

Advent

A church with a tall steeple is centered in the lower half of the image, surrounded by snow-covered trees and a snowy ground. The sky is a light gray with falling white snow. Several small, solid gold dots are scattered across the upper half of the image, around the word 'Advent'.

DECEMBER 7, 2025 • 8:15 + 11:00 AM
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Morning Worship

8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

Prelude: The prelude is a time for quiet reflection and preparation. As the music begins, worshipers are invited to center their hearts on God and enter the presence of the Holy.

DRAW NEAR TO JESUS

PRELUDE: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" arr. Richard Purvis
Leo Davis, organ

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Graham, Emily, Liam, Norah, Caleb,
and Maisy Farnsworth (8:15)
Quinton, Rebecca, Harris, and Mary Clayton Stine (11:00)

Call to Worship: God invites us into His presence to worship in spirit and in truth—beginning a dialogue that continues throughout the service.

CALL TO WORSHIP: Zechariah 2:10, 13 Chuck Jacob

♦HYMN OF PRAISE: 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 / 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 blessing 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!"

✦ INVOCATION

Invocation: The word invocation means "to appeal to" or "cry out to." In this prayer, we lift our hands and call on our Father to come and help us worship Him for who He is and all He has done.

REPENT AND BELIEVE

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.**

Assurance of Pardon: Having confessed our sins, the pastor declares God's promise of forgiveness—assuring us that through Christ's atonement, those who truly repent are freed from guilt and shame by His mercy.

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 GIVE 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: "No Night There" Dan Forrest

God is with us; God is for us; do not be afraid.

*There shall be no night there, no crying there,
God shall wipe away ev'ry tear, every tear from their eyes.*

Even in the valley of the shadow of death,
God is with us, I will fear no evil; God is for us.

Lo, I am with you always, even to the end.
God is for us. I am with you to the end.

Do not be afraid.
God is with us, God is for us.
No night there.

*The Chancel Choir
Leo Davis, piano
James Ryan, violin
Calvin Ellis, director*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦ GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATING THE OFFERING: 20 YEARS OF MEMPHIS FELLOWS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN Rachel Weatherly
Director of Parents' Day Out

FOLLOW AND SERVE HIM

✦ 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. 180 "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"KINGSFOLD

Words: Louis F. Benson / Music: Trad. English melody; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams / Luke 2:8-9

1. O sing a song of Beth-le-hem, of shep-herds watch-ing there,
 2. O sing a song of Naz-a-reth, of sun-ny days of joy,
 3. O sing a song of Gal-i-lee, of lake and woods and hill,
 4. O sing a song of Cal-va-ry, its glo-ry and dis-may;

and of the news that came to them from an-gels in the air.
 O sing of fra-grant flow-ers' breath, and of the sin-less Boy;
 of him who walked up-on the sea and made its waves be still;
 of him who hung up-on the tree and took our sins a-way.

The light that shone on Beth-le-hem fills all the world to-day;
 for now the flow'rs of Naz-a-reth in ev-'ry heart may grow;
 for though, like waves on Gal-i-lee, dark seas of trou-ble roll,
 For he who died on Cal-va-ry is ris-en from the grave,

of Je-sus' birth and peace on earth the an-gels sing al-way.
 now spreads the fame of his dear name on all the winds that blow.
 when faith has heard the Mas-ter's word, peace falls up-on the soul.
 and Christ, our Lord, by heav'n a-dored, is might-y now to save.

♠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,

to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
 in love all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race!
 who best can help and cheer you and bids you weep no more.
 for all God's sons se - cur - ing their her - i - tage in heav'n.

✦BENEDICTION

Benediction: God's people receive the Lord's blessing and are sent into the world, carrying the hope of the Gospel.

✦BENEDICTION RESPONSE..... GLORIA

**Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

✦POSTLUDE: Toccata on "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" arr. Paul Fey

✦Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

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 14, 6:00 p.m.

Nine Lessons and Carols

December 21, 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

Christmas PJ Party

December 21, 4:30 p.m.

A Gospel Christmas

December 21, 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/christmas for more details and for a list of service opportunities.

