

A Festival of Nine

Lessons & Carols



DECEMBER 22, 2024 • 8:15 + 11:00 AM

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

The Festival 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.

PRELUDE: "NoëlSuisse" from *Nouveau livre de Noël*..... Louis-Claude Daquin
"Sinfonia" from *Messiah*..... G.F. Handel

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE..... Matt, Mindy, and Mia Gandy (8:15)
Alex, Harry, and Nancy Chinn (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP..... Barton Kimbro

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 146 "Once in Royal David's City" IRBY

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

Hunter Wepfer, soloist:

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.

♠ *Congregation stands and sings:*

2. He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
3. And through all his wondrous childhood he would honor and obey,
4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
5. Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,

and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall:
 love and watch the low - ly maid - en in whose gen - tle arms he lay:
 for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove,
 we shall see him, but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

with the poor, and mean, and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 Chris - tian chil - dren all must be mild, o - be - dient, good as he.
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
 when like stars his chil - dren crowned all in white shall wait a - round.

✦INVOCATION

THE FIRST LESSON

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

Genesis 3:8-19..... Rusty Shappley (8:15)
 Ben Lomo (11:00)

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: Thomas 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

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

Genesis 22:15-18. Sarah Bacon (8:15)
Rong Guo (11:00)

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: "Ding Dong! Merrily on High" Carolyn Jennings

Words: French Carol; arr. Carolyn Jennings / Luke 2:14

Ding dong! merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing.
Ding dong! verily the sky is riven with angel singing.

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

E'en so here below, below let steeple bells be swungen.
And "io, io, io," by priest and people sungen.

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rhyme your Evetime song, ye singers.

THE THIRD LESSON

God promises a Child King who liberates from terrorizing darkness.

Isaiah 9:2-7 Shelley Hill (8:15)
 Elizabeth Wall (11:00)

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.

♠HYMN: No. 125 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" PICARDY

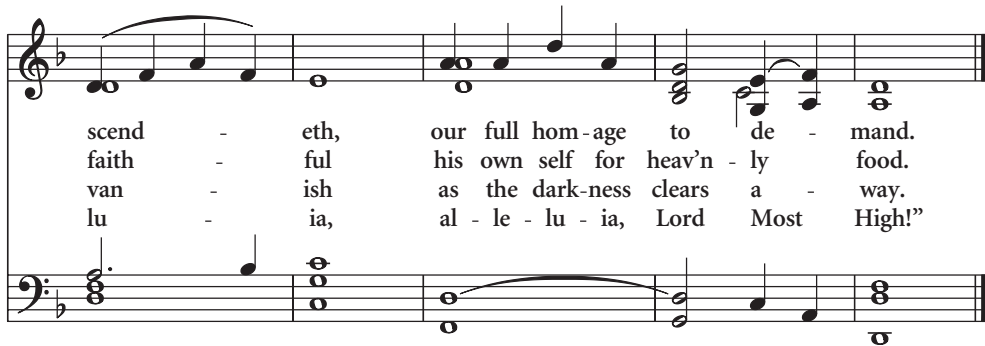
Words: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie

Music: Trad. French Carol; harm. The English Hymnal; arr. John Rutter / Habakkuk 2:20

1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
 2. King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on
 3. Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard
 4. At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim, with

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
 earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
 on the way, as the Light of light de - scend - eth
 sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the pres - ence,

for with bless - ing in his hand, Christ our God to earth de -
 in the bod - y and the blood, he will give to all the
 from the realms of end - less day, that the pow'rs of hell may
 as with cease - less voice they cry, "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



scend - eth, our full hom-age to de - mand.
 faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
 van - ish as the dark-ness clears a - way.
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

THE FOURTH LESSON

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

Isaiah 11:1-4 Ethan Knight (8:15)
 Marjorie Bowman (11:00)

