

Christmas Eve

December 24th, 2024

5:30 p.m.

PRELUDE *Once In Royal David's City* arr. Rodney Arboriol

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP *from Luke 2*

One: Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:

All: **to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.**

✦ PROCESSIONAL HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful* #133, omit v. 2

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you call us to celebrate, yet we struggle to find hope in the suffering and despair of our world. We find it difficult to rejoice in the face of the cruelty and hate that seem to pervade our lives; instead, we turn from each other and from you, questioning the power of love to break through. Comfort your people, sovereign God. Return us to the faith born this night. Save us from hopelessness. Remind us of the promise of salvation we have in Jesus Christ. Amen.

✦ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

One: Hear the good news of Christmas: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

All: **In Christ Jesus, love has broken through. God's promise of salvation is fulfilled.**

One: Rejoice, and be at peace, for in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

✦ RESPONSE *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* #119, vv. 1&3

✦ PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward for the Time for Young Disciples.

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory *Angels' Carol* John Rutter

✦ Response *In the Bleak Midwinter* #144, v. 4

✦ Prayer of Dedication

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING Isaiah 9:2-7 p. 638 OT

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL CAROLS

The First Nowell #147, v. 1

Angels We Have Heard on High #113, v. 3

O Little Town of Bethlehem #121, v. 1

Away in a Manger #115, v. 1

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice #132, v. 1

NEW TESTAMENT READING Luke 2:1-20 p. 58 NT

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED **Tim Reynolds**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, whose light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never smother it. We believe that on a night like this night, in Bethlehem, there was born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. We believe in the Word who has become incarnate, our very flesh and blood, yet full of grace and truth. We believe he is the salvation of our God, that is for the happiness of all people. We believe in his name as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace; of the increase of his rule and of his unique peace, there will be no end. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. This we surely believe.

ANTHEM *On This Silent, Holy Night* McDonald/arr. McDonald

THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS

THE SPREADING OF THE LIGHT

As the ushers light the first candle in each row, we invite you to turn and light the candle of the person next to you. The lighted candle remains upright while the unlighted candle is tipped to be lighted. Please wait until the choir has finished the choral benediction before extinguishing your candle and place it in one of the receptacles as you exit the sanctuary.

GOSPEL READING John 1:1-5, 9-14, 16-18 p. 91 NT

✦ CHRISTMAS HYMN *Silent Night, Holy Night!* #122

Lyrics are on the back of the bulletin and on the screen for your convenience.

✦ BENEDICTION

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Joy to the World* #134, vv. 1&4

Please extinguish your candles as we sing the hymn.

✦ POSTLUDE *Il Est Ne, Le Divin Enfant* arr. Brad Jacobsen

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



SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS EVENING

Tim Reynolds – Pastor
Sarah Morgan – Pastor
Lisa Henley – Liturgist
Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts
2nd Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Ushers: Lauren Dodson, Doug Barbour, John Henley, Liz Peebles
Technicians: Dale Henley (video); Paul Sexauer (audio)



for Unto Us
a Child
is Born

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are excited to have you with us tonight 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 2ndPresKnox. 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 the 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. A **nursery is available** for infants and children through age 2. **Hearing Devices** are available if needed.

A LIMITED NUMBER OF ELECTRONIC CANDLES ARE AVAILABLE for those who have small children who would like to participate in the candle lighting. Please see an usher if you would like your child to have one.

POINSETTIAS: Anyone who purchased a memorial/honorary poinsettia may take it home after the evening service.

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

THE FAITH, SCIENCE & THE FUTURE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS meets in the Barbour Room at 9:30 a.m. to study current events through a faith lens. Join us!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ON OUR EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST, please contact Jack Rosamond at jrosamond@2ndpres.org.

A PORTION OF THE OFFERING THIS EVENING WILL BE USED to support our denomination's *Christmas Joy Offering*, assisting current and retired church workers in times of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial and ethnic schools and colleges. All cash and any checks marked "Christmas Joy" will go towards this offering.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT: If you have not already made a pledge to support the ministry and mission of 2nd Pres Knox in 2025, you have one week left. Thank you to those of you who have pledged your support in the coming year.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 25 & 26, in observance of the Christmas holiday.

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



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*.

www.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.

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child!
Holy infant so tender and mild!
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia!"
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!"

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, Love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord at thy birth!
Jesus, Lord at thy birth!

Silent night, holy night!
Wondrous star lend thy light
With the angels let us sing
"Alleluia!" to our King
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE STAFF
AT SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!**

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



2nd Pres Knox

WELCOMING + FAITHFUL + HOPEFUL

*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.*



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.

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