

## THE SENDING

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

Tune: “What Star Is This”

*On Jordan’s banks the Baptist’s cry announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of Kings!*

*Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within,  
And let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.*

*We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;  
Rain down your grace, we humbly pray, that we may know and walk your way!*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONCLUDING PRAISE

“Love Has Come”  
(Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella)

arr. Thomas Keesecker

\*Those who are able please stand

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### *Serving Today*

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS:** Gary and Catherine Tucker - Chapel  
Mark and Grace Ward with Jane - Sanctuary  
**LITURGISTS:** Don Thompson - Chapel  
Jim Amstutz - Sanctuary  
**SOUND:** Dan Dietrich  
**WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY:** Youth Group Members  
**GREETERS & USHERS:** Don and Cindy Sharitt - Chapel  
**GREETERS & USHERS:** Bowen Scott and Jane Scott - Sanctuary  
**TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES:** Alice Sanders

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

Kingsport, Tennessee

*Seeking to see the face of Christ...*

*Striving to be the hands of Christ*



*Third Sunday in Advent*

December 11, 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) "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" arr. Thomas Keesecker  
(11:00) "Thus Saith the Lord...But Who May Abide?" G. F. Handel  
*Mark Davis, bass*

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 peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.*

*Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice.*

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.106 "Prepare the Way, O Zion"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. We have been lukewarm disciples. We have lacked the zeal of John the Baptist whose voice pierces our self-absorbed revelry with the truths we need to face: we are lost, we are broken, and we need you. Forgive us, God. Instead of letting our voices cry out in the wilderness, our cries have been weak. Instead of proclaiming the gospel with conviction, we have stammered. Instead of clothing ourselves in humility and faith, we prefer power and prestige. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

*(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: The Lord says, "Comfort, my people. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins." Friends, believe the good news! In the grace and love of God, we are forgiven.

People: **Alleluia, Amen!**

\*SUNG RESPONSE HARK THE HERALD (11:00)

***Holy God, to Thee we sing, Father of the coming King;***  
***Author of all time and space, Son who brings incarnate grace.***  
***Mild, he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,***  
***Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth;***  
***With the angels let us sing, "Glory to the coming King!"***

\*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

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Malachi 3:1-7*

GOSPEL READING *Luke 3:1-17*

SERMON "The Truths We Need to Hear" Mike Shelton

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO.137 "He Came Down"

\*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)

"What Child Is This"

***What prophet calls us to prepare so new a way of living?***  
***How shall we pray and seek to find a deeper way of giving?***  
***Bow, bow before the child, the One whose power is pure and mild;***  
***Turn, turn from earth to find this babe who comes from heaven.***  
***So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come one and all to own him.***  
***The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.***  
***Raise, raise the song on high, our song of love, his lullaby.***  
***Joy, joy we offer him, our Savior who brings us heaven.***

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Holy God, every act of giving and every perfect gift is born of you and of your unchanging love. It is in response to that love that we offer our offerings. Use them to advance the gospel of peace. For Christ's sake. Amen.**