4th Sunday of Advent

December 21st, 2025 **10:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE ***Trio on "O Waly, Waly"*** *Randolph Currie*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

✞RESPONSE ***Come Now, O Prince of Peace*** **#103, v. 2**

Come now, O God of love; make us one body
Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.

✞CALL TO WORSHIP *based on* Matthew 1

One: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
All: And also with you.
One: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call him Emmanuel,"
All: God is with us.
One: In our fear and our uncertainty,
All: God is with us.
One: In our courage and in our doubt,
All: God is with us.
One: In the birth of a child, laid in a manger, God is with us.
All: Let us worship God!

✞HYMN OF PRAISE ***Love Has Come*** **#110**

✞PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God with us, you came to redeem a world in need and still we turn away from you. During this Advent season, we are reminded of your presence with us. We are reminded of the ways you broke into the world and turned it upside down. But still, we hold on to the old ways of doing things. We ignore your efforts to make us a new creation, because it might require us to step outside our comfort zones. Forgive us, Lord, for our apathy. Remind us, once more, that your presence calls us to action. Restore us and let your face shine on us, that we may reflect your incarnate love in the world. Amen.

✞ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE *based on* Isaiah 12

One: With joy, let us draw water from the spring of salvation. Give thanks to the Lord! Call on God's name.
All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

✞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 ***O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*** **#104**

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.**

ANTHEM ***O Love*** *Elaine Hagenberg*

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 ***Divinium Mysterium*** *arr. Wilbur Held*
✞Response ***Of the Father's Love Begotten*** **#108, v. 6**
✞Litany of Dedication

✞AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from* The Scots Confession

When the fullness of time came, God sent his Son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world. [He was] the "just seed of David," the "Angel of the great counsel of God," the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, truly God and truly human, two perfect natures united and joined in one person. We acknowledge and confess that this wonderful union between the Godhead and humanity in Christ Jesus did arise from the eternal and immutable decree of God from which all our salvation springs and depends. That same eternal God and Father, who by grace alone chose us in his Son Christ Jesus before the foundation of the world was laid, appointed him to be our head, our brother, our pastor, and the great bishop of our souls.

✞HYMN OF SENDING ***People, Look East*** **#105, vv. 1,2,5**

✞BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

✞POSTLUDE ***Puer Nobis Nascitur*** *Wayne Leupold*

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

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

Ushers: Gerald Cook, Lauren Dodson, Nancy Smythe, and Tim Wright
Technicians: Neal Henley (video); Matt Casey (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 21	Matthew 1:18-25	God with Us
Dec 28	Matthew 2:13-23	The Visit from the Magi
Jan 4	Ephesians 1:3-14	Adopted in Christ
Jan 11	Matthew 3:13-17	The Baptism of Jesus

THE FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given by Jimmy Cheek in honor of Ileen Cheek's birthday.



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 January 11th.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: We will go caroling at the houses of some of our members THIS AFTERNOON. 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!

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*.

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.

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.

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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 parking lot)

Tuesday, December 23rd

9:00 a.m.	FISH Pantry (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, December 24th

5:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)

Thursday, December 25th

9:45 a.m.	CHURCH CLOSED

Friday, December 26th

9:45 a.m.	CHURCH CLOSED

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)

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

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

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