



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

December 20, 2020
Fourth 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.
- Please take this order of worship with you as you exit. Hint: You can bring it back for worship this evening at 6:00!
- The order of worship for the evening service begins on page 11 of this booklet.
- **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!

ABOUT NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols tells the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus in nine Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books, and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns, and choral music.

The format was based on an order drawn up by Edward White Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury but at that time Bishop of Truro, in Cornwall, for use on Christmas Eve 1880. Tradition says that he organized a 10:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve in a temporary wooden shed serving as his cathedral and that a key purpose of the service was to keep men out of pubs on Christmas Eve.

The original liturgy has since been adapted and used by other churches all over the world. The best-known version has broadcast annually from King's College, Cambridge, on Christmas Eve since 1918. It features carols sung by the College's famous choir. Our tradition at Second Presbyterian Church is based on this service.

Nine Lessons *and* Carols

Morning Worship · 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE: “Jauchzet, frohlocket!” from *Christmas Oratorio* J.S. Bach; arr. Metzger

Celebrate, rejoice, rise up and praise these days, glorify what the Highest has done today!

Abandon despair, banish laments, sound forth full of delight and happiness!

Serve the Highest with glorious choruses, let us honor the name of the Supreme Ruler!

Samuel Metzger, organ

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Julia, Adam, Merritt, Lawson, and Seth Harkins (8:15)

Jauna, Caleb, Carrington, and Calvin Ellis (11:00)

✦CALL TO WORSHIP Todd Erickson (8:15)

Gerry Peak (11:00)

For the protection of our community during the pandemic, singing along to hymns is discouraged.

✦HYMN OF ADVENT: “Once in Royal David’s City” IRBY

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander / Music: Henry J. Gauntlett; arr. Willcocks / Luke 2:12

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.

And through all His wondrous childhood He would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms He lay:
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as He.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav’n above,
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him, but in heaven, set at God’s right hand on high;
When like stars His children crowned all in white shall wait around.

Coley Stout, soloist

✦INVOCATION

God announces that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust

you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you." And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL: "Remember, O Thou Man" Thomas Ravenscroft

Words: Melismata 1611 / Music: John Ravenscroft / Genesis 3

Remember, O thou man, O thou man, O thou man,
Remember, O thou man, thy time is spent.
Remember, O thou man, how thou art dead and gone,
And I did what I can. Therefore repent.

Remember Adam's fall, O thou man, O thou man,
Remember Adam's fall from heaven to hell.
Remember Adam's fall, how we were condemned
All in hell perpetual, there for to dwell.

Remember God's goodness, O thou man, O thou man,
Remember God's goodness and His promise made.
Remember God's goodness, how He sent His Son doubtless,
Our sins for to redress. Be not afraid.

The angels all did sing, O thou man, O thou man,
The angels all did sing upon the shepherds' hill.
The angels all did sing praises to our heavenly King,
And peace to man living with a good will.

*The Chancel Choir
Calvin Ellis, director*

THE SECOND LESSON Genesis 22:15-18

Abraham's Son shall be a blessing to all the nations.

And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the

stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL: "Creator of the Stars of Night" CONDITOR ALME

Words: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale / Music: C. Winfred Douglas / Philippians 2:10-11

Creator of the stars of night, Your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, we pray You hear us when we call.

When this old world drew on t'ward night, You came yet not in splendor bright,
Not as a monarch but the child of Mary, virgin mother mild.

At Your great name, O Jesus, now all knees must bend all hearts must bow:
All things on earth with one accord, like those in heav'n, shall call You Lord.

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three-in-One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally.

THE THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7

God promises a Child King who liberates from terrorizing darkness.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as

fuel for the fire. 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL: "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" PSALM 42

Words: Johannes Olearius / Music: Genevan Psalter / Isaiah 40:1

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
Bidding all men to repentance, since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way!
Let the valleys rise to meet Him, and the hills bow down to greet Him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain:
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits His holy reign,
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token that His word is always firm.

THE FOURTH LESSON Isaiah 11:1-4

The prophet speaks of One who is capable of changing the world.

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear

of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" ES IST EIN ROS'

Words: German Carol, 15th Century / Music: Michael Praetorius / Isaiah 11:1

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.
O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory, who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven and to the endless day.

