

# Advent



DECEMBER 8, 2024 • 8:15 + 11:00 AM

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# Morning Worship

8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

## PRAISE THE GOD WHO HAS COME NEAR

PRELUDE: "Meditation on HYFRODOL" . . . . . J. Christopher Pardini

*Leo Davis, organ*

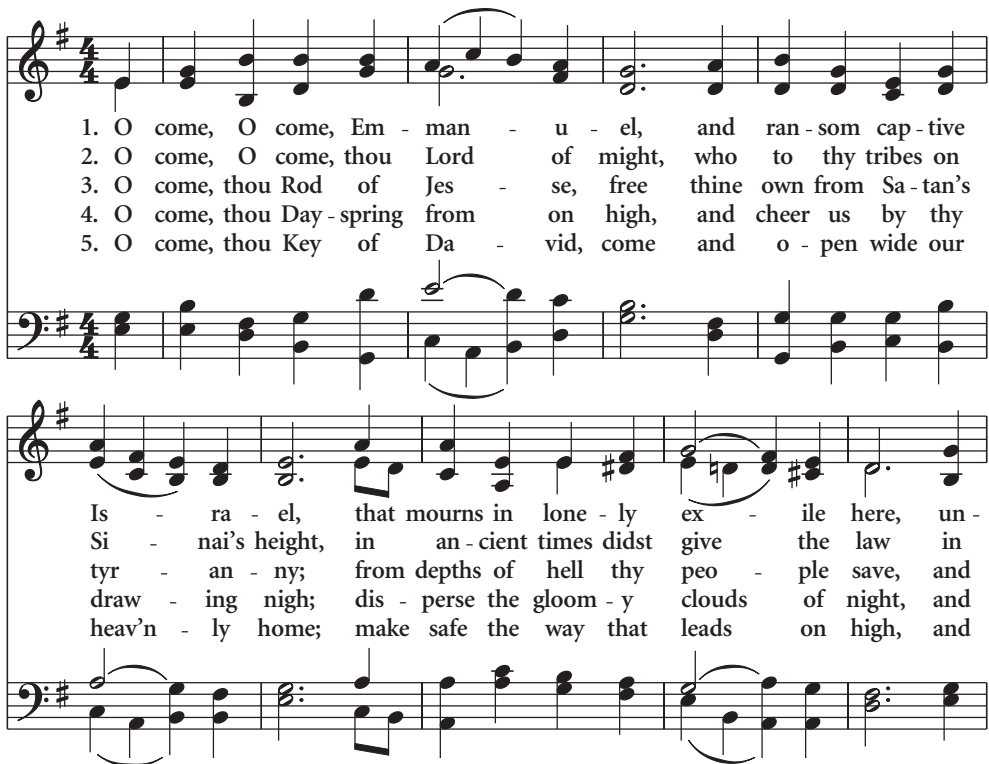
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE . . . . . Erin and James Luecke (8:15)

Frances and Alex Thompson (11:00)

✦CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 150:6 . . . . . David Bowen

✦HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 127 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" . . . . . VENI EMMANUEL

*Words: Latin hymn; trans. John Mason Neale / Isaiah 59:20*



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on  
3. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's  
4. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy  
5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un -  
Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give the law in  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save, and  
draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and  
heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and

til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
 give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -  
 death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
 close the path to mis - er - y.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

✦ INVOCATION

### COME TO THE HUMBLE SAVIOR

#### CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious Father,**  
**who faithfully fulfilled Your promise of redemption**  
**through the advent of Your one and only Son,**  
**we confess with broken hearts**  
**that we have continued in our sin and rebellion**  
**and have grieved You with our callous hearts.**  
**Please forgive us for all our sins,**  
**for we are truly sorry and do earnestly repent.**  
**Restore and renew our spirits by Your grace**  
**that we may draw near to You,**  
**obey You, enjoy You, and glorify Your matchless Name,**  
**through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.**

#### INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON..... I John 4:9-10

*In this the love of God was made manifest among us,*  
*that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.*  
*In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us*  
*and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*



WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

*Give Online: 2pc.org/give*

*Give by Text: Text SECOND to (901) 410-9500 to give to the General Fund.*

*Text WORLD to the same number to give to World Missions.*

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" . . . . . Howard Helvey

*Words: German Carol, 15th Century / Music: Michael Praetorius; arr. Howard Helvey / Isaiah 11:1*

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,  
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.  
It came, a blossom bright, amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
Dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.  
True man, yet very God; from sin and death now save us  
And share our every load.

