



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

December 6, 2020
Second Sunday of Advent

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

- It is helpful for us to know who is worshipping on campus. If you haven't registered to attend, please visit 2pc.org now and use the buttons at the top of the homepage to let us know you're here!
- To help everyone keep proper distance when exiting, please exit by row to the closest exterior Sanctuary door (back rows to the North doors; front rows to the South doors). Also, please keep masks on throughout the worship service and while on campus.
- A live stream of services is available at 2pc.org/live for those unable to attend at this time.
- **52 Reasons Devotion Series:** In July of this year, Pastor George introduced an encouraging weekly devotional regarding the importance of corporate worship for the people of God. To follow that series, click "media" at the top of our homepage at 2pc.org, subscribe to our social media channels (@2PCMemphis), or find it in the Messenger email newsletter each Friday.
- **Messenger:** The best way to find out what's going on at Second is to subscribe to our weekly email newsletter. To subscribe, simply scroll to the orange box at the bottom of our homepage and enter your name and email address—then watch for it to arrive in your inbox on Friday afternoons!

Christmas Flower Order Form

I/We wish to contribute \$_____ to the Flower Ministry of Second Presbyterian Church for use in decorating the church for the Christmas season in memory or honor of loved ones. Please acknowledge the gift (omitting the amount) in the bulletin on Sunday, December 20 as follows:

Please check **ONLY** one: In Memory of In Honor of In Gratitude for

Name: _____

Given by: _____

Donor Phone Number: _____

December 13 is the deadline for the inclusion of names in the bulletin on December 20, 2020.

Please return this form with your check made out to Second Presbyterian Church and send to 4055 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38111. Clearly designate the gift for the "Flower Ministry."

An online order form is available at 2pc.org/flowers.

Morning Worship

8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

COME, AND EXALT HIS GREATNESS

PRELUDE: Variations on "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" Denis Bédard
Samuel Metzger, organ

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE..... Carol and Bill Overcast (8:15)
Miller and Zach Erickson (11:00)

✦CALL TO WORSHIP.....Barton Kimbro
For the protection of our community during the pandemic, singing along to hymns is discouraged.

✦HYMN OF ADVENT: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL
Words: John Mason Neale / Music: Thomas Helmore; arr. Samuel Metzger / Isaiah 59:20

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save, and give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, thou Dayspring from on high and cheer us by Thy drawing night;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

✦INVOCATION

✦PROPHETIC LESSON.....Select Verses from Isaiah

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign

**Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel.**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

**and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,

**on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it**

with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

So they shall fear the name of the Lord from the west,
and his glory from the rising of the sun;
for he will come like a rushing stream, which the wind of the Lord drives
**“And a Redeemer will come to Zion,
to those in Jacob who turn from transgression,” declares the Lord.**

♠ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE VENI EMMANUEL

Words: John Mason Neale / Music: Thomas Helmore / Isaiah 59:20

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

COME, AND EXPERIENCE HIS PEACE

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy and Gracious Father,
You have a most scandalous way of rescuing proud people:
The One who possesses real authority to assert His rights
lays them aside to humbly serve and die for us.
We beseech Your forgiveness for our pride,
which has destroyed our ability to truly love and care for others.
We confess that selfish ambition has caused squabbling and discord among us.
Pardon us for our status-seeking ways
and consume us with the only status that matters—
proximity to You, our humble Lord.
For we pray in the Name of the One
to whom every knee will bow
and every tongue confess, Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON. I Timothy 1:15

*The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,
of whom I am the foremost.*

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

Boxes at Exits: We will not pass the offering plate. Boxes are available at the Sanctuary exits.

Give Online: 2pc.org/give

Give by Text: Text SECOND followed by the gift amount to (901) 410-9500 to give to the General Fund.
To give to World Missions, text WORLD followed by an amount to the same number.

Give by Mail: Second Presbyterian Church, 4055 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38111

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Behold That Star" Mark Hayes

*Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder.
Behold that star! It is the star of Bethlehem.*

There was no room found in the inn for Him who was born free from sin.
The wise men traveled from the East to worship Him, the Prince of Peace.

A song broke forth upon the night from angel hosts all robed in white.

There's a star in the East on Christmas morn. Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
It will lead to the place where the Savior's born. Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Leave your ewes and leave your lambs. Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Leave your sheep and leave your rams. Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Follow the star of Bethlehem. Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

*Jauna Ellis, soloist
The Chancel Choir
Brad Jones, piano
Calvin Ellis, director*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIDEO: A WORD TO THE CHILDREN Lynn Erickson

COME, AND ENJOY HIS FREEDOM

✦PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

✦HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Prepare the Royal Highway" BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

Words: Mikael Franzén / Music: Swedish melody / Isaiah 40:3-4

Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!
The hope of ev'ry nation, God's promise of salvation.