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

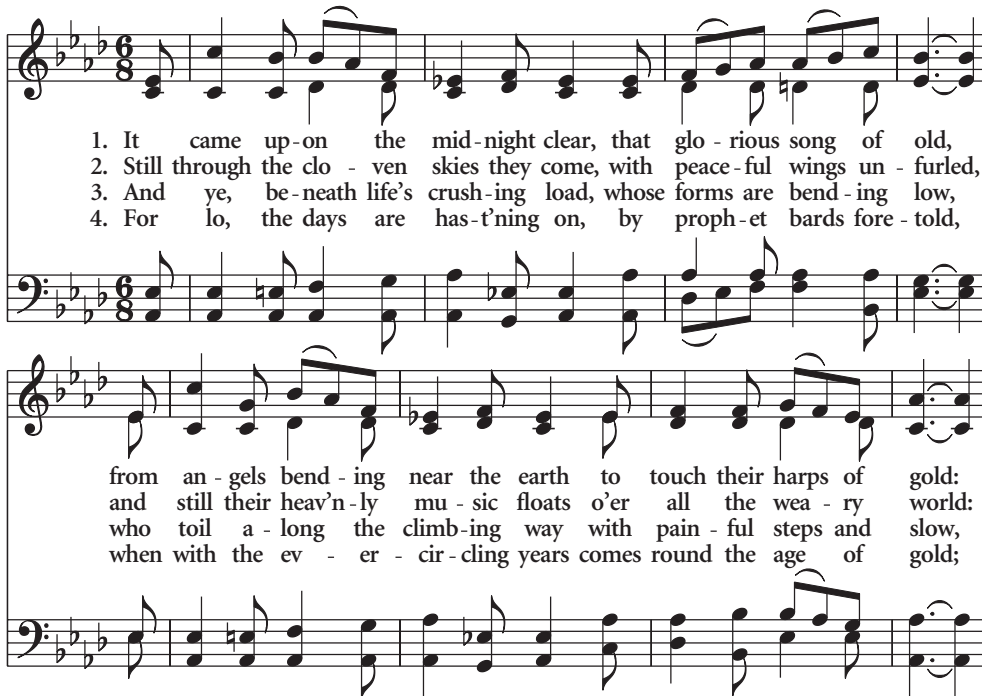
of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the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

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

♠HYMN: No. 159 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"CAROL

Words: Edmund H. Sears / Music: Richard Storrs Willis / Luke 2:9



1. It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, with peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3. And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4. For lo, the days are has - t'ning on, by proph - et bards fore - told,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world:
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow,
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years comes round the age of gold;

“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heav’n’s all - gra - cious King”;
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - ’ring wing,
 look now! for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing:
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

the world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o’er its Ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 O rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing.
 and the whole world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

THE FIFTH LESSON

The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary.

Luke 1:26-38 Grace Knight (8:15)
 Katie Frazer (11:00)

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

Music: Faye López, Patricia Mock, Sergei Vasilievitch 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. Magnificat.
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 bonds slave 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 bonds slave of the Lord. Amen.

Daija McNeil, soloist

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke recounts the birth narrative of our Lord.

Luke 2:1-16 Haley Overcast (8:15)
Blanche Tosh (11:00)

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.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 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. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

♠HYMN: No. 155 "While by the Sheep We Watched at Night"..... JÜNGST

Words: German Carol / Music: Trad. German Melody; arr. Hugo Jüngst / Isaiah 12:3

1. While by the sheep we watched at night, glad tid - ings brought an
 2. There shall be born, so he did say, in Beth - le - hem a
 3. There shall the child lie in a stall, this child who shall re -
 4. This gift of God we'll cher - ish well, that ev - er joy our

Refrain

f an - gel bright. *echo p*
 child to - day. How great our joy! Great our joy!
 deem us all. hearts shall fill.

f Joy, joy, joy! *echo p* Joy, joy, joy! *f* Praise we the Lord in

echo p

heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

THE SEVENTH LESSON

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Matthew 2:1-11 Micah Stout (8:15)
Don Batchelor (11:00)

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: "Glory, Glory, Glory to the Newborn King" Moses Hogan

Words and Music: Based on "Go, Tell It on the Mountain," arr. Moses Hogan / Luke 2:17

What will we call that pretty little baby?
Baby born in Bethlehem.
What will we call that pretty little baby?
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Where was He born, this pretty little baby?
Down in a lowly manger.
Where His birth was in a stable.
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Born this night, the Son of Mary.
Hail the heav'n born Prince of peace.
Glory to the newborn King.
Glory, glory, glory to the newborn King.
Children, go and tell it on the mountain,
Lord, over the hills and ev'rywhere.
Why don't you go, yes, tell it on the mountain,
Lord, that Jesus Christ is born.
See the newborn baby. Go and tell it on the mountain,
Lord, that Jesus Christ is born.
Glory, glory, glory to the newborn King.
All praise to the newborn King,
We're singin' over hill and mountain,
We're singin' hail, the newborn King.
Glory, glory, glory to the newborn King.

