



November 30, 2025

# **balmoral presbyterian church**

## **service of worship**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent



11:00am

**Chiming of the Hour**

Bells of Balmoral

**Welcome & Announcements**

Rev. Mark Howland

### ***GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE***

**Prelude**

"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

arr. James Kimball

Bells of Balmoral

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Payden Cannaday

**\*Call to Worship**

Erich Shultz, Liturgist

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

**People: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,**

Leader: that we may learn God's ways and walk in God's paths.

**People: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!**

**\*Gathering Song 2**

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

ITALIAN HYMN

**Prayer of Confession**

God of night and day, there is no shadow that can conceal our sin from you and no secret that you will not bring to light. For our reveling and drunkenness, forgive us, O God. For our debauchery and licentiousness, forgive us, O God. For our quarreling and jealousy, forgive us, O God. O God, forgive us our sins, renew us in love, and teach us to live in a way that brings honor and glory to your name.

*(Time of silence to lift personal confessions)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Congregational Response Hymn**

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost!**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever will be,**

**World without end. Amen. Amen.**

**Share the Peace of Christ**

**Musical Offering**

"People Look East"

arr. Karen Lakey Buckwalter

Bells of Balmoral, Linda Warren, piano

### ***HEARING THE WORD***

**Children's Message**

**Invitation to Centering Silence**

## Moment for Mission

## Offering

*Please place tithes and offerings in the brass plates. Children will collect quarters to provide funds to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Fund. Place Coins for a Cause in the glass jar near the sanctuary doors for our Food Pantry. Pass the Friendship Pads along the row, then pass it back down the row and greet those in your row after worship.*

## Offertory

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

arr. Mark Hayes

Linda Warren, pianist

## \*Hymn 710

"We Lift Our Voices"

OFFERING

**We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.**  
**Lord use our voices; Lord use our hands; Lord use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.**  
**All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.**  
**We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you:**  
**we are an offering; we are an offering.**

## Prayer to Dedicate the Gifts

## \*Sending Song 157 (v. 1 only)

"I Danced in the Morning"

LORD OF THE DANCE

## Charge and Blessing

## \*Benediction Response

"Lord Let Us Leave Now"

OLD ENGLISH TUNE

**Lord, let us leave now, filled with You anew,  
and pledged to Your service in all that we do.**  
**Though we have some questions, our faith in You is sure.**  
**We know You are with us, Your way will endure.**  
**Lord, let us leave now, filled with You anew,  
and pledged to Your service in all that we do.**

## Postlude

"Now Thank We All Our God"

J.S. Bach

Linda Warren, pianist

arr. Lani Smith

- Permission to stream the music and print words and music in this worship service are obtained from ONE LICENSE A-732788 and CCLI License 1725833.
- All responsive readings are shown with normal type for the leader and the bold portions are read in unison by all.
- \* indicates those who are able, please stand

## ***REMEMBER to WEAR YOUR NAMETAGS!***

### **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Kathy Singleton {2}; Ian Mercer {4}; Cliff Gurlen {6}; Ted Pearson {7};  
Kay Dawson {21}; Carol Mitchell {23}; Mary Nell Easum {29}; Janice Carney {30}

### **DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

(NO December anniversaries)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **WE THANK OUR WORSHIP LEADERS** for enhancing our worship this morning! Thank you to the Bells of Balmoral led by Lynn Ward, Linda Warren, pianist, and Erich Shultz, Liturgist.
- **EARTH CARE TIPS for DECEMBER:** wash at least 1 load of laundry in cold water weekly
- **CREATION STATION:** BPC loves the children to be a part of our worship service. We invite families to allow children to join at our Creation Station which is located in the back of the sanctuary. We ask that a responsible adult sit in the back row in case a need arises.
- **NEED A REFRESHER on BEING a PRESBYTERIAN?** Pastor Mark is teaching a class on "What we believe as Presbyterian," "History of Presbyterians," "How we live out our faith as Presbyterians," "The Sacraments," "The Liturgical Calendar," and more! Continuing on Monday, December 1, at 6:00pm; we are meeting every two weeks in Classroom A
- **ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS:** The start of the Advent season is here! Pastor Mark is seeking individuals, couples, and/or families who would be interested in leading us through the candle lighting liturgy each Sunday of Advent. Please text or email Pastor Mark if you would like to volunteer to lead one of the upcoming Sundays.
- **BOOK CLUB:** Our Balmoral Book Club will have a holiday potluck on Tuesday, Dec. 9 beginning at 11:30 a.m., (note change in time) at the home of Jane Schneider, 8487 Lofton Cove. Those attending are asked to bring a dish to share and a favorite poem. Please let Jane or Janice know if you can attend.
- **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MEETING** will be on Dec. 3 at 11:30am for Christmas luncheon at Fratelli's Restaurant.
- **CONTINUING EDUCATION:** Pastor Mark will be gone starting the afternoon of December 7 through December 11 for continuing education. If you are in need of pastoral care during this time, contact Parish Associate, Elizabeth Dick at 314-330-0506. For all other needs while pastor is out of town, contact Clerk of Session, Jan Kaplan at 901-277-4267.

