

Advent

A church with a tall steeple is the central focus, set in a winter scene with snow-covered ground and trees. Snow is falling from the sky, and several gold dots are scattered across the upper half of the image.

DECEMBER 14, 2025 • 8:15 + 11:00 AM

THIRD 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.

COME AND GLORIFY THE LORD

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Christmas Fantasy for Violin and Organ" Sigurd Øgaard

James Ryan, violin
Leo Davis, organ

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Christian, Grace, and Brooks Kauffman (8:15)

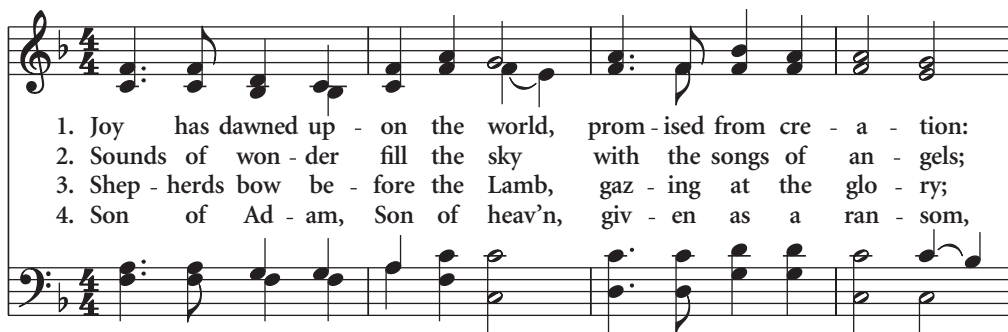
Emmanuel, Jennifer, Israel, Ianna, and Isla Amido (11:00)

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: Psalm 98:1-2. Todd Erickson

♠HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 175 "Joy Has Dawned" JOY HAS DAWNED

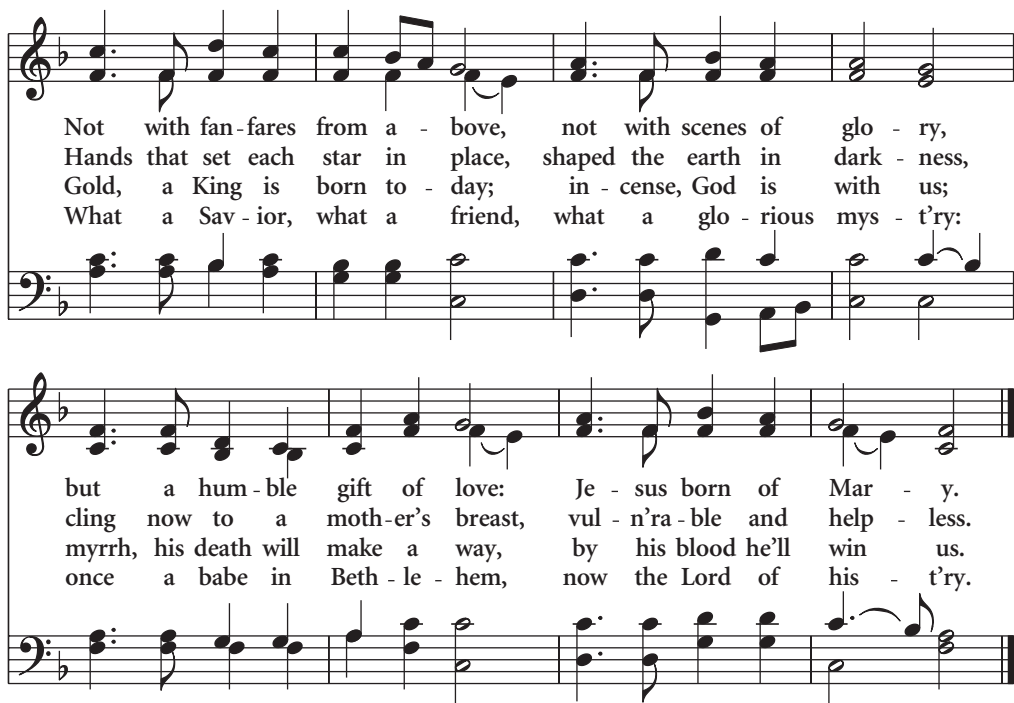
Words and Music: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend / John 1:18



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.

✦ INVOCATION

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

8:15am:

Frances Melinda Blackmon, born January 30, 2025, daughter of Lindsey and Jonathan Blackmon

Pearce Allard Jones, born October 3, 2024, daughter of Chase and Graham Jones

James Lyon Knight, born June 12, 2025, son of Grace and Ethan Knight

Margaret Anne Vander Have, born August 28, 2025, daughter of AnneDavis and Tim Vander Have

11:00am:

Edward Bayne Uhlhorn, born March 12, 2025, son of Nikki and Walker Uhlhorn

Caroline Callie Wesson, born March 20, 2025, daughter of Callie and Reid Wesson

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.

SONG OF ENCOURAGEMENT: "Jesus Loves You" JESUS LOVES ME

**Jesus loves you, this we know, for the Bible tells us so;
 Little ones to Him belong, you are weak, but He is strong.
 Yes, Jesus loves you! Yes, Jesus loves you!
 Yes, Jesus loves you! The Bible tells us so.**

COME AND REST IN HIS FINISHED WORK

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. Galatians 4:4-5

*But when the fullness of time had come,
God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,
to redeem those who were under the law,
so that we might receive adoption as sons.*

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.

