 78130

(830) 609-7729


"A spiritual home in the heart of the city."

December 14, 2025

First Service - 9:30 am

ADVENT SERIES

STORIES OF A WATCHFUL CHURCH



"WORKING TO RETURN WITH INTEREST"

MATTHEW 24:45-51