1st Sunday of Christmas

December 28th, 2025 **10:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE ***In Dulci Jubilo*** *Johann Michael Bach*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

✞CALL TO WORSHIP *based on* Isaiah 9

One: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
All: And also with you.
One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
All: Hope has arrived!
One: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.
All: Peace has arrived!
One: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.
All: Joy has arrived!
One: He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
All: Love has been made flesh and lives among us! Let us worship the Incarnate God.

✞HYMN OF PRAISE ***Angels, from the Realms of Glory*** **#143, vv. 1-3**

✞PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you made your love known to us in the Christ child. We celebrate, with joy, his birth and then neatly tuck our excitement away with our decorations. Forgive us for the ways we lose sight of what Christ's birth means for us even after the ornaments are put away and the lights are no longer twinkling. Have mercy on us when we forget that Christ's entry into the world calls us to be a people who seek justice and work toward reconciliation. Open our ears to hear your voice, reminding us of your promises and calling us to a life that reflects your love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

✞ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE *from* Hebrews 2

One: Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death.
All: He became like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Thanks be to God!

✞PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

✞RESPONSE ***Angels, from the Realms of Glory*** **#143, v. 4**

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 MEDLEY

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear **#123, v. 1**
Once in Royal David's City **#140, vv. 1&2**
Gentle Mary Laid Her Child **#146, v. 1**
Angels We Have Heard on High **#113, v. 3**

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

HEBREW BIBLE READING Isaiah 7:10-16 p. 636 OT
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC ***Away In a Manger*** *arr. T.L. Mowbray*

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 1:18-25 p. 1 NT
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 ***Infant Holy*** *arr. Susan Rucker*
✞Response ***What Child Is This?*** **#145, vv. 1&3**
✞Prayer of Dedication

✞AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The 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.

✞HYMN OF SENDING ***Go, Tell It on the Mountain*** **#136**

✞BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

✞POSTLUDE ***Joy to the World, "Antioch"*** *arr. Wayne Leupold*

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Sarah Morgan – Pastor
Tim Reynolds – Pastor
Helen Grant – Liturgist
Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts
Sarah Warner-Sperl – Organist
2nd Presbyterian Chancel Choir
2nd Presbyterian Chancel Ringers

Ushers: Betsy Foster, Tracy Horton, Henry Naff, and Mary Kay Sullivan
Technicians: Dale Henley (video); Paul Sexauer (audio)

WORSHIP

UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS: We are currently following the Revised Common Lectionary. Our Advent readings focus on the traditional Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

Dec 28	Matthew 2:13-23	The Magi
Jan 4	Ephesians 1:3-14	Adopted in Christ
Jan 11	Matthew 3:13-17	The Baptism of Jesus
Jan 18	Isaiah 49:1-7	A Light to the Nations

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

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.

CONNECT

FELLOWSHIP TIME: All are invited to stay for coffee, cookies, and a time of fellowship following worship each week.

FOOD & FRIENDS is a ministry to college students and young adults. On the 2nd Sunday of each month, all college students and young adults are invited to have lunch together at a local restaurant paid for by the church. Our NEXT Food & Friends is January 11th. If you are interested in hosting, scan the QR code to sign up or let Pastor Tim know.

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!

GROWTH GROUP REGISTRATION: Registration for the Winter Quarter of our Growth Groups will be held January 4th-11th. You do not need to have been in a Growth Group this Fall to participate during the Winter Quarter. Similarly, if you participated in the Fall and want to take a break for the Winter, that's fine, as well. Or if you would like to be in a different group, you may indicate that on your registration. You can sign up through Realm, on the church's website, by calling the church office, or using the QR code. A signup table will also be available during Fellowship Time on January 4th and 11th. Groups will be finalized the week of January 11th and begin meeting the week of January 18th. Groups will meet for 9 weeks, concluding the week of March 15th.

GO

STUFFED ANIMALS NEEDED: Second Readers is collecting new, soft, stuffed animals for the Juvenile Court. Animals should be no more than 12 inches high, new, and snuggly. Look for a box in the atrium to place your cuddly critters. If you are unable to shop, you may make a donation and we will shop for you. Thank you for your participation!

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*.

OUR NEW CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR, Kathryn Paden, will be with us at the start of the year. Her email address will be kpaden@2ndpres.org. Please make a note of this new address for all church business.

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

CHURCH CLOSED: The church will be closed January 1st, 2026, in recognition of New Year's Day.

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, December 28th

9:15 a.m.	Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m.	Faith, Science & The Future Class (Barbour Room)
10:30 a.m.	Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
1:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Practice (Choir Room)
4:30 p.m.	Christmas Storytelling (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, January 1st

CHURCH CLOSED Happy New Year!

Sunday, January 4th

9:15 a.m.	Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m.	Faith, Science & The Future Class (Barbour Room)
10:30 a.m.	Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
1:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Practice (Choir Room)

PRAYER CONCERNS

Joe Beals, The family of Bill Sullivan, Mark Jenkins,
Fran McLean, Bill Roach, Jr., 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

	Members & Friends of the Congregation	
Ministers:		
Teaching Elder:	Tim Reynolds	treynolds@2ndpres.org
Teaching Elder:	Sarah Morgan	smorgan@2ndpres.org
Director of Music & Arts:	Matthew Mimbs	mmimbs@2ndpres.org
Organist:	Sarah Warner-Sperl	sartherrgurl2@outlook.com
Student Ministries Director:	Holly Grimm	hgrimm@2ndpres.org
Preschool Director:	Linda Sue Byrd	lsbyrd@2ndpres.org
Interim Church Admin:	Tuesday Reynolds	admin@2ndpres.org
Sexton:	Nichole Duran	nichole_duran05@yahoo.com

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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: admin@2ndpres.org
Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

December 28, 2025