Phillip Bond, soloist

THE EIGHTH LESSON

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

John 1:1-14

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

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: "See Amid the Winter's Snow"Dan Forrest

Words: Edward Caswall / Music: John Goss; arr. Dan Forrest / Philippians 2:5, 8

Alleluia. Alleluia.

See, amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below,
See the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.
Hail, thou ever blessed morn, hail redemption's happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem: "Christ is born in Bethlehem."

Lo, within a manger lies He who built the lofty skies,
He, who, throned in light sublime, sits amid the cherubim.
Hail, thou ever blessed morn, hail, redemption's happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem: "Christ is born in Bethlehem."

Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was Thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss, down to such a world as this.
Hail, thou ever blessed morn, hail, redemption's happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem: "Christ is born in Bethlehem."

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

THE NINTH LESSON

The new heaven and the new earth

Revelation 21:1-4

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling

place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

HOMILY: With Us for Eternity George Robertson

- I. The Past Will Pass Away (1)
- II. The Present Will Be Beautiful (2)
- III. The Future Will Be Harmonious (3-4)

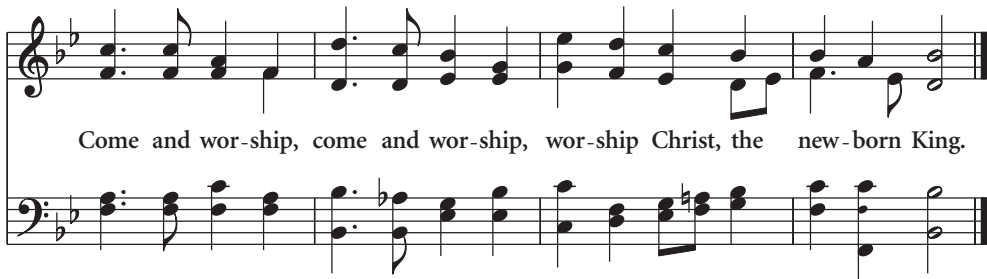
PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

◆HYMN: No. 158 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" REGENT SQUARE

Words: James Montgomery / Music: Henry T. Smart / Matthew 2:11

1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2. Shep-herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,

ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with man is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant Light:
seek the great De - sire of na - tions; ye have seen his na - tal star:
sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:



✦BENEDICTION

✦BENEDICTION RESPONSE..... GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

✦POSTLUDE: Toccata on “God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen” Mark A. Miller

✦Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

*Instrumentalists: Janaína Fernandes and Ginny Paige Velasquez, violin;
 James Ryan, viola; Mark Wallace, cello; Leo Davis, piano and organ*

Advent

A Gospel Christmas

Tonight at 6:00 in the Sanctuary

This evening, our Sunday night singers and musicians will present a gospel rendition of many favorite Christmas songs, and communion will be served. We invite you to join us in continued celebration of the season.

Christmas PJ Party

*Today at 4:30 p.m.
 in the Fellowship Hall*

Christmas Eve Worship

*4:00 p.m. Family Service
 5:30, 8:00 & 11:00 p.m.
 Candlelight Communion Services*

Learn more at 2pc.org/advent

December 29 Schedule: We'll meet for worship on December 29, at 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. All are invited to the Fellowship Hall from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for coffee and fellowship. We will not meet for Sunday School or Sunday Night Worship. Nursery will be available for ages 5 and under at the 8:15am service.

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 to learn more and register. Contact Britton Laughlin at 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 to learn more and register. Contact Kevin McQuillen at kevin.mcquillen@2pc.org or (901) 454-0034 with questions.