THE FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne

of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy — the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

CAROL: "Song of Mary" Faye López, Sergei Rachmaninoff

Words: Patricia Mock, aye López / Music: Faye López, Sergei Rachmaninoff / Luke 1:46-55

My soul exalts the Lord, my God,
And my spirit rejoices in praise to God my Savior.
For He has chosen me, the handmaid of the Lord.
Age to age, generations will call me blessed.
For the favor the Mighty One has shown to His servant,
For He has honored me, the bondslave of the Lord.
In His goodness, His kind compassion,
He sends the Promised One the vow to pay.
In remembrance of His great mercy,
The Holy One has done great things, for me.
O magnify His holy name.
My soul magnifies the Lord, my God,
And my heart rejoices in praise to God, my Savior.
For He has chosen me, the bondslave of the Lord. Amen.

THE SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:1-7

Luke recounts the birth narrative of our Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

CAROL: "Adore Him" David Wise, David Shippis

Words and Music: Wodd, Poythress, and Oakeley; arr. David Wise / Luke 2:15

Countless days on a journey that led so far;
Endless nights they traveled to follow the star.
They did not find a palace, just a humble village home;
And searching for a king, but finding a Child,
No crown, no throne, still they bowed down.

Come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him.

Expectation turned to mystery,
For nothing was like anything they'd dreamed.
Anticipating the royal and those honored by this world,
Instead they gazed in the awestruck eyes
Of a lowly peasant girl, holding her Child.

The brilliant gold, the fragrant myrrh,
The costly frankincense placed before Him.

Come, let us adore Him.
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

THE SEVENTH LESSON. Matthew 2:1-11

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.' Then Herod summoned

the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

CAROL: "The Three Kings" Healey Willan

Words: Laurence Housman / Music: Healey Willan / Matthew 2:1

Who knocks tonight so late? The weary porter said.
Three Kings stood at the gate, each with a crown on head.
The serving man bowed down; the inn was full, he knew.
Said he, in all this town, is no fit place for you!
A light, the manger lit. There lay the Mother meek.
Said they, this place is fit: Here is the rest we seek!
Come, they loosed their latched strings; so, stood they all unshod.
Come in, come in, ye Kings! And kiss the feet of God.

THE EIGHTH LESSON John 1:1-14

Behold the glory and receive the grace of our incarnate Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to

everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

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: "Love Came Down at Christmas" John Rutter

Words: Christina Rossetti / Music: John Rutter / Luke 2

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine;
Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.
Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine;
Worship we our Jesus: but wherewith for sacred sign?
Love shall be our token, love shall be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and to all men, love for plea and gift and sign.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

THE NINTH LESSON Luke 2:22-32

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was

upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, and for glory to your people Israel."

The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the Word of our God will stand forever. (*Isaiah 40:8*)

SERMON: The Glory of God's Mission.....George Robertson

- I. **Embrace What It Is** (*Luke 2:32*)
- II. **Embrace It for Salvation** (*Luke 2:30, 31*)
- III. **Embrace It for Peace** (*Luke 2:29*)

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

♠CAROL: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" David Willcocks

Words: Charles Wesley / Music: Felix Mendelssohn / Luke 2:13-14

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."
Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

♠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: Toccata on "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" Garth Edmundson

*From heaven above to earth I come to hear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, whereof I now will say and sing.*

♠Indicates congregation standing

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Trumpeters: Susan Enger, Brittany Hendricks and Alex Shuetrumpf

Sermon Notes

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Sunday Night Worship

6:00 p.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS David Bowen

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

Give Online: 2pc.org/give

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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Kyle, Kacey, Emmie, and Leighton Cummins

✦CALL TO WORSHIP

For the protection of our community during the pandemic, singing along to hymns is discouraged.

✦JESUS, WHAT A WONDERFUL CHILD

Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child!
Jesus, Jesus, so lowly, meek, and mild.
New life, new hope, new joy He brings—
Won't you listen to the angels sing:
Glory, glory, glory to the newborn King.

He was herald by the angels, born in a lowly manger
The virgin Mary was His mother and Joseph was His earthly father.
Three wise men came from afar; they were guided by a shining star
To see King Jesus where He lay in a manger filled with hay.

Traditional Spiritual / Luke 1:30-35

✦INVOCATION

✦O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels.

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God, glory in the highest.

We'll praise His name forever, we'll praise His name forever,
We'll praise His name forever, Christ the Lord!

We give You all the glory, we give You all the glory,
We give You all the glory, Christ, Jesus Christ,
You are Christ the Lord!

