4th Sunday of Advent

December 18th, 2022 **11:00 a.m.**

PRELUDE ***Carol Rhapsody*** *R. Purvis*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *The Wall Family*

✞RESPONSE ***Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love*** *Randy Edwards*

Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love! These are the gifts you bring from above
Jesus, Emmanuel, come to be light of your Love, reflected in me.

✞CALL TO WORSHIP

One: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
All: And also with you.
One: Love has come, a light in the darkness!
All: Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
One: See, all heaven has come to proclaim it.
All: Now let our songs of joy arise!

✞HYMN OF PRAISE ***People Look East*** **#105 vv. 1,4,5**

✞PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we praise you for sending the light of your love into this world. We confess, however, that we live as though this light had never defeated darkness. We confess that we've kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season and do not yearn for his coming each moment of our lives. Forgive us for ignoring the Savior you sent to be among us and live in us. Prepare us for his return and help us rejoice in the light of his love, so that your grace may illuminate the darkened places of our hearts and lives. Amen.

✞ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

One: Love has come and never will leave us!
All: Love is life everlasting and free.
One: Love is Jesus within and among us.
All: Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
One: Love is the gift of Christmas.
All: Praise to our God on high!

✞RESPONSE ***Creator of the Stars of Night*** **#84**

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One
Praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.

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.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, power, and glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

✞HYMN OF PREPARATION ***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*** **#119**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

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

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

ANTHEM ***Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*** *arr. Leavitt*

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 1:18-25 p. 1 NT

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 ***Variations on Wondrous Love*** *S. Barber*
✞Response ***Savior of the Nations Come*** **#102, v.4**

Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, virgin's son, incarnate Word
To the holy Trinity praise we sing eternally

✞Prayer 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, who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, by means of the Holy Ghost. And so was born 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, true God and true man, two perfect natures united and joined in one person.

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

✞BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

✞POSTLUDE ***Christmas Fanfare*** *S. Caudill*

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Tim Reynolds – Pastor
Sarah Morgan – Pastor
Matt Casey – Liturgist
Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts
John Lasater – Organist
2nd Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Ushers: Doug Matthews, Leslie Matthews, Kay Weaver & Terry Weaver
Technicians: Elizabeth Seastrunk (video) and Paul Sexauer (audio)

WORSHIP

UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS: We are currently following the Narrative Lectionary, Year 1.

Dec. 18	Matthew 1:18-25	Jesus as Immanuel
Dec. 24	Luke 2:1-14	The Birth of Jesus
Dec. 25	Luke 2:8-20	The Shepherds Visit
Jan. 1	Matthew 1:1-7	Covenant Renewal Service

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

DUE TO THE PREVALENCE OF THE FLU VIRUS, we are taking a break from passing the peace in worship for a few weeks. Please continue to greet one another and welcome guests informally as you feel comfortable.

ADVENT GIFT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH: Today we have an Advent gift for all children and youth. These gifts will be given out before and after the worship service. These gifts are for all children – both members and visitors.

OUR CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL AND CANDLELIGHT SERVICE is Saturday, Dec. 24th at 5:30 p.m. We will observe a service of Lessons & Carols as we celebrate the birth of our Lord. Pre-service music will begin at 5:10 p.m.

A "LONGEST NIGHT" SERVICE will be held in the sanctuary this Wednesday, December 21st at 6:00 p.m. The service is traditionally held on the longest night of the year and recognizes that the Christmas season can be a painful and lonely time for some. It is designed to offer comfort and hope to those experiencing loneliness, depression, loss, isolation, and anguish. All are invited, particularly those who have experienced a loss of some kind in the previous year and those who want to stand in the place of darkness with others.

WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS DAY: Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year. Our worship that morning will be an informal service and we ask everyone to sit in the front half of the sanctuary. We will sing Christmas hymns and Pastor Tim will read a Christmas story. The service will last approximately 30 minutes, after which we will gather for a time of fellowship with hot cider and cookies.

NEW WORSHIP TIME: Beginning **Sunday, January 1st, Sunday morning worship will begin at 10:30 a.m.** Following worship each Sunday, we will have coffee and a time of fellowship in the Mary Chambers Room.