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: "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 Chancel Choir
Calvin Ellis, director*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦ GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN Lynn Erickson

GO AND PROCLAIM KING JESUS

✦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: "Light of the World"Lauren Daigle

Words and Music: Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan, Paul Mabury / Isaiah 9:2

Emily Woelke, soloist:

The world waits for a miracle.
The heart longs for a little bit of hope.
Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel.
A child prays for peace on earth,
And she's calling out from a sea of hurt.
Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel.
And can you hear the angels singing?
Glory to the light of the world.
Glory, the light of the world is here.

✦ *Congregation stands and joins:*

**The drought breaks with the tears of a mother.
A baby's cry is the sound of love;
Come down, come down, Emmanuel.
He is the song for the suffering
He is Messiah; the Prince of Peace has come;
He has come, Emmanuel.**



For all who wait, for all who hunger,
For all who've prayed, for all who wonder,
Behold your King; behold Messiah;
Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

The world waits for the miracle.
The heart longs for a little bit of hope,
Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel.

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

SERMON: Immanuel: God’s Lovingangerkindness..... George Robertson

- I. **Because of God’s Lovingangerkindness, Repent of Pride** (9:8-16; 10:5-15)
- A. Pride leads to humiliation (8-12)
- B. Pride leads to lostness (13-16)
- C. Pride runs short of God’s reach (10:5-15)
- II. **Because of God’s Lovingangerkindness, Repent of Grievousness** (9:17-10:4)
- A. Grievous words lead to self-destruction (9:17-21)
- B. Grievous actions lead to judgment (10:1-4)

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

♣HYMN OF COMMITMENT: No. 128 “Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come” ANTIOCH

Words: Isaac Watts / Music: George Frederick Handel; arr. Lowell Mason / Psalm 98:4

The image shows the musical score for the hymn "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come". It is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The score is divided into three systems. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the final four lines, including a repeat sign. The lyrics are printed below the corresponding vocal lines. The music is a well-known arrangement by Lowell Mason of George Frederick Handel's original.

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him room,
play; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1. and heav'n and na - ture sing,

1. and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
 heav'n and na - ture sing,

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

♠BENEDICTION

♠BENEDICTION RESPONSE..... GLORIA

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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

♠POSTLUDE: Grand Fantasia on "Joy to the World"..... arr. Marc Cheban

♠Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

Advent

Sing Hallelujah

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

Through song, Scripture, and communion, we will trace the story of redemption from Creation to the Second Coming, remembering why Christ came once as a baby and looking ahead to His second coming to make all things new.

Worship will be led by our young adults, True North youth, Shine Ministry participants, and Sunday night musicians.

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.

Sermon Notes

Caring Ministry Update

Sympathy to:

Whit Robison on the death of his brother,
Lee Robison, November 26, 2025, in
Batesville, MS.

Linda Cochran on the death of her
husband, *James Brewer Cochran II*,
December 4, 2025.

Rosemary Ballinger on the death of her
husband, *Lynn Ballinger*, December 4, 2025.
Mr. Ballinger was the father of Jonny
Ballinger.

In the Hospital (as of 12/10/25):

Jenny Udouj, *Hospice at Home*
Elaine Dudley, *Methodist Germantown*

Weekly Prayer Focus

World Missions–Shayla: Shayla has been serving at La Misión Church in Buenos Aires, Argentina, for the past year and a half. She works primarily with youth and young adults through sports and recreational outreach, as well as discipleship groups. The church has experienced significant growth this year, including the launch of a new middle school ministry. Many of the older students Shayla mentors are now helping lead and coordinate that ministry. The soccer outreach has also expanded, with consistent attendance allowing the group to organize larger games. In addition, Shayla is sharing Christ with members of her running club, who recently formed a small group to have deeper conversations about faith. Please pray for the Lord to encourage and deepen the faith of the youth and young adults at La Mision.

Mission Memphis–Refugee Empowerment Program: Refugee Empowerment Program (REP) is a Memphis-based nonprofit serving refugees and immigrants. Founded in 2002 by a Sudanese refugee mother and a member of Second, it remains the region's only ethnic community-based organization. REP empowers newcomers through tailored programs that educate, equip, and encourage them as they integrate into American culture and pursue personal and professional goals. Praise God for the new volunteers who are eager to stand against the harm being done to immigrants, and for the resilience of refugees—their example is a blessing to our city. Pray for the physical and emotional well-being of refugee families: that God's love and grace would be evident through the staff as they work to provide food distributions for those in need, and that REP would find the funding needed to navigate this challenging season of frozen or reduced grants.

2PC Ministry–Communications: Led by Robb Roaten, our communications team equips the ministries of Second in a variety of ways—from weekly email and social media campaigns, production of printed materials, development of video resources, and promoting our ministries outside the walls of Second, to managing the audio/visual and technology needs of the church. Please pray for the Lord to give the team wisdom as they pursue clear communication of the mission and vision of Second to our members. Pray also that the Lord would bless their efforts and use them as effective tools for reaching and engaging people in our community. Finally, pray for endurance and good health for the team during this busy season.

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.

Inquirers Class: January 23–25

Interested in learning more about Second or becoming a member? The next Inquirers Class for adults will meet January 23-25, and we'd love to have you join the class! Visit 2pc.org/inquirers to learn more and register. Contact Britton Laughlin at britton.laughlin@2pc.org or (901) 454-0034 with questions.

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called the congregation to meet today, 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.

General Fund Giving Update

	This Year Budget	This Year Actual	Variance to Budget	Prior Year Actual	Variance to Prior Year
November	\$ 946,628	\$ 846,567	\$ (100,061)	\$ 782,337	\$ 64,230
YTD 7/1/25–11/30/25	\$ 3,750,033	\$ 3,816,845	\$ 66,812	\$ 3,333,871	\$ 482,974

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:

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

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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