Music: arr. Jeff Moore, Dan Galbraith / Luke 2:10

SCRIPTURE LESSON. I John 3:5-8

You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is

righteous, as he is righteous. Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the Word of our God will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

SERMON: Christmas: A War Story Barton Kimbro

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

This is the Lord's table. All who profess their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are invited to receive communion. If this is not your faith, we would still encourage you to walk forward, knowing that no one will make you take the elements. Any of our elders or pastors will be happy to talk to you about questions or doubts you have about faith in Christ. We encourage children not to take communion until they have joined the church but do welcome them to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. All communion wafers are gluten free.

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

♠ SWEET LITTLE JESUS BOY

Sweet little Jesus boy, born in a manger;
Sweet little holy child, we didn't know who You were.
Long time ago, it seems, You were born;
Born in a manger Lord, sweet little Jesus boy.
Didn't know You'd come to save us all, to take our sins away.
Our eyes were blind, we did not see; we didn't know who You were.
You have shown us how, and we are trying.
Master, You have shown us how, even as You were dying.
This world treats You mean, Lord; treats me mean, too.
But that's how things are done down here; we didn't know it was You.

Words and Music: Robert MacGimsey; arr. Dan Galbraith | Galatians 4:1-7

Julian Cross, solo

♠ INSTRUMENTAL SONGS OF CHRIST'S BIRTH

✦HALLELUJAH CHORUS (A Soulful Celebration)

Hallelujah! For the Lord God, omnipotent reigneth.
The kingdom of this world is become.
The kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.
And He shall reign forever and ever.
King of kings and Lord of lords.
And He shall reign forever and ever.
Hallelujah!

Music: G.F. Handel, adapted John Higgins; arr. Mervyn Warren, Michael O. Jackson, Mark Kibble / Revelation 11:15

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦BENEDICTION

✦GOSPEL AMEN

✦Indicates congregation standing

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Gospel Choir: Daija McNeil, Jauna Ellis, Kristin Jones, Brenae Johnson, Haleigh Boykin, Mandy Webb, Shelbie Pittman, Gregory Mason, Jeremiah Davis, Julian Cross, Calvin Ellis

Instrumentalists: Michael Parsons, Joe Mariencheck, David Pruitt, Devereau Williams, Claude Hinds, Spencer Cox, Samuel Metzger

Sermon Notes

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Christmas Flowers

The following is a list of donations to the Floral Guild Fund, given to the glory of God.

In Memory of: *Mr. and Mrs. William D. Nicholson* by their children and grandchildren; *Tim Russell* by Becky Maddux and Laurin Maddux; *Elle and Milla Gieselmann and Forrest Spence* by the Emmaus Congregational Community; *Betsy H. Graham* by Wade, Katie, Will, and Graham West; *my sister, Marilyn Kay Martin*, by Mrs. Jose Magallanes; *Edward A. Hamilton, Jr.* by the Allen and Hamilton families; *Wilton Hazelwood* by Sandy Hazelwood; *Joseph "Jojo" and Susan "Honey" Harris* by the Tuck family; *Marjorie Brown* by Pat Bogan; *Bucky Shappley* by Pat Shappley; *Walter and Allene Gordon, Mary Ann Mathison, and Margaret and Gerald Wade, Sr.* by Mary Jo and Barney Gordon; *Mark Rogers Coleman, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Flint Sawtelle, Bo Nance, Cilla Harris, and Lucille Tansey* by Bob, Deborah, Caroline, and Carter Coleman; *George and Elaine Walker, Burns and Nan Landess, and Charlie Cash* by Dee Walker; *Graham Russell Stewart* by his family, Jim, Traci, and Harrison Stewart; *Alton and Nina Keith* by Jim and Pat Corbitt; *John and Margaret Whittemore and Russell and Rachel Schulte* by John and Marilyn Whittemore; *Cindy Garner Stanfill and Nancy Julia Davidson* by Orin and Mary Davidson; *Jim McCormick, Margaret Donato, and Earline Patterson* by Ann McCormick; *Ruth and Buddy Morrison* by their children and grandchildren; *Skip Sharp and Dorothy L. Davis* by Glenda Davis Sharp; *Timothy Russell* by Katherine Russell; *Russ Billings* by Janet Misner; *Sara Misner* by Janet Misner; *Tim Russell* by Janet Misner; *Lawanna Ingram* by Janet Misner; *S. Herbert Rhea and Stephen H. Rhea, Jr.* by the

Rhea family; Carolyn Russell by Smoky Russell; *Tim Russell* by Smoky Russell; *my son, Robert Tipton, Jr.*, by Deborah Dunklin Tipton; *L. Carl Anderson* by his grandchildren, Witt, Pender, and Georgianna Wells; *Mr. and Mrs. Lagrone Mortimer and Dr. and Mrs. Nicholas Gotten, Sr.* by Dr. and Mrs. Nicholas Gotten, Jr.; *Ruth and Buddy Morrison and Meg Garrott* by Brandon and Joe Morrison and their children.