USHERS NEEDED: Additional Ushers for worship are needed. If you want to meet new people, become better acquainted with Second Presbyterian folks, and show hospitality to others, contact one of our Usher Coordinators – Kim Hudgens (kimhudgens05@comcast.net) or Janis Smith (smithjb1@gmail.com).

We are currently in Covid Phase GREEN. There are no Covid precautions.

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 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. A **nursery is available** for infants and children through age 6. **Hearing Devices** are available if needed.

CONNECT

DRIVE-THRU CAROLING: The youth of the church will be hosting a Drive-Thru Christmas Caroling THIS AFTERNOON from 2-4 p.m. in the courtyard. If you would like to come sing, please do! We also need volunteers to transport some of our shut-ins. Mark your calendars now and let Sarah Morgan know if you are willing to help!

GO

STUFFED ANIMAL DRIVE: Every year Second Readers collect new stuffed animals for the Juvenile Court. We invite you to join us in this endeavor. Please place your donations inside the container located at the atrium. Any questions, contact Margaret Sullivan (865) 588-3103.

CHRISTMAS GLOVE PROJECT AND ISAIAH NEEDS: The bare tree in the atrium is for placing gloves to be given to students at Westview Elementary. The box beneath the tree is for items for the teenagers at Isaiah House. We are collecting Axe body wash and fidget toys for the boys, and hair products and body sprays for the girls.

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING will be received today and Christmas Eve during worship. By giving to the Christmas Joy offering, you honor God's gift of Jesus Christ by helping current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

MEN OF VALOR is a faith-based program that began with a facility in Nashville and now has a new facility in Knoxville. This program is committed to winning men in prison to Jesus Christ and equipping them to re-enter society as men of integrity. To learn about this program and how you can support it, please consider attending an informational breakfast at 7:30 a.m. on any of the following dates: January 10 & 24; and February 7 & 2. The location is 211 Jessamine St., Knoxville, 37917.

GROW

THE FAITH SCIENCE & THE FUTURE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS meets in the Barbour Room at 9:45. *Please note that we will not meet on December 25th or January 1st. Our class will resume on January 8th with a new time at 9:30 a.m.*

THE JANUARY – FEBRUARY UPPER ROOM devotional books are available, in the narthex and vestibule.

SUPPORT

OUR STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE PERIOD is almost completed. If you have not yet made a pledge, please consider doing so. You may make your pledge online through a link on the church website's home page (2ndpres.org). Thank you for your commitment to the mission and ministry of 2nd Presbyterian.

THE JANUARY SECOND EDITION DEADLINE is next Wednesday, December 20th! Please contact the church office with your submissions!

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, December 18th
9:45 a.m. Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
Faith, Science & The Future Sunday (Barbour Room)
11:00 a.m. Worship
2:00 p.m. Drive-Thru Caroling (Courtyard)

Monday, December 19th
11:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

Tuesday, December 20th
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts Court of Honor

Wednesday, December 21st
2:00 p.m. Compassionate Cuisine (Fellowship Hall)
6:00 p.m. Longest Night Service (Sanctuary)

Saturday, December 24th
5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 25th
11:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30 a.m. Christmas Day Fellowship (Mary Chambers Room)

The church office will be closed on Friday, December 23rd & Monday, December 26th in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sue Jacox, Kennedy Wilson, Kristi Maples, the family of Charles Wu, Pat Wininger, Jerry Young, Frances Johnson, Arlys Milligan, Beverli White, Doux Robertson, and Peter Douglas Hamilton.

*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:	John Lasater	jdlasater77@gmail.com
Student Ministries Director:	Holly Grimm	hgrimm@2ndpres.org
Preschool Director:	Linda Sue Byrd	lsbyrd@2ndpres.org
Church Administrator:	Bonnie Smith	bsmith@2ndpres.org
Media Coordinator:	Marta P. Villalta	mvillalta@2ndpres.org
Pastor Emeritus:	*Dr. Ed Carver*	moxcar@eatel.net

facebook.com/SecondPresbyterianChurchKnoxville/ www.2ndpres.org
instagram.com/2ndpresknox/ www.youtube.com/@2ndPresKnox/

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*.



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.

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: bsmith@2ndpres.org
Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

December 18, 2022