*The Chancel Choir  
Calvin Ellis, director*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATING THE OFFERING: RESTORATION PEACEMAKERS MINISTRY

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN. . . . . Danielle Miles

FOLLOW THE LORD WITH JOY

◆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: No. 175 "Joy Has Dawned".....JOY HAS DAWNED

Words and Music: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend / John 1:18

1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom - ised from cre - a - tion:  
 2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels;  
 3. Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry;  
 4. Son of Ad - am, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som,

God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.  
 as the might - y Prince of Life shel - ters in a sta - ble.  
 gifts of men from dis - tant lands proph - e - sy the sto - ry.  
 rec - on - cil - ing God and man, Christ our might - y cham - pion!

Not with fan-fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,  
 Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark - ness,  
 Gold, a King is born to - day; in - cense, God is with us;  
 What a Sav - ior, what a friend, what a glo - rious mys - t'ry:

but a hum - ble gift of love: Je - sus born of Mar - y.  
 cling now to a moth - er's breast, vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.  
 myrrh, his death will make a way, by his blood he'll win us.  
 once a babe in Beth - le - hem, now the Lord of his - t'ry.

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

SERMON: With Us for Protection ..... George Robertson

- I. From Divine Judgment – Redeemer (43:1; 42:18-25)
- II. From Natural Disaster – Savior (43:2)
- III. From Human Enemies – Beloved (43:3-4)

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

◆HYMN OF COMMITMENT: No. 77 “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You” ..... ST. THEODULPH

Words: Paul Gerhardt; tr. Catherine Winkworth / Music: Melchior Teschner / Matthew 25:6

1. O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?  
 2. Love caused your in - car - na - tion, love brought you down to me;  
 3. Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,  
 4. Sin's debt, that fear - ful bur - den, let not your souls dis - tress;

Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!  
 your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.  
 who mourn o'er joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.  
 your guilt the Lord will par - don and cov - er by his grace.

O kin - dle, Lord Most Ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast  
 O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace,  
 De - spair not, he is near you, yea, stand - ing at the door,  
 He comes, for men pro - cur - ing the peace of sin for - giv'n,







# Advent

## **Festival of Carols**

*Tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary*

Don't miss this festive service of sing-along Christmas carols led by our choirs and a full orchestra—an annual favorite!

Nursery is available for ages five and under. A reception will follow in the lobby outside the bookstore.

## **Sing Hallelujah**

*December 15, 6:00 p.m.*

## **Nine Lessons and Carols**

*December 22, 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.*

## **Christmas PJ Party**

*December 22, 4:30 p.m.*

## **A Gospel Christmas**

*December 22, 6:00 p.m.*

## **Christmas Eve Worship**

*4:00 p.m. Family Service*

*5:30, 8:00 & 11:00 p.m.*

*Candlelight Communion Services*

*Visit [2pc.org/advent](https://2pc.org/advent) for more details and for a list of service opportunities.*

## **Congregational Meeting**

The Session has called the congregation to meet today at both morning services to elect officers to begin service in January 2025 on the Diaconate and Session. Those up for election have previously been nominated by the congregation and have completed a period of training and examination.

## **Year-End Giving Reminder**

Per IRS regulations, year-end gifts not mailed to the church must be placed in the Sunday offering at church or delivered to the church office no later than Tuesday, December 31, 2024, to qualify as a charitable gift for the 2024 tax year. Also, online giving will be available at [2pc.org/give](https://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, 2024, to qualify as a charitable gift for the 2024 tax year. Mailed envelopes postmarked after December 31, 2024 must be reported as a 2025 gift, regardless of the date on the enclosed check.

## **Adult Inquirers Class**

Interested in learning more about Second or becoming a member? Our next Inquirers Class for adults will meet January 10-12. Visit [2pc.org/inquirers](https://2pc.org/inquirers) to learn more and register. Contact Britton Laughlin at [britton.laughlin@2pc.org](mailto:britton.laughlin@2pc.org) or (901) 454-0034 with questions.

