

## THE SENDING

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 93

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONCLUDING PRAISE (8:45)  
(11:00)

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People” tune FREU DICH SEHR, Geneva 1551  
“Comfort, Comfort Now My People” arr. Michael Burkhardt

\*Those who are able please stand

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### *Serving Today*

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS:** Gerry Morie and Jenny Clemmer - Chapel  
Margaret Callcott, Gary Hallen and Pat Brose -  
Sanctuary  
**LITURGISTS:** Virginia Wooten - Chapel  
Russ Pearson - Sanctuary  
**WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY:** Youth Group Members  
**GREETERS & USHERS:** Stewart Baggett - Chapel  
**GREETERS & USHERS:** Burts and Jennie Compton - Sanctuary  
**TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES:** Russ Pearson

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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 Staff**

423-245-0104

Mike Shelton, *Pastor* (ext. 204)

Russ Pearson, *Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministries* (ext. 208)

Mark Owen Davis, *Director of Music Ministries* (ext. 210)

Alice Sanders, *Pianist/Organist*

Annie Hill, *Church Business Administrator and Secretary to the Pastor* (ext. 203)

Vickie Green, *Membership Secretary/Church Receptionist* (ext. 202)

Beverly Johnson, *Financial Administrator* (ext. 206)

Kim Alvis, *Media Specialist* (ext. 209)

Becca Wright, *Parish Nurse*

W. Wayne Dinsmore, *Custodian*

Lance Ramsey, *Custodian*

Mike Weiss, *Custodian*

Tammy Jackson Hodge, *Director of Presbyterian Children's Center*

# First Presbyterian Church

Kingsport, Tennessee

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



*Second Sunday of Advent*

Dec. 4, 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 Coventry Carol” arr. Dennis Alexander  
(11:00) “How Far Is it to Bethlehem?” West Country carol, arr. John Dixon

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. 88 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (vs. 1, 2, 6, 7)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, your love is wider than our sight; your grace is more wonderful than we can sing. Yet you chose to visit us as a child in a manger, love us as a friend and save us as a redeemer. We admit that there is much in us that is not ready to receive you. Our world is torn by horrors in distant countries and tensions on our streets. Our lives are busy to the point of exhaustion, and we carry so much worry that turns prayer dry and flattens our joy. God, stop us long enough that we might hear a song on the darkest night, might feel your presence in the midst of common tasks and sense joy and hope that flows from the strength of your care. Come, give us a heart of praise and a song of gladness. (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: Hear the Good News! The Messiah comes to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and to offer release to the prisoners. Jesus comes in the form of a little bitty baby to save us from our sins. Spread the Good News!

People: **Alleluia, Amen!**

\*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 All repeat: 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.**

*All: 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 *Genesis 18:9-15*

GOSPEL READING *Luke 1:1-23*

SERMON “Totally Unprepared” Mike Shelton

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE “Wake My Heart, O Heav’nly Father” Infant Holy

***Wake my heart, O heav’nly Father, God eternal, Lord of love;  
God of majesty, and holy; Infinite in power above.***

***Bring to earth your heav’nly glory; birth anew creation’s story, God to whom all life belongs.  
Tune my heart to sing your songs.***

***Come, Lord Jesus, move among us, Word in flesh, God’s only Son.***

***Come, Christ Jesus, Love begotten, in whom life is now begun.***

***Make us humble, Lord, to greet you, grant us grace that when we meet you, you will heal each sin-sick soul;  
Take what’s broken, make us whole.***

\*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.**

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*(11:00) Communion will be served by intinction at the 11:00 a.m. service. Worshippers are invited to come forward by rows, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and partake. If you prefer, individual cups are available from the elder closest to the outside aisle. If you have difficulty coming to the front of the sanctuary, an elder will be happy to serve you in your seat.*

INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSICAL MEDITATION

PRAYER

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

(8:45) “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

***How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!***

***So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.***

***No ear can hear him coming, but in this world of sin,***

***Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.***

***So, silently, with hearts made meek, we kneel before your birth;***

***With souls set free from pride and fear, we find, in you, our worth.***

***Accept, O babe of heaven, the hopes and trust we bring,***

***That you may grow and live in us, our lives an offering.***

(11:00) “Who But the Lord?” C. Courtney

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God, we thank you for this season of carols and gifts, and for the gift of Jesus. We offer you all of our lives: our hopes and our plans, our work, and our play. May our giving not just be a sign of the season, but a sign of our lives. Amen.**