

- 14 Third Sunday of Advent**
- 14 "Round-the-Table-Sing" Lunch and Christmas Trolley Caroling** – The fun begins after Worship Service in Moss Hall. Let's have a light lunch, sing our favorite carols including "12 Days of Christmas" around the tables and then spread the joy to assisted living facilities via Trolley with caroling to the residents! You can do some or all of these activities. For more information contact Gabriel Cintron at [gcintron@mooringschurch.org](mailto:gcintron@mooringschurch.org).
- 14 Hyacinth Concert Series** – Featuring Alexandra Carlson & Quartet. Starts at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary. Admission is free.
- 14 Middle/High School Youth Group** – NEW Schedule: Open gym from 5:00 to 5:40pm, Middle School Lesson from 5:40 to 6pm, Recreation from 6-6:30pm, Dinner for all 6:30 to 7pm, High School Lesson from 7 to 7:30pm. For more info contact Gabriel Cintron at [gcintron@mooringschurch.org](mailto:gcintron@mooringschurch.org).
- 17 Wednesday Women's Bible Study** – Starts at 10:00am in the Board Room. We will be studying John McArthur's "God's Gift of Christmas." To sign up or for more information, contact Katie Giblin at [katiegiblin@aol.com](mailto:katiegiblin@aol.com).
- 17 Reader's Rendezvous** – Meets at 2:00pm in the Board Room. Contact Gena Bedrosian at [ehbedrosian@gmail.com](mailto:ehbedrosian@gmail.com) for more information.
- 17 Chancel Choir Rehearsal** – Starts at 7:00pm and is held in the Sanctuary. For more information contact Chris Dekker at [cdekker@mooringschurch.org](mailto:cdekker@mooringschurch.org). New members welcome!
- 18 Esther Circle** – Will start at 1:00pm in the Board Room. Contact Susan Liebetrau at 239-261-9396 for details.
- 18 Crafter's Corner** – with Ava Williams. We will meet in the Youth Room (2nd Floor of Moss Hall) at 2:00pm. This is for ALL Crafters — for crochet, knitting, scrapbookers, painters, sewing buffs, etc. You are invited to fellowship with other crafters and possibly even learn a new hobby! For more information contact Ava Williams at 239-776-4130 or email [slytherin390@icloud.com](mailto:slytherin390@icloud.com).
- 19 – 26 Moorings Presbyterian Preschool** – Christmas Break, no school
- 21 4th Sunday of Advent**
- 21 Middle/High School Youth Group** – Christmas Break, no meeting this week.
- 22 Mission Volunteer Day** – We will go to Guadalupe Social Services Soup Kitchen in Immokalee. Meet in the MPC Parking Lot at 8:30am. Please call Tim Miller at 734-502-0034 for more information.
- 23 Naomi Circle** – Meets in the Board Room starting at 10:00am. Contact Susan Burke at 240-393-5501 or [susanburke992@gmail.com](mailto:susanburke992@gmail.com) or Sybil McGennis at 239-261-7243 or [sosybil@aol.com](mailto:sosybil@aol.com) for more information.
- 24 Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** – Will be held in the Sanctuary at 5:00pm
- 24 Lessons and Carol Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** – Will be held in the Sanctuary at 8:00pm
- 25 Merry Christmas!** Christ is born! God is with us! The Church Office will be closed on Dec. 25th and Dec. 26th.

**ALERT!** It has come to our attention that some people have received scam emails that appear to be from our Pastor. Please know Pastor Steve Aguzzi will **NEVER** send an email asking you to purchase gift cards. Never. Not for any reason! If you are unsure or suspicious, please contact the Church Office directly at 239-213-5225 or Accounting at 239-213-5232. Thank you and stay safe!

**Join the Moorings Music Program!** Opportunities abound for people of all ages, and we'd love for you to participate. The Chancel Choir is open to anyone high school age and above without audition and rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. If you're interested in ringing bells, there are two ensembles both of which rehearse during the week and have position openings. Opportunities for children and instrumentalists also abound. Wherever your interest lies, please contact Chris Dekker at [cdekker@mooringschurch.org](mailto:cdekker@mooringschurch.org) for more information!

GENERAL INFO

Visitors Want to learn more about Moorings? Go to [mooringschurch.org](http://mooringschurch.org)  
**Watch a Live Broadcast** of the 10:00 a.m. worship service on your computer. Go to [mooringschurch.org](http://mooringschurch.org) and click on Watch. Recordings are available on the same page shortly after the service ends.  
**Baby-Changing Stations** are located in the men's and women's restrooms in Moss Hall.  
**Hearing Assistance Devices** are available for worship There are headphones with an FM receiver for those with or without hearing aids. "Loops" are available for those who have the "T Switch" in their hearing aids.