In Honor of: *Mr. and Mrs. Kelton Morris, Sr.* by Hailey, Courtney, Hale, and Kelton Williamson; *Caroline Nance and Claire Coleman* by Bob, Deborah, Caroline, and Carter Coleman; *Jane Cash* by Dee Walker; *Billie Anne Williams* by Emma Shoaf; *Dial Boyle Jackson* by their children and grandchildren; *Pastor George Robertson and Pastor Gerry Peak* by Chuck and Scottie Cobb; *Lee and David Bowen* by Janet Misner; *the Caring Ministry* by Janet Misner; *Karen Coleman* by Steve Tackett; *Peggy Salajka* by Steve Tackett; *Dr. Steve Threlkeld and Staff* by Katherine Russell; *my daughter, Mary Elisabeth Tipton*, by Deborah Dunklin Tipton; *our world missionaries* by Ron and Sarah Sadlow; *Mr. and Mrs. Claude Crawford* by Ragan and Lon Magness and their children; *Allison and Tom Garrott* by Brandon and Joe Morrison and their children.

In Gratitude for: *Second Presbyterian Church* by Katherine Russell; *Mary Willson* by Katie West; *Growing in Grace Shepherd Group Leaders and Shepherding Elders, Nick Bragorgos and Don Riley*, by Mark and Debbie Perkins; *Lynne and John Witherington* by Sandy Hazelwood.

Christmas Eve Worship

4:00 p.m. Family Service

5:30, 8:00 & 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Services

All Christmas Eve services will be live streamed, and limited seating is available for on-campus worship.

If you plan to worship on campus, registration is required. Registration for the 5:30 service is closed as we have reached seating capacity for that service.

Communion will not be served and our nursery will be closed.

Visit 2pc.org/advent to register.

On-Campus Activities Update

Due to the rise in COVID-19 cases in our county, please make note of the following changes to on-campus activities:

- Adult CCs will not meet on campus through at least January 10. Check with your CC leader about meeting virtually.
- Our nursery will not be available for any worship service.
- The Fitness Center and Track has closed.
- All other on-campus activities, including youth programming, Bible studies, etc. are cancelled at this time.

In the Hospital

(as of 12/16/20)

Susan Cunningham
Baptist Rehab

Russell White
Baptist Rehab

Caring Ministry Fund

Each December, a special collection is taken to benefit the Caring Ministry's mercy fund that provides financial assistance to those in need within our church and in our community. To give to this fund: visit 2pc.org/caring or write a check (*designate "Caring Fund" in the memo line*) and place it in one of the offering boxes at the Sanctuary exits.

December Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of: *Mrs. Donna "Susie" Floyd, Mr. Fred Floyd, and Mr. Thomas Chase* by Mr. and Mrs. Brandon Chase who were married yesterday. Mrs. Chase is the former Allison Floyd.

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.

Weekly Focus on Missions

World Missions: Randy and Martha work with EPC World Outreach as missions trainers. In early 2020, they visited a mission outreach site in California, travelled to Turkey to visit teams there, and attended a missions conference in Maryland. Now, their meetings are all online. Pray for them as they virtually walk alongside pre-field trainees and encourage their missionaries abroad.

Mission Memphis: Our partners at Streets Ministries are thankful that the Lord has provided a way for them to provide virtual learning spaces for students. Please pray for the students who are dealing with problems at home and for the virtual learning efforts.

Year-end Giving Reminder

Per IRS regulations, year-end gifts not mailed to the church must be placed in the offering boxes at the Sanctuary exits or delivered to the church office no later than Thursday, December 31, 2020, in order to qualify as a charitable gift for the 2020 tax year. The church office will close at 5:00 p.m., but you can give online at 2pc.org/ give until midnight on December 31. Contributions mailed to the church must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service by December 31, 2020, in order to qualify as a charitable gift for the 2020 tax year. Mailing envelopes postmarked after December 31, 2020, must be reported as a 2021 gift, regardless of the date on the enclosed check.

General Fund Giving Update

	This Year Budget	This Year Actual	Variance	Last Year Actual
November	\$ 836,663	\$ 846,300	\$ 9,637	\$ 686,206
YTD 7/1/20–11/30/20	\$ 3,318,462	\$ 3,381,838	\$ 63,376	\$ 3,043,767



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