Service Opportunity for All Ages: December 11

All ages are invited to the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, December 11, from 6-8 p.m. to help pack 500 food boxes for neighbors in need. Neighborhood Christian Centers is bringing part of their packing operation to our campus, giving church members of all ages a chance to serve together. Come for 30 minutes or stay the whole time—every bit helps! Email randi.meyer@2pc.org with questions.

Caring Ministry Update

Sympathy to:

Ann Garner on the death of her husband,
William L. Garner III, December 3, 2025.

In the Hospital (as of 12/3/25):

Jenny Udouj, *Hospice at Home*

Weekly Prayer Focus

World Missions—Joey and Margaret Carter: New mission partners Joey and Margaret Carter are preparing to join the Campus Outreach team in Birmingham, England, in January. They praise God for their 10 years of service at Troy University and for their four graduates who are entering full-time international ministry. While the Carters eagerly anticipate their move to the UK, they pray the Lord would continue to give them strength and focus in their pre-deployment training, visa application, and completion of seminary work. Pray that God would direct Joey and Margaret to a good house for their family, prepare their sons Caleb and Lewis for this new home, provide for all their family's needs, and give them hearts of faithfulness and fruitfulness. Finally, pray for the Lord to prepare the hearts of the college students they will encounter.

Mission Memphis—Binghampton Christian Academy: Binghampton Christian Academy is a private Christian day and boarding school offering unique, customized programs that develop students in grades K4–8 as both scholars and godly leaders. Pray for BCA as they continue leading children to Christ through their day school and residential programs. Pray also that the educational experiences at BCA would meet children where they are academically and help them grow to achieve grade-level benchmarks and beyond. Finally, pray that the Lord would continue drawing the people and partnerships needed to support and fulfill their mission.

2PC Ministry—Memphis Fellows: The Fellows Program is a nine-month spiritual and vocational leadership program that prepares recent college graduates to live a seamless life of faith. Praise God for 20 years of the Memphis Fellows Program at 2PC and for the 171 Fellows He has brought to Memphis through it. Praise God for the many teachers, committee members, directors, host families, mentors, and work placements partners who have invested in these young adults. Thank Him for the impact of each Fellow in our church, in our city, and around the world. Finally, pray for our current class—Allison, Grace, Hannah, KenTonya, Lauren, Macy, and Meg—that the Lord would work in and through them as they work, serve, worship, and learn.

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, Carl and their families; *Lillian and Thomas Patton* by Susan and Claude Crawford, Elizabeth and John Holmes, and their grandchildren; *Mr. and Mrs. William D Nicholson* by their children and grandchildren; *Benjamin Weber and Bill Weber* by Vicki Weber.

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called the congregation to meet next Sunday, December 14, at both morning services to elect officers to begin service in January 2026 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 Wednesday, December 31, 2025, to qualify as a charitable gift for the 2025 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, 2025, to qualify as a charitable gift for the 2025 tax year. Mailed envelopes postmarked after December 31, 2025 must be reported as a 2026 gift, regardless of the date on the enclosed check.

Any who may have questions or need assistance with transfers of appreciated securities or giving a portion of the required minimum distribution (RMD) from an IRA through Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) directly from a brokerage account should please contact Jay Tayloe at jay.tayloe@2pc.org or (901) 454-0034.

Do You Receive *The Messenger* on Fridays?

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 @2pcmephris on Facebook and Instagram.

Weekly Worship Playlist

Listening to our playlist of hymns and songs is a wonderful way to grow familiar with the music, reflect on the words, and enjoy personal or family worship throughout the week. Visit 2pc.org/playlist to subscribe on your preferred platform.

Getting Connected at Second

Want to learn more about our church? Visit 2pc.org, call us at (901) 454-0034, or email us: pastor@2pc.org for pastoral questions or info@2pc.org for general inquiries. We'd love to hear from you!

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 21 as follows:

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

Name:

Given by:

Donor Phone Number:

December 14 is the deadline for the inclusion of names in the bulletin on December 21, 2025.

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.



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