3rd Sunday of Advent

December 14th, 2025 **10:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE ***Coventry Carol*** *arr. Leona Cook Herridge*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

✞RESPONSE ***Come Now, O Prince of Peace*** **#103, v. 3**

Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior
Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.

✞CALL TO WORSHIP *from* James 5; Isaiah 35

One: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
All: And also with you.
One: Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord.
All: The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the rain.
One: We must also be patient, strengthening our hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.
All: Then the eyes of the blind and the ears of the deaf shall be opened.
One: Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
All: Waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.
One: The burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water.
All: Even as we wait, let us rejoice with joy and singing!

✞HYMN OF PRAISE ***Joy to the World*** **#134**

✞PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of our waiting, in a season defined by joy, we admit that we wait impatiently for glimpses of the joy you'll bring. We sit in our sorrow, in our fear, in our lament, and we search for signs of your coming. Often, we are so focused on the search that we miss the signs of your presence that are already here. We miss opportunities to share joy with others. Forgive us, Lord, when our waiting keeps us from recognizing the one we've been waiting for. Open our eyes to see, our ears to hear, our hearts to receive the joy you bring in this season and always. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

✞ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE *from* Matthew 1

One: The angel told Joseph, "You are to name the baby Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Friends, believe this good news:
All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Hallelujah! Amen.

✞PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

✞RESPONSE ***Angels We Have Heard on High*** **#113 (refrain)**

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 ***Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*** **#82**

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 35:1-10 p. 663 OT

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

ANTHEM ***Et In Terra Pax*** *John Purifoy*

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 11:2-11 p. 11 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 ***A Ring of Bells*** *John G. Barr*
✞Response ***Of the Father's Love Begotten*** **#108, v. 6**
✞Prayer of Dedication

✞AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from* The Confession of 1967

God's reconciling work in Jesus Christ and the mission of reconciliation to which he has called his church are the heart of the Gospel in any age. In Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself. Jesus Christ is God with us. He is the eternal Son of the Father, who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation. He is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete his mission.

✞HYMN OF SENDING ***Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*** **#107**

✞BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

✞POSTLUDE ***Trio on Angels We Have Heard on High*** *Wayne Leupold*

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

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

Ushers: John and Lisa Henley, Tracy Horton, and Henry Naff
Technicians: Matthew Lowe (video); Dale Henley (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 14	Matthew 11:2-11	The Authentic Jesus
Dec 21	Matthew 1:18-25	God with Us
Dec 28	Matthew 2:13-23	Escape to Egypt
Jan 4	Ephesians 1:3-14	Adopted in Christ

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

KNOXVILLE NATIVITY PAGEANT: The 57th Annual Nativity Pageant of Knoxville is December 13th-15th at the Knoxville Civic Coliseum. Admission is free. For more information visit www.knoxvillenativity.com.

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

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 TODAY.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: We will go caroling at the houses of some of our members on December 21st. Meet in the church parking lot at 2:00 p.m. All are invited to join us!

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!

2nd PRES YOUNG FAMILIES: Join us this afternoon in the Fellowship Hall for ornament decorating at 4:30 followed by dinner and story time! Kids are welcome to wear pajamas. Bring a blanket for your family to sit on during story time.

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

STEWARDSHIP: If you have not already made a pledge for 2026, there is still time to support our ministry in the coming year. You can make a pledge online through the church website, through the Giving tab in your Realm account, or by filling out a physical card and putting it in the offering plate. Thank you for your faithful support of what we believe God is calling us to do.

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

THE DEADLINE FOR 2ND EDITION ARTICLES is Saturday, December 20th.

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, December 14th

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)

Monday, December 15th

9:45 a.m.	Staff Meeting (Small Conference Room)

Tuesday, December 16th

5:30 p.m.	Preschool Christmas Program (Sanctuary)

Thursday, December 17th

10:00 a.m.	Arts & Crafts (Room 227)
10:30 a.m.	Bible Study (Barbour Room)

Sunday, December 21st

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)
2:00 p.m.	Caroling (Meet in the parking lot)

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

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*.

2ndpres.org SecondPresbyterianChurchKnoxville/ 2ndpresknox/ @2ndPresKnox/



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.

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