BAPTISM

God loves us and wants us to know him and follow Jesus in ever deeper ways! Baptism is both a sign of the covenant that God makes with his beloved children and also a mark of our response to God, by faith. Are you an adult member of MPC and have someone in your family that would like to receive the sacrament of baptism? Do you have a child under the confirmation age and would like to request that they be baptized? Contact the church office to find out more about next steps. If you are not yet a member of MPC — we ask that you first attend the Member Information Class and then the Baptism Information Class. To sign up please call Renée Beckner at 239-213-5225 or email [executiveassistant@mooringschurch.org](mailto:executiveassistant@mooringschurch.org).

WEEKLY EMAIL

Did you know we send a weekly email newsletter called "Moorings Matters" each Friday? It is full of news, event details and has all the latest info on what's happening at MPC. If you aren't already receiving it and would like to — please email Renee Beckner at [executiveassistant@mooringschurch.org](mailto:executiveassistant@mooringschurch.org) and she will sign you up!

BOOKMARK

From Your Spiritual Development Team - We have created a handy "Prayer Bookmark" to help us all in guided prayer for Moorings Presbyterian Church throughout the month of December. Pick your free bookmark in the Narthex or at the Reception Desk in Moss Hall. Lord, hear our prayers!

GIVING

There are multiple ways to give at Moorings Presbyterian Church. If you feel led to give by God, are inspired by our worship services, or see Christ at work in our various ministries, please consider making a financial offering using this QR code. It's simple: open the camera function on your phone and simply put the QR code into focus (don't press anything yet). When you see a yellow rectangle with the web-link, press that yellow box and follow the instructions. God bless you for being a cheerful giver!



**MOORINGS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**LOVE GOD. LOVE OTHERS. MAKE DISCIPLES.**  
**791 Harbour Drive, Naples, FL 34103**  
**[mooringschurch.org](http://mooringschurch.org) † (239) 261-1487**

Rev. Dr. Steve Aguzzi, Pastor  
 Pastoral Care Line  
 (239) 213-5225



December 14, 2025 † 10:00 A.M.

**MOORINGS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**LOVE GOD. LOVE OTHERS. MAKE DISCIPLES.**

The Third Sunday of Advent

**PRELUDE** *Prelude and Fugue in C Major* J.S. Bach

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rev. Dr. Steve Aguzzi

**LIGHTING OF THE JOY CANDLE** The Betz Family

**SUNG RESPONSE**  
 Prepare the way of the Lord.  
 Prepare the way of the Lord,  
 and all people will see  
 the salvation of our God. (*repeat*)

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Darin Early  
 One: As we come to worship at Advent we approach the window of our joy.  
**All: To open the Advent window is to find angels bringing an unexpected message.**  
 One: A message that will mean joy and freedom for all of us: rich and poor, privileged and struggling.  
**All: We open a window, letting joy fill us with news of forgiveness, justice, surprise and delight:**  
 One: God comes where least expected.  
**All: And God wants us to see him and know him.**

**\*HYMN 143** *Angels from the Realms of Glory* REGENT SQUARE

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN**  
**O God, as we approach this Advent, we come opening the windows you have prepared for us: the scriptures, the prayers, the friendships, the challenges. Forgive us when we close ourselves off to you. Forgive us of our sins—what we have done, and what we have failed to do. Help us to be like the shepherds: hearing the tidings, coming to see your gift, and going out to share this news of joy. Lord, we ask that you would come soon to this world and to us. In Christ, Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND EXPRESSION OF PEACE**  
 (*Please turn toward your neighbor and with hands from heart express peace*).

**\*RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE (for all to sing)**  
**I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.**  
**God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.**  
**In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.**  
**The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**WORD FOR CHILDREN** Gabriel Cintron

**MOMENT FOR MISSIONS - CHRISTMAS OFFERING INFO**  
 Dr. Linda Cuning, New Horizons



**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER** Rev. Dr. Steve Aguzzi  
**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY** *Once In Royal David’s City* arr. Matthew Culluton  
Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ her little child.  
He came down to Earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, and mean and lowly, lived on earth our savior holy.  
For he is our childhood’s pattern day by day like us he grew.  
He was little, weak and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew;  
And he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.  
And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above.  
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

**\*DOXOLOGY 606**  
**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.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Rev. Dr. Steve Aguzzi

**\*HYMN 87** *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* GENEVAN 42

**SCRIPTURE** Mark 1:1-3

**SERMON** *God with Us: Preparation*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles’ Creed  
**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, 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 on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 93** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* TRURO

**\*BENEDICTION and THE AMEN**

**POSTLUDE** *Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol* Gerald Near

\*Please stand as you are able.

