

Advent



NOVEMBER 30, 2025 • 8:15 + 11:00 AM

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE: "Wachet auf" (*Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*) Op. 5., No. 7 Paul Manz
"E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" Paul Manz

Leo Davis, organ

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Sam, Lacey, Archer, Mary Hudson, and Walt Moody (8:15)

Brandon, Liz, Sam, Elijah, Asa, Evie, and Isaiah Wells (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: Micah 5:2-5 Barton Kimbro

♠PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 127 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL

Words: Latin, trans. John Mason Neale, Henry S. Coffin / 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.



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.

✦INVOCATION

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: “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; tr. John Mason Neale / Music: arr. Trevor Manor / John 1:1, 14

Of the Father’s love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending, He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see, evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;
And the Babe, the world’s Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face, evermore and evermore.

*The Chancel Choir
Calvin Ellis, director*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

At this time, parents may take children to the nursery.

✦PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

This hymn, written by gospel legend Andraé Crouch in 1976, is a joyful proclamation of the Christian hope of heaven and invites believers to lift their voices in hope as they look toward the fulfillment of God's kingdom. It celebrates the promise that one day there will be no more crying, no more dying, only the eternal presence of Christ!

HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Soon and Very Soon" SOON AND VERY SOON

Words and Music: Andraé Crouch / Revelation 21:3-4

Chancel Choir:

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the King!

✦ *Congregation stands and joins:*



2. No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
3. No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
4. Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.



No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.



No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're going to see the King!

SCRIPTURE LESSON. Isaiah 7:1-8:8
(page 571 in pew Bible)

The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON: Immanuel: The Firm Foundation George Robertson

I. Christ is with us, reject the perils of pragmatism (7:1-13)

- A. Blinding anxiety (7:1-9a)
- B. Bewildering pride (7:10-13)

II. Christ is with us, rely on the foundation of the Faith (7:14-8:8)

- A. Fulfilled prophecy (7:14-25)
- B. Incarnated word (8:1-8)

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

✦PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man,
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose Kingdom shall have no end.**

The Nicene Creed, first formulated at the Council of Nicea (325), affirms Biblical truths about the Trinity and the person of Jesus. We use it in worship to profess what we believe about our triune God and His church.

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**universal*

✦GLORIA PATRI GREATOREX

Music: Henry W. Greatorex / Psalm 29:2

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.**

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious, heavenly Father,
all of us stand in fresh need of rescue and release
from the weight of our sin by our Lord Jesus Christ.
We confess as we begin this Advent that
instead of peaceful, we are anxious;
instead of joyful, we are irritable;
instead of amazed, we are indifferent;
and in the place of anticipation, we are fearful.
In our unbelief, we have become impoverished.
Pardon and free us from these sins that plague us,
for we pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON..... I Timothy 1:15

*The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION 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.**

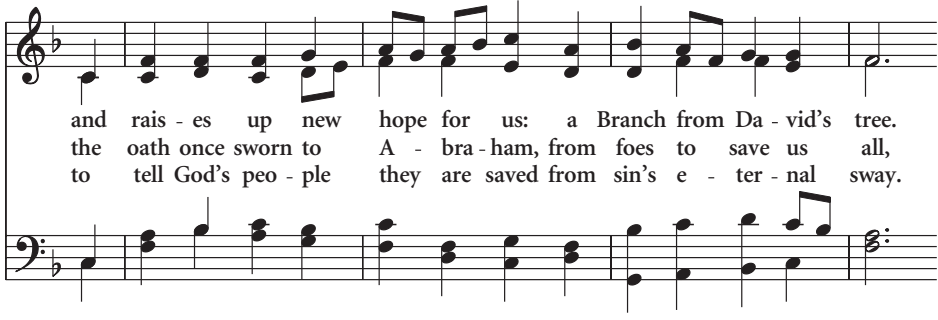
SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

No. 670 “Blessed Be the God of Israel”FOREST GREEN

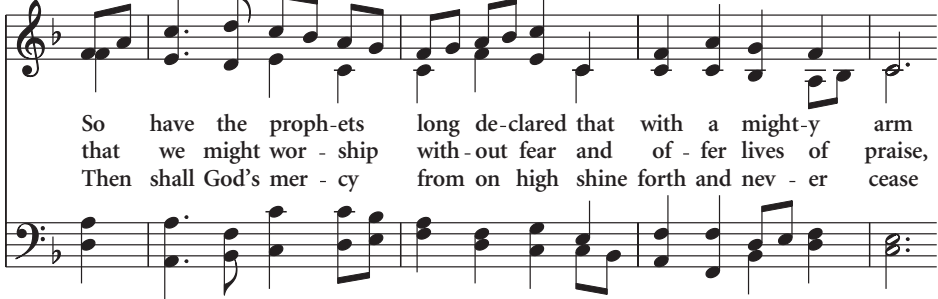
Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. / Music: English Folk Song; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams / Luke 1:68-79



1. Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el, who comes to set us free
2. With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3. My child, as proph-et of the Lord, you will pre-pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all,
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



