

3^d Sunday of Advent

December 15th, 2024

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

Joy to the World

arr. Brad Jacobsen

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Kennedy Family

RESPONSE

Wait for the Lord

#90

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!**

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

from Isaiah 12

One: Thank the Lord; call on God's name.

All: Proclaim God's deeds and declare that God's name is exalted.

One: Sing to the Lord, who has done glorious things.

All: Proclaim this throughout all the earth.

One: Shout and sing for joy;

All: for God is in our midst!

✦ HYMN OF PRAISE

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

#107

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you have promised us a new covenant, written not on tablets of stone but on our hearts. Yet we resist your transformation, clinging to old ways and habits. We confess that we have failed to trust your promises, doubting your love when the path ahead seems uncertain. We have sought comfort in things that cannot sustain us and ignored your call to be a people of hope and restoration. Forgive us, Lord. Create in us clean hearts and renew your Spirit within us, that we may walk in your light and prepare room for your coming. Amen.

✦ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

from Jeremiah 31

One: God says, "I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sins no more." Friends, hear the good news: In Jesus Christ, the new covenant is fulfilled, and we are made whole.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

✦ RESPONSE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

#132, v. 3

✦ PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Registration Pad found at the end of the row and pass it along.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward for the Time for Young Disciples. Following this time, children through 1st grade are invited to Children's Church.

✦ HYMN OF PREPARATION

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

#87

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION 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.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 11-20

p. 160 NT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

All Praise to Thee

Elaine Hagenberg

HEBREW BIBLE READING

Jeremiah 31:31-35

p. 735 OT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Tim Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella

arr. Jefferey Bjorck

✦ Response

O Come, All Ye Faithful

#133, v. 3

✦ Prayer of Dedication

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from The Confession of 1967

God expressed his love for all humanity through Israel, whom he chose to be his covenant people to serve him in love and faithfulness. When Israel was unfaithful, he disciplined the nation with his judgments and maintained his cause through prophets, priests, teachers, and true believers. These witnesses called all Israelites to a destiny in which they would serve God faithfully and become a light to the nations. The same witnesses proclaimed the coming of a new age, and a true servant of God in whom God's purpose for Israel and for all humanity would be realized. Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

✦ HYMN OF SENDING

You Shall Go Out with Joy

#80

✦ BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

✦ POSTLUDE

Ding Dong Merrily on High

arr. Raluca Bojor

✦ PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR IN SPIRIT, AS YOU ARE ABLE

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Tim Reynolds – Pastor

Sarah Morgan – Pastor

Charles White – Liturgist

Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts

2nd Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Ushers: Leslie & Doug Matthews, Nancy Smythe, Janis Smith

Technicians: Dale Henley (video); Matthew Lowe (audio)

WORSHIP

UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS: Our current sermon series is called *God's Kingdom People*. From now until Christmas we are focusing on the relationship between God and his people, the Israelites.

Dec. 15 Jer. 31-35 God's Kingdom People: *Prophets Comfort Israel*

Dec. 22 Micah 5 God's Kingdom People: *Israel Hopes for a Savior*

Dec. 24 Luke 2:1-20 The Life of Jesus: *Birth*

Dec. 29 Matt 2:13-23 The Life of Jesus: *Escape to Egypt*

THE FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the glory of God.

BLUE CHRISTMAS: Second, Lake Hills, Lake Forest, and Graystone Presbyterian Churches are hosting a joint Blue Christmas worship service at Lake Hills Presbyterian Church THIS Thursday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m. The service recognizes that the Christmas season can be a painful time for some and is designed to offer comfort and hope to those experiencing grief, loneliness, depression, loss, isolation, and anguish. All are invited, particularly those who have experienced a loss of some kind in the previous year. If you need a ride or know of someone who does, please contact the church office.

OUR CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL AND CANDLELIGHT SERVICE is Tuesday, Dec. 24th at 5:30 p.m. A nursery will be available. Pre-service music begins at 5:15 p.m.

CONNECT

FELLOWSHIP TIME: Join us after worship each week for coffee, lemonade, cookies, and a time of fellowship.

FOOD & FRIENDS: Food and Friends will resume in January and will be on the second Sunday of each month. If you are interested in hosting, scan the QR Code to sign up or let Pastor Tim know.



CHRISTMAS CAROLING: We are caroling THIS AFTERNOON! Meet in the church parking lot at 1:30 pm. We will carol from 2-5 pm and end with hot chocolate at Helen Grant's house. All are invited!