- **PENNIES for HUNGER is NOW COINS for a CAUSE:** The Outreach Team has changed the name of the collection in the glass jar on the table in the back of the sanctuary from Pennies for Hunger to Coins for a Cause. The reason for the change is that the Federal government recently decided to no longer mint pennies. The contributions will still be used to combat food insecurity.
- **ADVENT GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:** The Outreach Team invites the congregation to make donations during Advent to both the Giving Tree and the Food Pantry Tree...
  - Please donate packaged underwear and coats for the First Presbyterian Church's clothing closet. These donations may be placed under the Christmas tree in the back of the sanctuary.
  - Please donate canned food items for the Covenant Presbyterian Church of Germantown's food pantry. These donations may be placed on the wooden Christmas tree on the north side of the sanctuary.
- **THE CHRISTMAS SHOPPE TOY DRIVE:** We are supporting The Christmas Shoppe at Covenant Presbyterian Church this year. The families who come to The Pantry can pick out one gift per child and it is wrapped while they wait. To donate an unwrapped toy for ages 0-18, please bring the toy to the church office or to Covenant Presbyterian Church of Germantown before Sunday, December 7. Please spend \$25-\$30 per toy. You may also volunteer to assist with the Shoppe on Thursday, December 11 at 8 am. More information is in the Beyond Our Walls weekly newsletter.
- **CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING: Prepare the Way** - Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the church. God has blessed the church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.
- **REPAIR FUND:** Remember to prayerfully consider what gift you might be able to give to our HVAC & Roof Repair Fund Replenishment. Make your donation today online or with a check marked "Repair Fund."
- **GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:** We are collecting much needed items for our community; Please don't forget to bring your donations for:
  - The Covenant Presbyterian Church of Germantown's Food Pantry. needs staples from our Food Cart!
  - Supplies for the Hospitality bags
  - Place used toothbrushes & empty toothpaste in the box in the Food Cart for recycling.

- **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES ON THE CALENDAR: (NOTE: \*\* indicates Presbytery event; ## indicates a community event; @@ indicates Private event)**
  - **TUESDAYS with TED** meets every Tuesday, 8:00am. at Cracker Barrel on Hacks Cross Rd.
  - **CHAIR YOGA** meets every Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30pm in Classroom B
  - **## AL-ANON** meets every Wednesday, 7:00pm in Classroom A
  - **BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL** meets every Wednesday at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary
  - **CHOIR REHEARSAL** meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm in the Choir Room
  - **WRITER'S CIRCLE**, Monday, December 1, 1:00pm in Classroom A
  - **PASTOR CLASS**, Monday, December 1, 6:00pm in Classroom A
  - **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CHRISTMAS LUNCH**, Wednesday, December 3, 11:30am at Fratelli's Restaurant
  - **OPERATIONS TEAM MEETING**, Wednesday, December 3, 4:00pm in Classroom A
  - **THURSDAY SMALL GROUP**, Thursday, December 4, 10:15am in Classroom A
  - **COMMON CUP of JAZZ**, Friday, December 5, 6:00 carpool meets from the BPC parking lot, 6:30 Dinner (no charge, donations accepted), 7:00 Jazz at Liberation Community Church (694 South Bellevue)
  - **SUNDAY STUDIES**, Sunday, December 7, 9:30am in Classroom A
  - **WORSHIP**, Sunday, December 7, 11:00am
  - **WORSHIP TEAM MEETING**, Sunday, December 7, 11:00am in Classroom A
  - **PASTOR MARK on CONTINUING EDUCATION**: Sunday, December 7 after noon through December 11
  - **BOOK CLUB CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**, Tuesday, December 9, 11:30 am (NOTE TIME CHANGE) at the home of Jane Schneider, 8487 Lofton Cove in Cordova
  - **## HOLD ON! Meeting**, Saturday, December 13, 10:00am in the Sanctuary
  - **SUNDAY STUDIES**, Sunday, December 14, 9:30am in Classroom A
  - **WORSHIP**, Sunday, December 14, 11:00am
  - **LUNCH WITH MARK**, Sunday, December 14, 12:30pm in Classroom A
  - **WRITER'S CIRCLE**, Monday, December 15, 1:00pm in Classroom A
  - **PASTOR CLASS**, Monday, December 15, 6:00pm in Classroom A
  - **THURSDAY SMALL GROUP**, Thursday, December 18, 10:15am in Classroom A
  - **SUNDAY STUDIES**, Sunday, December 21, 9:30am in Classroom A
  - **WORSHIP**, Sunday, December 21, 11:00am
  - **SANDWICH-MAKING PROJECT**, Sunday, December 21, 12:00pm in Classroom A
  - **SESSION MEETING**, Sunday, December 21, 12:30pm, in Classroom A
  - **CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE**, Wednesday, December 24, 6:00pm
  - **MERRY CHRISTMAS - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**, Thursday, December 25

## ***OUR MISSION:***

***We are an open community  
who believes God is love and  
who lives our belief through praise and service.***



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**Church staff:**  
**Rev Mark Howland**  
pastor  
**Rev Elizabeth Dick**  
parish associate



COVENANT NETWORK  
OF PRESBYTERIANS



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PRESBYTERIANS



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