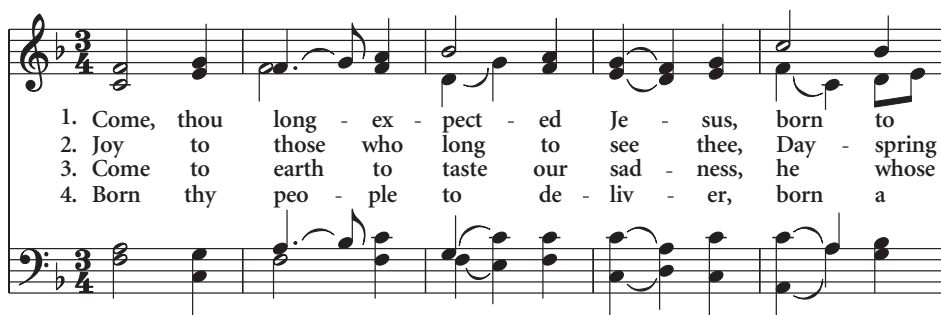
So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might-y arm
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
 in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
 to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

♠HYMN OF THANKSGIVING: No. 131 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" HYFRYDOL

Words: Charles Wesley (vss. 1, 3), Mark E. Hunt (vs. 2) / Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830 / Luke 2:25



1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day - spring
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose
 4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a



set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re -
 from on high, ap - pear; come, thou prom - ised Rod of
 glo - ries knew no end; by his life he brings us
 child and yet a king, born to reign in us for -



lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!
 glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.
 ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Score continues on next page

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the
 O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings
 Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our

earth thou art, dear De - sire of ev - 'ry
 of a birth: "Go to him, your prais - es
 cat - tle stall; this the ev - er - last - ing
 hearts a - lone; by thine all - suf - fi - cient

na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
 won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
 mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

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.**

POSTLUDE: Toccata on "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"..... J. Christopher Pardini

◆Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

Hanging of the Green

Tonight • Decorating & Activities Begin at 5:00 p.m.

We'll kick off Advent Season this evening at Hanging of the Green! All ages are invited to arrive at 5:00 p.m. to help deck the halls with Christmas trees and other festive décor, enjoy cookie decorating, crafts, and games.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served in the lobby outside the bookstore beginning at 5:30. Then we'll move to the Sanctuary at 6:00 for a special worship service, led by our children's choirs, that ends with a live nativity outdoors.

Advent

Save the dates below and invite your family and friends to join us throughout the month of December for worship services and activities for all ages. Visit 2pc.org/christmas for more dates, details, and service opportunities.

Women's Christmas Coffee

December 3, 10:30 a.m.

Festival of Carols

December 7, 6:00 p.m.

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

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.

Caring Ministry Update

Sympathy to:

Sam Stringer on the death of his wife,
Peg Stringer, November 23, 2025. Mrs.
Stringer was the sister of Joanne Fleming.

In the Hospital (as of 11/19/25):

Don Clanton, *Methodist Germantown*
Janet Holley Cox, *The Village*
of Germantown Rehab
Hilda Mullen, *St. Francis Park*
Jenny Udouj, *Hospice at Home*

Weekly Prayer Focus

World Missions—Garth and Fiona: Garth and Fiona minister in North Africa by broadcasting the gospel to nine West African countries in 26 languages. Pray that the airwaves will stay open and that the programs will bear much eternal fruit. This couple has a heart for the youth of their region and held camps last summer for children who have been affected by HIV/AIDS. Pray that each child will remember the love of Jesus and the care they received while at camp to help them face their daily challenges. Garth and Fiona also ask us to pray that their daily walk with the Lord will be strong, enabling them to use their time wisely, give them strength for ministry, to be present for aging parents and college-age sons, and to be prepared for the people that they encounter each day.

Mission Memphis—Iglesia Presbiteriana Esperanza: Initiated as a church plant of Second Presbyterian, Esperanza is a Reformed Evangelical church serving the Latino community in Memphis, seeking not only to provide a church home for worship and community but also to partner with Su Casa Family Ministries to offer practical support to the growing refugee population in the area. Please pray for Pastor Chucho, administrative assistant Zenya, and worship leader Pablo as they serve the congregation. Pray that Jesus would fill the newly installed elders and deacons with His Spirit daily, and that God would grow the church through effective evangelism and discipleship.

2PC Ministry—Women in Ministry: Our women's ministry at Second aims to help Second's sisters grow in knowing Christ, becoming like Him, and making Him known in their various callings and contexts. Join us in praising God for the work He has done through His Word among our sisters and friends as we've studied Romans this fall. This holiday season, pray that Second's sisters would take bold initiative in inviting unchurched friends to "come and see" the Lord Jesus. Pray also that God would grant them Christ's wisdom and strength for the many relational gatherings the holidays often bring—some of which involve difficulty and pain. In all of this, pray that God would help our sisters live by the Spirit, confident that nothing can separate them from the love of God in Christ Jesus (*Romans 8*).

November Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary this month are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of: *Walker Bush* by his family; *Ann and Oscar Edwards* by Mary and Jimmy Edwards and their family; *George Shea Flinn* by his sons, George, Fred, Carl, and their families; *Liza Fletcher on her birthday* by her Hutchison friends; *Mary Elizabeth Garrott* by her siblings Brandon, Murray, and Allison; *Robert Tipton, Jr.* by Deborah and Mary Elisabeth Tipton.

Sign Up for Texts to Serve Our Neighbors

The past few weeks have presented multiple volunteer needs in our community, often on short notice. To better mobilize our congregation now and toward future efforts, we will be communicating volunteer needs via text. To receive up-to-date notifications on volunteer needs, text SERVE901 to +1 (888) 381-1544.

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 @2pcmempis 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!



Retell. Reimagine. Repair.

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