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are excited to have you with us today and hope you feel at home! We are honored you are here and pray you will feel God's presence in this place. If you do not have a church home, we would love for you to be a part of the 2nd Pres. Please let us know a bit about you by completing a Visitor's Card or by filling out your information in the Friendship Register. Children are welcome in worship. There is a **family worship area** down front. There is also a "crying room" next door in the Library where the service is live streamed. **Children's Worship Bags** are available in the Narthex. Children ages 2 through 1st grade are invited to **Children's Church** following the children's time in worship. A **nursery is available** beginning at 9:15 for infants and children through age 2. **Hearing Devices** are available if needed.

GROW

THE FAITH, SCIENCE & THE FUTURE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS meets in the Barbour Room at 9:30 a.m. weekly. This class studies current events through the lens of faith using a weekly curriculum called *The Wired Word*. All are invited – join us!

CHILDREN'S VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: As our nursery and preschool continue to grow, we are needing more volunteers! If you are interested, please contact Holly Grimm at (865) 243-6353.

GO

FISH MINISTRY DONATION NEEDS: The FISH ministry is currently in need of dish soap, bar soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toilet paper, and maxi pads. Donations can be placed in the FISH bin in the hallway between the Atrium and kitchen. And we can always use more volunteers -- either for packing in the mornings or delivering in the early afternoon -- to help expand the number of Knox County residents with food insecurity that we can assist. It's the 4th Tuesday of every month. Contact Dick Dodson at rtododson52@gmail.com.

HAT AND GLOVE TREE is back! This year the GO Team is asking for new hats and glove donations in ADULT SIZES. The hats and gloves will be donated to the Resource Center at the Volunteer Ministry Center. The Resource Center aids the homeless through various programs to achieve permanent housing. Hats and Gloves can be hung on the Christmas Tree in the Atrium or dropped in a bin near the tree.

SUPPORT

WI-FI NETWORK: Our Wi-fi network is for use by anyone who visits the building. The network is "Second Presbyterian Church", and the password is *Psalms100*.

GIVE ONLINE: Visit us at www.2ndpres.org/give, text *2ndPresKnox* to 73256, or scan the QR code to the right.



STEWARDSHIP: If you have not already made a pledge for 2025, there is still time. You can make a pledge online through the church website, through the Giving tab in your Realm account, or with a physical card. Please let us know how you plan to financially support the ministry and mission of 2nd Presbyterian as soon as possible. Thank you for your commitment to our congregation.

E-MAIL LIST UPDATE: If you are not receiving the weekly Friday E-News and would like to, please send Jack (jrosamond@2ndpres.org) an email letting him know you would like to be added to the email list.

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, December 15th

- 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future Class (Barbour Room)
- 10:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
- 1:30 p.m. Caroling (Meet in Parking Lot)
- 6:00 p.m. FSF Christmas Party (Shannondale Clubhouse)

Monday, December 16th

- 9:45 a.m. Staff Meeting (Small Conference Room)
- 5:30 p.m. Vision Task Force Meeting (Barbour Room)

Thursday, December 19th

- 10:00 a.m. Arts & Crafts (Room 56)

Friday, December 20th

- 4:00 p.m. Deadline for 2nd Edition Newsletter

Sunday, December 22nd

- 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 a.m. Faith, Science & The Future Class (Barbour Room)
- 10:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)

PRAYER CONCERNS

The family of Bob Campbell, Amy Garcia, Sue Jacox, Donna Downen, and Arlys Milligan