Christmas Flowers

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

In Memory of: *Lib and George Dunklin* by Deborah Tipton; *Carolyn Russell and Tim Russell* by Smoky Russell; *Dorothy Davis and Skip Sharp* by Glenda Sharp; *Jim Chase* by his family; *Bill Weber* by Sarah Gaye Sneed; *Linda and Herbert Rhea and Steve Rhea, Jr.* by Suzanne Burgar; *Dr. Robert Bolding* by his family; *Judy Broemmelsick Oakes* by her children and grandchildren; *Tom Tosh, Erin Tosh, and Jay Wallace* by Blanche Tosh and family; *Mr. and Mrs. Flint Sawtelle, Mr. Mark Coleman, Mr. Roger Coleman, Mr. Bo Nance, Mrs. Cilla Harris, and Mr. and Mrs. Keith Blinn* by Bob and Deb Coleman; *Wilton Hazelwood* by Sandy Hazelwood; *David Parks (Dusty) Sutton* by Susan Sutton and family; *Doris W. Garner* by Mary and Orin Davidson; *Emily Smith Britton, William J. Britton III, Elizabeth McVaugh Cross, George H. Cross, Louise Kenner Smith and S. Frank Smith* by Cynthia and Mike Cross and family; *David B "Gibby" Gibson* by Dee Gibson; *Mr. and Mrs. Walter L. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Fred Tarkington, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. J. Fred Tarkington, Jr.* by Mrs. Ferrin T. Mavar; *Jack Halliburton* by Beth, Whit, and Hallie Robison; *William Johns, Sr.* by Mike and Kelli Johns, Bill and Luanne Johns, and Jenny and Jeremy Wilkes; *Graham Russell Stewart* by his family; *Joy and Tom Kimbrough* by Becky and Chris Fiedler III, Chris, and Lucy; *Lee Ragland, Jr.* by Dr. Carolyn Ragland; *Dr. Bill C. Weber* by Kevin, Dana, Coley, Parker, Micah, and Knox Stout; *Timothy Russell, Carolyn Russell, and Sharon Bellott Luck* by Katherine Russell; *Tim Russell and Dr. and Mrs. Elbert Hays Wilkes* by Mary-Wilkes and Drew Yonchak; *Col. and Mrs. John O. Branton* by Susan Batchelor and family; *George and Elaine Walker, Burns and Nan Landess, Jane Cash, and Valery Momanov* by Dee Walker; *Bill Weber* by his family; *Dial Boyle Jackson* by her children and grandchildren; *Ruth and Buddy Morrison* by their children and grandchildren; *Bettye and Lewis Taliaferro* by their daughters Elizabeth, Margaret, and Mary; *Sibyl and Len Sumner* by Mary and

Rob Sumner; *Bettye L. Weaver* by Monte Weaver; *Russ Billings, Sara Misner, Tim Russell, and Lawanna Ingram* by Janet Misner; *Frank Eggers and Bobby Shute* by the Memphis Fellows Program; *Mr. and Mrs. John T. Stout* by the Elmer Stout Family; *Margaret Jones Fletcher, Harry H. Jones, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. James Hamlett, Jr.* by MaryJane and Chip Hamlett; *Suellyn Ruffin* by Stan Ruffin

In Honor of: *Finley and Billy Ruth Van Brocklin* by Terry Dabin; *Lillian and Thomas Patton* by Elizabeth Holmes; *Ashley and Casey West and Family* by Ama; *Sissy Nickels* by her Overflow small group; *my beloved grandchildren Sophia Stires, Noah Stires, Eliana Rogers, and Grace Rogers* by Miriam Cepeda; *Katie West* by Hearts for Hanley volunteers; *Mr. and Mrs. Kelton Morris* by Hailey, Courtney, Hale, and Kelton Williamson; *Mary Tipton* by Deborah Tipton; *Sharon Jones, Sophia Bollinger, and Sally Halle* by Smoky Russell; *Mrs. Claire Coleman and Mrs. Caroline Nance* by Bob and Deb Coleman; *Lee and David Bowen and The Caring Ministry* by Janet Misner; *our parents, John and Adella Heard and Curtis and Pat Wegener* by Glenn and Lizy Wegener

