

Serving Today

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS: Don Thompson - Chapel
Tom and Chris Haynes with London, Sydney,
Caroline and Lainie - Sanctuary
LITURGIST: Mark Davis
SOUND: Olin Babb
WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY: Youth Group Members
GREETERS & USHERS: Stewart Baggett - Chapel
GREETERS & USHERS: Larry and Patty Pendleton - Sanctuary
TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES: Alice Sanders

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED
TO THE GLORY OF GOD
and presented by Anna Gamble and Family
in loving memory of Bill Gamble.

First Presbyterian Church

Kingsport, Tennessee

Seeking to see the face of Christ...
Striving to be the hands of Christ



First Sunday in Advent
November 27, 2022
8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

BELLS OF GOD’S PRESENCE

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

PRELUDE

8:45

“The Holly and the Ivy”

arr. Jay Rouse

11:00

“Sleepers Wake, A Voice is Calling”

arr. John Ferguson

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Choir: *Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.*

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church, gathered today.

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

All sing: *Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.*

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church, gathered today.

One: The true light which enlightens everyone is coming into the world.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

One: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

All: **Christ, shine in your church today...**

One: Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

All: **May Christ reign in our hearts. May our lives show the light of God’s glory and grace to the world.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 82

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

How hard it is to wait for you, God. Teach us patience and give us an understanding of your wisdom. At the right time, you sent Jesus to the world. We want to feel again the radiant joy of his birth. We look forward to your coming and yet dread it at the same time. We have harbored resentments, cherished possessions, ignored others, and defended our errors. God of all time and seasons, create in us a place for your birth. May your coming in Jesus bring us a lasting joy and a reformed life. Teach us to wait hopefully and expectantly.

(silent prayer)

KYRIE “Away in a Manger” MUELLER

Have mercy, Lord Jesus, come down from above; O infant so gentle, incarnate in love;

Have mercy, dear Savior, forgive all our sin; our hearts be your manger, be born here within.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Holy God, let us enter into the mystery of your coming and find ourselves loved and forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*SUNG RESPONSE

GLORIA

Praise we now the Prince of Peace, as in humble birth He came, in His birth our strivings cease;

through this earth His praise proclaim: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*PEACE OF CHRIST

HEARING GOD’S WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Alice Sanders

Soloist, then congregation:

Cloth for the cradle, cradle for the child, the child for our every joy and sorrow.

Find him a shawl that’s woven by us all to welcome the Lord of each tomorrow.

Here is a place for you, Lord Jesus. **Here is a place for you, Lord Jesus.**

Just as our hands are making the manger ready, so make our hearts ready to love and welcome you.

Here is a place for you, Lord Jesus. **Here is a place for you, Lord Jesus.**

Long ago you were born in a manger. Be born again, not in a manger, but in us.

Here is a place for you, Lord Jesus. **Here is a place for you, Lord Jesus.**

Cloth for the cradle, cradle for the child, the child for our every joy and sorrow.

Find him a shawl that’s woven by us all to welcome the Lord of each tomorrow.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Revelation 21: 1-8

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 19: 27-30

SERMON

“God Gets the Last Word”

Mike Shelton

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 92

“While We Are Waiting, Come”

*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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

(8:45)

(In the Bleak Midwinter)

God, who came from heaven, far beyond this earth; God, whose mind is mystery, knelt to us in birth.

Holy Sovereign of all life, Word in flesh made known; Holy Lamb of glory, you made us your own.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part; what I can, I give him: give my heart.

(11:00)

“Light of the World”

L. Larson

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, we thank you for the extravagant gift of your Son. Receive, we pray, these offerings as our grateful response for your life among us which changed and continues to change the world. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 384

“Soon and Very Soon”

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONCLUDING PRAISE

8:45

“Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”

arr. Thomas Keesecker

11:00

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

arr. Wilber Held

*Those who are able please stand