

# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE *In Excelsis Deo* arr. Kevin Olson

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES *Arts & Crafts Group*

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

One: Love came down at Christmas.  
**All: Love, so lovely, so divine.**  
One: Love was born at Christmas.  
**All: Star and angels gave the sign.**  
One: Let us worship the Lord of Love!

✦ HYMN OF PRAISE *Love Has Come* #110

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of surprises, like our Israelite ancestors before us, we look for salvation among the powerful. We place our hope in those who promise us economic prosperity, victory over our enemies, and a return to the way things used to be. Yet you brought forth a Savior from an insignificant place, born to a powerless, unwed, teenage mother. He called us to lives of love and sacrifice and promised us difficulty and hardship as we make his kingdom a reality. Forgive us for not measuring greatness as you do. And forgive us for forgetting that the only Savior we need is the One we already have, the only One in whom we should place our true hope. We make this prayer in his name. Amen.**

✦ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE *from Micah 5:4-5*

One: Friends, hear the Good News! God's salvation comes from a small town called Bethlehem.  
**All: He shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord.**  
One: They shall live secure, for he shall be great to the ends of the earth.  
**All: He shall be the Prince of Peace and the Lord of Love.**  
One: Friends, believe the Good News!  
**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

✦ 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 1<sup>st</sup> grade are invited to Children's Church.

✦ HYMN OF PREPARATION *People, Look East* #105, omit v. 4

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 Luke 1:46b-55 p. 75 NT  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Angel's Carol* John Rutter

HEBREW BIBLE READING Micah 5:2-5a p. 865 OT  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED Sarah Morgan

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* arr. Brad Jacobsen  
✦ Response *O Come, All Ye Faithful* #133, v. 3  
✦ Prayer of Dedication

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Hebrews 1:1-3a

**Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word.**

✦ HYMN OF SENDING *While We Are Waiting, Come* #92

✦ BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

✦ POSTLUDE *In Dulci Jubilo* arr. Mary McDonald

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

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Tim Reynolds – Pastor  
Sarah Morgan – Pastor  
Leslie Matthews – Liturgist  
Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts  
2<sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Chancel Choir

**Ushers:** Geoff Duggan, Betsy & Bruce Foster, Kim Hudgens  
**Technicians:** Matt Casey (video); Dale Henley (audio)

## WORSHIP

**UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS:** We conclude our current sermon series, *God's Kingdom People*, this morning. On Christmas Eve we begin Part II of our look at the Narrative Arc of Scripture by focusing on *The Life of Jesus*.

Dec. 22	Micah 5	God's Kingdom People: <i>Israel Hopes for a Savior</i>
Dec. 24	Luke 2:1-20	The Life of Jesus: <i>Birth</i>
Dec. 29	Matt 2:13-23	The Life of Jesus: <i>Escape to Egypt</i>
Jan 5	Luke 2:41-52	The Life of Jesus: <i>Visit to the Temple</i>

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

**5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY WORSHIP IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL:** NEXT SUNDAY, we will worship in the Fellowship Hall instead of the Sanctuary. Worship on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month is a little less formal and gives us an opportunity to be together in a different way than usual.

**OUR CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL AND CANDLELIGHT SERVICE** is Tuesday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. This will be a family-friendly service and children are invited to sit with their families. A nursery will be available for those 3 and under. Pre-service music will begin 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.



### 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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.

**WEST VIEW ELEMENTARY** is taking donations of school supplies in the atrium! Please donate Crayola crayons, markers, colored pencils, Elmer's Glue Sticks, Ticonderoga Pencils, and tissues in the new, permanent donation box in the atrium!

### 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 *Psalm100*.

**GIVE ONLINE:** Visit us at [www.2ndpres.org/give](http://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](mailto:jrosamond@2ndpres.org)) an email letting him know you would like to be added to the email list.

**CHURCH CLOSED:** The Church will be closed December 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> in recognition of the Christmas holiday.

### THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

#### Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

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

#### Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m. FISH Pantry (Fellowship Hall)  
5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)

#### Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

Church Closed

#### Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>

Church Closed

#### Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

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

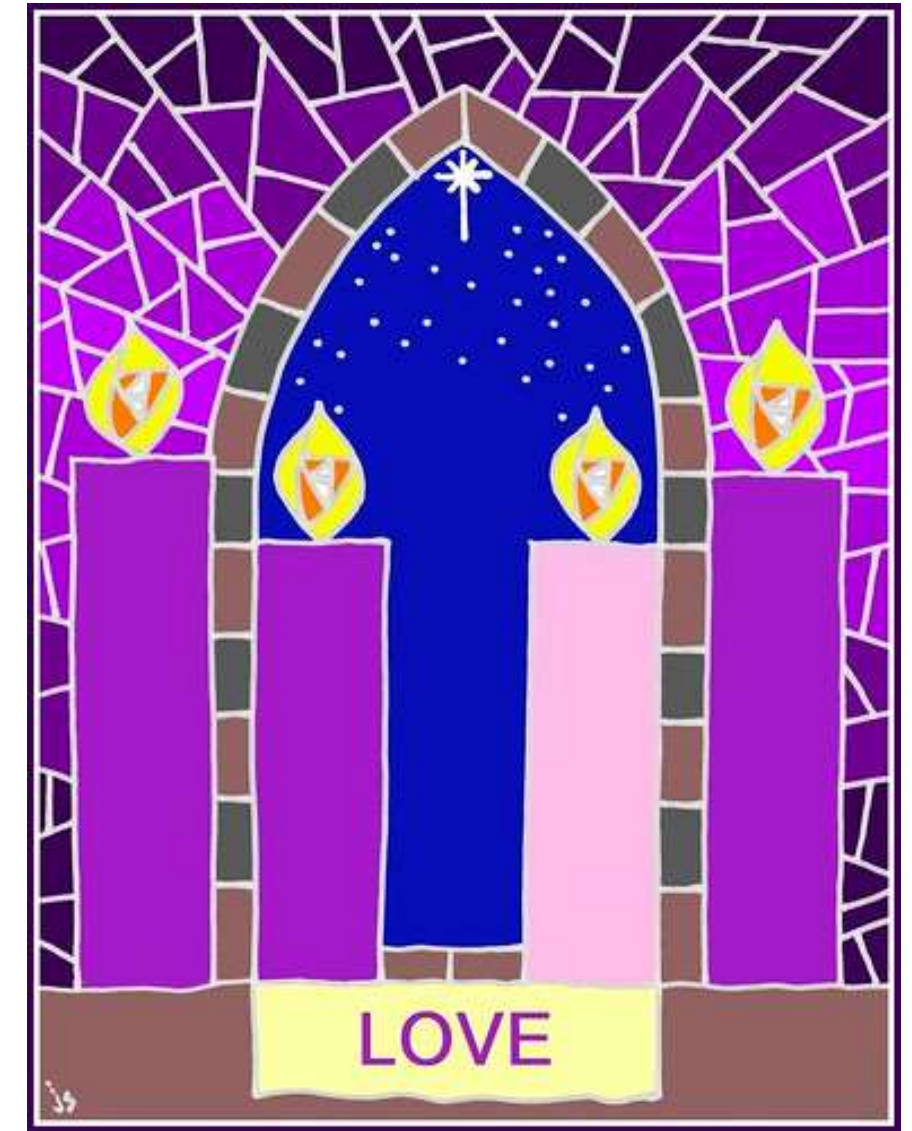
\*Please notify the office if you are sick, in the hospital, or have a prayer request.  
Names remain on the prayer list 4 weeks unless requested to keep them on longer.

### SECOND PRESBYTERIAN STAFF

<b>Ministers:</b>	<b>Members &amp; Friends of the Congregation</b>
<b>Teaching Elder:</b> Tim Reynolds	<a href="mailto:treyolds@2ndpres.org">treyolds@2ndpres.org</a>
<b>Teaching Elder:</b> Sarah Morgan	<a href="mailto:smorgan@2ndpres.org">smorgan@2ndpres.org</a>
<b>Director of Music &amp; Arts:</b> Matthew Mimbs	<a href="mailto:mmimbs@2ndpres.org">mmimbs@2ndpres.org</a>
<b>Student Ministries Director:</b> Holly Grimm	<a href="mailto:hgrimm@2ndpres.org">hgrimm@2ndpres.org</a>
<b>Preschool Director:</b> Linda Sue Byrd	<a href="mailto:lsbyrd@2ndpres.org">lsbyrd@2ndpres.org</a>
<b>Church Administrator:</b> Jack Rosamond	<a href="mailto:jrosamond@2ndpres.org">jrosamond@2ndpres.org</a>
<b>Sexton:</b> Nichole Duran	<a href="mailto:nichole_duran05@yahoo.com">nichole_duran05@yahoo.com</a>

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**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*

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

December 22, 2024