*Hosanna to the Lord,
For He fulfills God's word!*

We wait our Savior's coming, our own eternal King!
Long promised by the prophets, let heav'n with praises ring.
Our hope is ever growing, God's peace to all bestowing.

Come fling the gates wide open to greet your promised King!
All lands will bow before Him, their voices join to sing
Of hope and peace abounding, of joy to heav'n resounding.

Christ's is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.
His rule secures our freedom, and justice, truth and love.
Hope, peace, and joy our treasure, God's love above all measure.

SCRIPTURE LESSON. Luke 2:9-10

And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. (*Isaiah 40:8*)

SERMON: The Glory of the Lord George Robertson

- I. **Bad News**
- II. **Worse News**
- III. **Best News**

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦BENEDICTION

✦BENEDICTION RESPONSE. GLORIA

Words: Traditional French Carol / Music: arr. Edward Shippen Barnes / Luke 2:14

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

POSTLUDE: Celtic Toccata on "Angels We Have Heard on High" Grimoaldo Macchia

✦Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

Premieres Online at 6:00 Tonight

This year, it's safest that we sing out loud from our own homes, so we're taking our annual favorite sing-along service online!

This online-only event will feature pre-recorded music from our choir and orchestra as well as our children's choir.

Plan your own mini watch party at home!

Reminder: There will be no on-campus worship this evening.

Ways to Watch:

- Online at 2pc.org/advent
- Search for "2pcmephris" using YouTube on your smart TV or mobile device.

This recording will be available throughout the Advent season.

Visit 2pc.org/advent for the full Advent schedule.

Congregational Meeting: The Session has called the congregation to meet at both morning services on December 13 to elect officers to begin service in January 2021 on the Diaconate and Session. The officers being elected have previously been nominated by the congregation and have completed a period of training and examination.

Nursery Availability: Our nursery is open during the 8:15 a.m. service to children ages 3 and under and during Sunday Night Worship to children ages 4 and under. Pre-registration is required. Visit 2pc.org to learn more and register. *Note: The nursery will be closed tonight for the online Festival of Carols event and on December 27.*

Congregational Communities: Some of our adult Congregational Communities are meeting on campus on Sunday mornings, and others continue to meet online. Visit 2pc.org/cc for a full list of CCs or contact your CC leader for more information.

Holiday Service Opportunities: There are many ways we can serve our neighbors this holiday season. One way is through donating warm men's and women's clothing (coats, gloves, hats, etc.) for Calvary Rescue Mission and Memphis Union Mission. Collection barrels are available outside of the Fellowship Hall through December 13. Visit 2pc.org/serve for the full list of opportunities.

Weekly Focus on Missions

World Missions: Clarke and Khrystya serve on a church planting team at Church of the Holy Trinity in L'viv, Ukraine, where they focus primarily on the tween and teen community within the church and more broadly in the city. Holy Trinity is the first Ukrainian-speaking Presbyterian church in the world, and their congregation has experienced strong attendance and several new visitors at their outdoor services during

the pandemic. Their congregation will be worshipping online this winter. Please pray for Clarke as he works on his seminary degree and that Holy Trinity would be a light in L'viv during these isolating times.

Mission Memphis: Our partners at Service Over Self are praising the Lord for His provision—they were able to complete 32 home repairs this year! Please pray for the SOS staff and board as they plan for 2021.

Caring Ministry Update

Sympathy to:

The family of *Earline S. Patterson* on her death, November 25, 2020.

Andrea Quinn on the death of her husband, *Henry Bernard "Skip" Quinn, Jr.*, November 28, 2020.

Mike Rhodes on the death of his father, *Eugene Gault Rhodes*, November 29, 2020.

Congratulations to:

Lee and James Long on the birth of a son, *James Henry Long*, November 13, 2020. Paternal grandparents are Rebecca and Chris Long.

In the Hospital (as of 12/2/20):
Susan Riley, Methodist Germantown
Russell White, Baptist Memphis

December Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary for the month of December are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of: *Bernice and George Flinn* by their sons *George, Jr., Fred, Carl*, and their families; *Mr. and Mrs. William D. Nicholson* by their children and

grandchildren; *Lillian and Thomas Patton* by *Susan and Claude Crawford, Elizabeth and John Holmes*, and their grandchildren; and *their son, Benjamin*, and *their parents, Madge and Charles Smith and Diantha and Carl Weber*, by *Vicki and Bill Weber*.



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