## **Youth Inquirers Class**

Any student in 8th-12th grade who desires to pursue church membership is invited to attend Youth Inquirers Class January 5, 12, and 26. Visit [2pc.org/youthinquirers](https://2pc.org/youthinquirers) to learn more and register. Contact Kevin McQuillen at [kevin.mcquillen@2pc.org](mailto:kevin.mcquillen@2pc.org) or (901) 454-0034 with questions.

## Caring Ministry Update

### **Congratulations to:**

A and Margaret Thompson on the birth of a daughter, *Mimi Evelyn Thompson*, November 18, 2024. Paternal grandparents are Frances and Alex Thompson III.

Bill and Aubrey Gullede on the birth of a daughter, *Lucile Wright Gullede*, November 21, 2024.

### **Sympathy to:**

The family of *Dorothy Winston Graham* on her death, November 28, 2024.

### **In the Hospital:** (as of 12/4/24)

Lynn Ballinger, *Baptist Memphis (no visitors)*  
Jean Jones, *Methodist Germantown*

## Weekly Prayer Focus

**World Missions–Dean and Kyria:** Dean and Kyria serve in Ethiopia, where Dean has begun research with SIL Ethiopia's Scripture Engagement department. His primary role in this department is to help launch a new project called Faith and Farming. This project aims to identify and overcome barriers to scripture engagement specifically among people who make a living producing food. It also aims to show how farming, animal care, and food production all relate to scripture. Dean has enjoyed being in a preaching rotation at their Amharic-speaking church plant in Addis Ababa. Kyria continues studying and taking lessons in Amharic while caring for their son Thomas. Pray for more immersion opportunities for Dean and Kyria in their ongoing language learning and for God's direction with Faith and Farming. Pray for Ethiopia as it endures ongoing ethnic and political tensions and violence.

**Domestic Missions–Neighborhood Christian Centers:** The NCC focuses on providing housing and care for children and their parents, addressing the needs for family stability in under-served areas in Memphis. Today, they operate 13 site locations across the city of Memphis, serving 30,000 people a year and providing emergent and long-term support to neighbors in need using a gospel-centric, relational approach. Praise God for a successful Trunk & Treat Fall Festival and for the increase in the number of program youth! Please pray for funding for Compassionate Christmas Outreach Programs, donations of enough toys for their Christmas Toy Store, and safety from on-property crime for the residents, staff, and volunteers at NCC sites.

**2PC Ministry–Elders:** Elders at Second are nominated by the congregation and trained, examined, and approved by the Session before being elected by the congregation to oversee the spiritual welfare of the church. They do this by exemplifying Christ-like character, studying and teaching the Scriptures, praying and caring for members experiencing sickness or suffering, and stepping in to guide and warn members straying from the truth. Thank God for our elders and for calling them to their role. Ask God to give them the wisdom they need to fulfill their duties and joy in their work. Finally, ask God to protect the elders from the enemy's schemes.

## December Flowers

**The flowers in the Sanctuary this month are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:** *Bernice and George Flinn* by their sons, George, Jr., Fred, and 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; *Benjamin Weber and Bill Weber* by Vicki Weber; *Ann S. Adamson* by her family **and in honor of:** *Elizabeth Holmes, Maxine Lindseth, Caroline Nance, Sissy and Jim Nickels, Judith Oliver, and Peggy Sichveland* by Claire Coleman.

## 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 22 as follows:

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

Name: .....

Given by: .....

Donor Phone Number: .....

***December 15 is the deadline for the inclusion of names in the bulletin on December 22, 2024.***

*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](http://2pc.org/flowers).***

## Do You Have the 2PC Mobile App?

Have you downloaded our church app? It's a great tool for easily registering for events and Bible studies, searching our media library, giving online, searching your parish directory, and more. Simply search "Second Presbyterian Church" in the Apple App Store to download!

## Sign Up for the 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 ([2pc.org](http://2pc.org)) and enter your name and email address—then watch for it to arrive in your inbox on Fridays! For even more content, follow [@2pcmempis](https://www.facebook.com/2pcmempis) on Facebook and Instagram.

## Getting Connected at Second



For information about Second, visit our website at [2pc.org](http://2pc.org) or contact Amanda Coop, Director of Engagement, at [amanda.coop@2pc.org](mailto:amanda.coop@2pc.org) or (901) 312-0248.

You may also scan the QR code at left to complete a short form to connect with our staff or update your contact information.



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