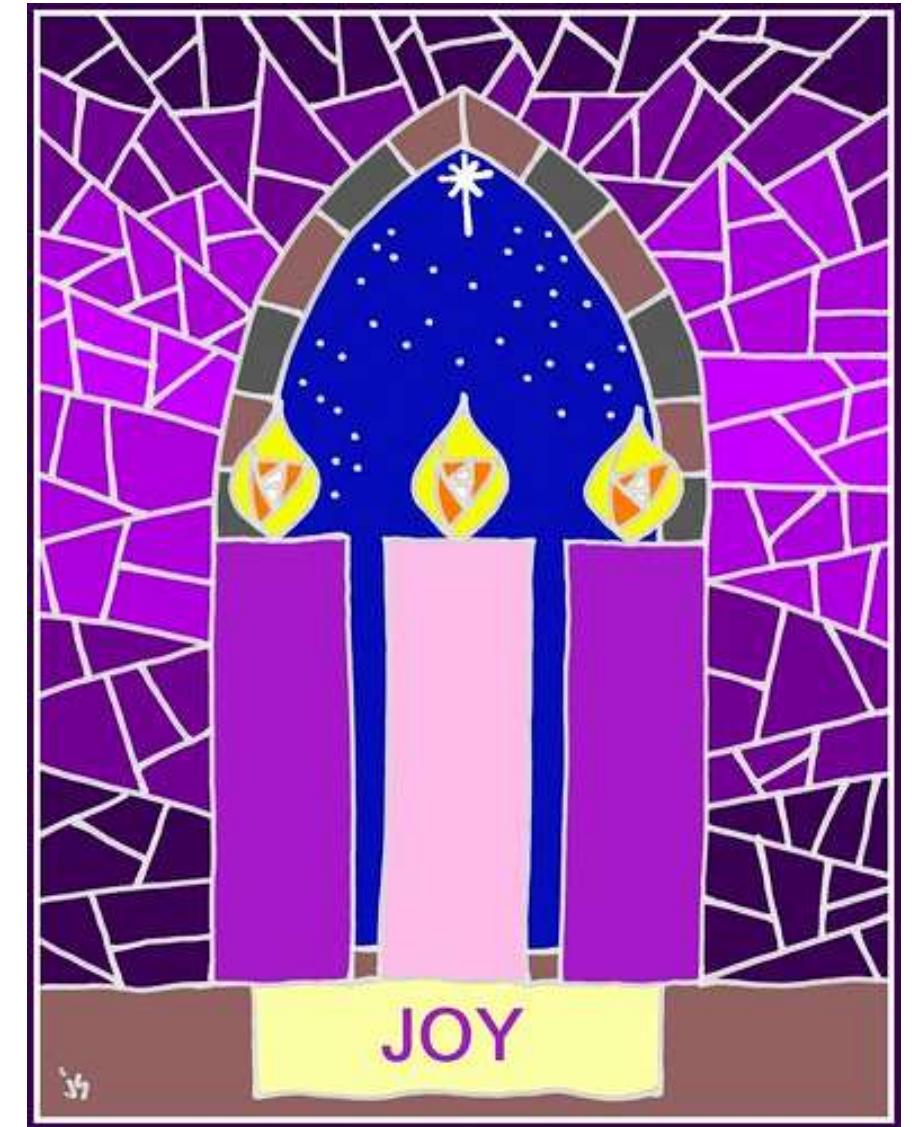
*Please notify the office if you are sick, in the hospital, or have a prayer request. Names remain on the prayer list 4 weeks unless requested to keep them on longer.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN STAFF

Ministers:	Members & Friends of the Congregation	
Teaching Elder:	Tim Reynolds	treynolds@2ndpres.org
Teaching Elder:	Sarah Morgan	smorgan@2ndpres.org
Director of Music & Arts:	Matthew Mimbs	mmimbs@2ndpres.org
Student Ministries Director:	Holly Grimm	hgrimm@2ndpres.org
Preschool Director:	Linda Sue Byrd	lsbyrd@2ndpres.org
Church Administrator:	Jack Rosamond	jrosamond@2ndpres.org
Sexton:	Nichole Duran	nichole_duran05@yahoo.com

2ndpres.org [SecondPresbyterianChurchKnoxville/](https://www.facebook.com/SecondPresbyterianChurchKnoxville/) [@2ndpresknox/](https://www.instagram.com/2ndpresknox/) [@2ndPresKnox/](https://www.tiktok.com/@2ndPresKnox/)

ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER: The bulletin cover art for this year is a series designed in 2022 by regional artist and retired pastor of Erin Presbyterian Church, John Stuart. John is a native of Scotland who has lived and ministered in East Tennessee for 30 years and describes his work as a "therapeutic and creative way" to strengthen his spiritual connection to God.



*Responding in gratitude to God's love and grace,
we are a welcoming, faithful, and hopeful community,
following Jesus and serving him in the world.*

Second Presbyterian Church

Organized 1818



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

2829 Kingston Pike + Knoxville, TN 37919

Church Office: 865.523.2189

Preschool: 865.523.9997

Church Office Email: jrosamond@2ndpres.org

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

December 15, 2024