In Gratitude for: *Ed, Vicki, and Caroline Simmons* by Grace and Jim Schneider; *Dale Brady, Sallie B, Mary Lynn, and The Walk Small Group* by Lucy Wepfer; *Growing in Grace Sunday School Class* by Mark and Debbie Perkins; *Leaders of The Walk Bible Study and the women who study with us* by Lisa Colcolough; *Audrey Hamm and the Shine Ministry* by Anonymous; *Anita Hughey Pollard, The Covenant Women, Sandy Hazelwood, Peggy Sichvoeland, Maxine Lindseth, Pat and Bankie McCarty, Hong Lin Zhai, the widows groups and Blanche Tosh who came alongside* by Carolyn Wood Rodgers; *Lee and David Bowen* by AnneDavis and Tim Vander Have; *David B. "Gibby" Gibson* by Chuck and Scottie Cobb; *Loraine Galbreath* by her children and grandchildren; *Kathe Russell* by Smoky Russell; *The Memphis Fellows and our alumni* by Bob and Deb Coleman

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; *Dotsie Graham and John Grayson* by Mrs. William Murray Tate, Sr. and Mr. William Murray Tate, Jr. **and in honor of:** *Elizabeth Holmes, Maxine Lindseth, Caroline Nance, Sissy and Jim Nickels, Judith Oliver, and Peggy Sichvoeland* by Claire Coleman.

Caring Ministry Fund

The Caring Ministry Fund helps support church members in need. Your contributions allow us to provide assistance and show Christ's love in practical ways. To give, visit 2pc.org/caring or text CARING to (901) 410-9500. Special giving envelopes are also available in the pews.

Caring Ministry Update

Congratulations to:

Bruce and Sara Seto on the birth of a daughter, *Ellie Ming-Shun Seto*, November 16, 2024.

Austin and Hannah Zeiler on the birth of a son, *William Russell Zeiler*, December 11, 2024. Maternal grandmother is Yvonne Hardin.

Sympathy to:

Barbara Billions on the death of her brother, *James David Robins*, December 17, 2024, in Fayetteville, AR.

In the Hospital: (as of 12/18/24)

Lynn Ballinger, *Baptist Memphis (no visitors)*
Jean Jones, *Methodist Germantown*
Kelton Morris, *St. Francis Park*

January Preaching Series

We'll kick off the new year with our annual Gospel Priorities series. Beginning January 5, we will hear from guest pastors during morning and evening worship on themes related to and discussed in Luke 4 as Jesus begins His public ministry. Join us these Sundays for worship as we refocus on those things which Jesus made a priority in His ministry, that we might make them a priority in ours.

January 5: Brad Morrow,
Pastoral Resident, Second Presbyterian Church

January 12: Greg Ealey,
Campus Pastor, Colonial Presbyterian Church

January 19: Claude Atcho,
Pastor, Church of the Resurrection

January 26: Afshin Ziafat,
Lead Pastor, Providence Church

Try Something New in the New Year

As we look forward to a new year, we'd love for you to find a fresh way to get involved at Second! Beginning in January, there are many ways to connect with others around God's Word — from Sunday School electives and Bible studies to support ministry groups (divorce recovery and GriefShare) and programs for youth and children. Our Wednesday night dinners will also be back, starting January 8, and we're excited about two special events: the Word-Filled Women Workshop (January 31–February 1) and our annual World Missions Conference (February 19–23). Visit 2pc.org/winter for more details.

General Fund Giving Update

	This Year Budget	This Year Actual	Variance to Budget	Prior Year Actual	Variance to Prior Year
November	\$ 946,628	\$ 782,337	\$ (164,291)	\$ 960,883	\$ (178,546)
YTD 7/1/24–11/30/24	\$ 3,750,033	\$ 3,333,871	\$ (416,162)	\$ 3,236,677	\$ 97,194

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 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.

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) and enter your name and email address—then watch for it to arrive in your inbox on Fridays! For even more content, follow @2pcmemphis on Facebook and Instagram.

Getting Connected at Second



For information about Second, visit our website at 2pc.org or contact Amanda Coop, Director of Engagement, at 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.



Retell. Reimagine. Repair.