



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH *of*
CHATTANOOGA

Christmas Eve

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024

4:00PM & 6:00PM

At First Presbyterian, we seek to be a healthy church exhibiting all the fullness of Christ as we disciple believers who develop spiritually, connect relationally, and engage missionally to reach Chattanooga and the world with the gospel.

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” arr. Lloyd Larson *Reformation Bell Choir*
“Silent Night! Holy Night!” arr. Lloyd Larson
“Away in a Manger/Still, Still, Still” arr. Lloyd Larson
“We Three Kings of Orient Are” arr. Lloyd Larson
“The First Noel” arr. Dan Forrest *String Quartet & Piano*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING & CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 2:10-15 ESV

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.”

† *Please stand as you are able.*

† CAROL OF PRAISE

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”**

***Chorus:* Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold Him come, offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail th’incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Chorus***

**Hail the heav’nborn Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth. *Chorus***

†CAROL OF PRAISE

4:00pm: Children may come forward for children's sermon. Please sing as directed.

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels.

Chorus: O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light, lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb.
Very God, begotten, not created; *Chorus*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above,
Glory to God, glory in the highest! *Chorus*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing. *Chorus*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He shall come to judge the quick* and the dead;
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic** church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*living **universal

OFFERTORY CAROL

No. 230 (vv. 1-3)

Today's offering will go toward the PCA's Ministerial Relief Fund.

“Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor”

**Thou Who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor,
Thrones for a manger didst surrender, sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou Who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor.**

**Thou Who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man,
Stooping so low, but sinners raising heavenward by Thine eternal plan
Thou Who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man.**

**Thou Who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship Thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling, make us what Thou wouldst have us be.
Thou Who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship Thee.**

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

SERMON

“The Descent of Love”
Ephesians 1:4-5 (p. 976)
Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

SERMON NOTES

THE TABLE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

CONFESSIOIN OF SIN

**We do not presume to come to this Your table,
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in Your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under Your table.
But You are the same Lord,
Whose property is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Father,
to partake of this sacrament of Your Son Jesus Christ,
that we may walk in newness of life,
may grow into His likeness,
and may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. Amen**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

She will bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus,
for He will save His people from their sins.

Matthew 1:21 ESV

COMMUNION

- Communion, also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians when we recall Jesus's cross, relive His anguish, and renew our vows to live as His followers.
- We invite all to participate in this meal:
who profess faith in Jesus Christ, who are members of a gospel-proclaiming church,
who are endeavoring to live at peace with God and others,
and who seek strengthening grace to live more faithfully for Jesus.
- If you are not yet a follower of Jesus, we encourage you to spend this time considering Jesus's broken body and shed blood.
Pray and ask Him to forgive your sins and to give you eternal life.

† COMMUNION CAROL

“What Child Is This”

What Child is this, Who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and lamb are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise a song on high; the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

† CANDLELIGHT CAROL

“Silent Night”

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and Child, holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar; heav’nly hosts sing alleluia.
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light,
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light.
With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King.
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

†BENEDICTION

based on Numbers 6:24-26

May the LORD bless you and keep you;
May the LORD make His face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
May the LORD lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace, both now and forevermore,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Worship Leaders

Darrin Hassevoort, *Director of Music & Worship*
West Breedlove, *Assistant Director of Worship*

Presiding Ministers

4:00pm: Ron Brown, *Pastor of Congregational Care*
6:00pm: Joshua Adair, *Pastor of Discipleship*

Minister of the Word

Gabriel N.E. Fluhner, *Senior Pastor*

Please leave your extinguished candles with the ushers as you exit.

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