**TODAY’S MUSIC**  
Bach’s Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 547, nicknamed the “Nine/Eight” after the meter of the Prelude, begins with an ascending C major scale, combines it with three other short but distinctive motifs, and weaves with these simple elements an intricate tapestry. In the fugue the one-measure-long subject is almost constantly heard, sometimes upside down (in inversion), in four voices on the manuals alone, until in a subtly climactic statement it is introduced in the pedal one-fourth as fast (in augmentation). A suggestion for listening pleasure: don’t look for meaning; simply follow the musical lines and marvel.

**LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

**Minister of Word and Sacrament:** Rev. Dr. Steve Aguzzi  
**Musicians:** Dr. Chris Dekker, Dr. John Stansell, Chancel Choir  
**Liturgist:** Darin Early  
**Acolytes:** Quinn Betz, Charlie Cappellman  
**Cross Bearer:** EJ Satana

**YOUTH**  
**Nursery:** opens at 9:45am in the Nursery.  
**Sunday School:** Children (Pre-K through 5th grade) may proceed to Sunday School following the Word for Children. After worship Pre-K may be picked up in the nursery and K-5th may be picked up in the Gym.  
**Middle & High School Youth** will go to the Youth Room.

**HEAL & PRAY**  
Prayer concerns are added to the bulletin upon request to Renee Beckner at executiveassistant@mooringschurch.org. Include any prayer request on the back of the Welcome/Contact Cards in the pews. Or you can submit a request online at mooringchurch.org/prayer. Hospital Admissions-If you or a loved one is admitted to the hospital, please let us know by calling (239) 261-1487 so we can notify our care ministers.

**FLOWERS**  
**Flowers In The Sanctuary** The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Todd Crockett and Terry Crockett. This gift is from Teresa Crockett, Brian, Tori and Cooper Gartz.

To donate flowers in the Sanctuary, please contact Renee Beckner at executiveassistant@mooringschurch.org.

**MISSIONS**  
**Guadalupe Social Services** The Missions Outreach Committee is requesting donations of food and clothing for Guadalupe Social Services. Please place your items in the bins outside of Moss Hall. Items needed: Canned goods (tuna, chicken, veggies, beans, gravy) dry goods (beans, rice, cereal, pasta, Mac & cheese), pasta sauce, salad dressing, peanut butter and jelly, and diapers.

**CHRISMONS**  
We encourage you, at your leisure, to view our Chrismon trees in the sanctuary. Chrismons, meaning Christ and monograms, are symbols such as stars, crosses, fish, crowns, and the alpha and the omega which remind us of Christ’s birth, life, ministry, death and resurrection. Many of these symbols were used to represent Christ when people were illiterate. Traditionally, these are white and gold. White symbolizes that Jesus is pure and perfect and the gold that signifies his majesty and glory. Chrismons were developed in 1957 by Frances Spencer and the women of a Lutheran Church in Virginia. Our Chrismons (185) were designed and stitched in cross-stitch or needlepoint by about 36 women in 1988. Six of them are still active members of MPC.

The Hyacinth Series presents  
**Alexandra Carlson**  
THE FOUR SEASONS REIMAGINED:  
FROM VIVALDI TO PIAZZOLLA  
Featuring a Dazzling Collaboration of Strings and Piano  
**Sunday, December 14**  
**4 P.M. | Sanctuary**  
**FREE ADMISSION**

**Pledge Your Gift to This Year’s Stewardship Campaign**  
**Pledges as of December 3rd**  
**\$474,690**  
**OUR GOAL : \$850,000**  
October 26 - December 31, 2025

CELEBRATE  
**Christmas Eve**  
FAMILY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 5 PM  
LESSONS & CAROLS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 8 PM  
  
Moorings Presbyterian Church

**CONTACT CARDS**  
We ask that everyone, members, visitors, regular attendees . . . everyone gathered here today to fill out the Welcome and Contact Cards found in your pew. This helps us register your attendance. There is also have a place to include your prayer requests, update your contact information and to let us know how you would like to be more involved in the life of the church. Please fill out the card and place in the Offering Plate every week.