

FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN



First Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2025

Welcome

to First Presbyterian Church of
Huntsville, Alabama

*We are a congregation of the
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

Notes About Our Worship Bulletin:

- An asterisk denotes standing--in body or Spirit.
- Bold text means the congregation is invited to recite the text together.
- There are margin notes throughout the service to increase understanding of the service.
- Children of all ages are a welcome blessing in worship! They are an important part of our church community and we would love for them to stay for the whole service. Wiggles and giggles will not bother us; tears and fears remind us we're human. Ushers can provide you with worship notebooks to engage your children during worship.
- Nursery care is available anytime between 8:15 am and 12:00 pm for infants and toddlers in Room 105 as needed.
- All children are invited to come forward during *This Little Light of Mine* for a message and prayer.
- Children are welcome (but never required!) to go to Room 205 for Children's Church after the Time for Young Disciples. Parents may escort them, or Children's Ministry Assistants are available to walk with them.
- Members, having children worship is a gift and a sign of health and vitality for our church. Please welcome children and offer parents a smile of encouragement.

Want more information about the church?
Speak with an usher in the narthex, or visit our website at fpchsv.org,
or listen to sermons later in the week, at:



FOR APPLE



FOR ANDROID

Worship Resources Adapted From:

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion Series, the Book of Common Worship, and Enterthebible.org
CCLI 1345744 One License: A-722711

WELCOME

Christmas Eve
December 24, 2025
3:00 pm and 5:00 pm

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

CHIMING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Bass Quintet

F. Mendelsson
Arr. A. Frackenpohl

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign in on the pew pads found at the end of each row and share those with your neighbor. We thank God for your presence this day!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Shepherds and angels announced good news for people everywhere!

People: Christ, our Savior is born. He is the Messiah, the Lord.

Leader: Glory to God in the highest heaven!

People: Christ's peace is for God's people in every country.

Leader: Let us worship God!

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION: (unison)

Our Loving God, we praise you for the child who was born to be our Savior.

With people throughout the world, we worship Him as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We praise you in Jesus' name, Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH FOR CHRISTMAS EVE: The Christ Light

3:00: Rentz Family

5:00: Sparks Family

*HYMN 134

Joy to the World

NICAEA

1 *Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

3 *No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.*

2 *Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

4 *He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.*

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP:

Dr. Karl Kling,
Transitional Pastor

Dr. Patricia Hacker,
Director of Music

Dr. Lois Lee,
Pianist/Organist

Chancel Choir
Gabriel Lugo, tenor

Liturgist:
3:00:
Stephanie Hyatt
5:00:
Anne Dillon Lofflin

Ushers:
3:00:
Roy and Marilyn
McCorkle, Barbara
Rahrer, Charles and
Joyce Stephens

5:00:
Clinton Wann, Marian
Bevel

Acolytes:
3:00 pm -
Louise Causey
5:00 pm -
Emme Sparks

Video and Sound:
Tom Stroud
Dave Young
Maxwell R. Carter

**Those who are
able, please stand.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Our Loving God, you sent your Son into the world, but sometimes we do not make a place for Him in our lives. You give His Spirit to guide us, but too often we do not follow. At times, we are selfish and fail to share your good gifts with our neighbors. Forgive our sin. Fill our hearts and lives with your grace and gifts for all people. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.

(Let us now continue our confession in silence.)

KYRIE

Lord Have Mercy

Hal H. Hopson

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

7 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

13 Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

LEADER: Friends, God has given you the gift of the Holy Spirit. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, you have a new family. You belong to God. Hear and receive the good news of God's never-failing love. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 113

Angels We have Heard on High
(Refrain Only)
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

GLORIA

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Dr. Kling

Leader: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you

People: And also with you.

(Take a moment to greet one another in the peace of Christ and welcome those who are new to our church community)

Having been reconciled to God in Jesus Christ, the people are invited to share signs of reconciliation and the peace of Christ. In sharing the peace, we express the reconciliation, unity, and love that come only from God, and we open ourselves to the power of God's love to heal our brokenness and make us agents of that love in the world.

**Those who are able, please stand.*

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

All children are invited to come forward during
This Little Light of Mine for a message and prayer.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Following the Time for Young Disciples, children are invited to join Kathy Gillmore in Room 205 for Children's Church. Infant and toddler care is available in room 105 as needed.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dr. Kling

FIRST LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

Christ is Born in Bethlehem
Chancel Choir

Arr. Loyd Larson

*He is born, the divine Christ Child,
Play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the Holy Child,
Sing we all of the Savior mild.*

*Take the road to Bethlehem;
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hear the angels sing, earth and heaven ring:
"Oh born in Bethlehem."*

*Through long ages of the past
Prophets have foretold His coming;
Through the ages of the past,
Now the time has come at last!*

*Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.*

*Jesus, Lord of all the world,
Coming as Child among us;
Jesus, Lord of all the world,
Grant to us Thy heav'nly peace.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Christ is born in Bethlehem!*

A prayer for illumination may be offered before the reading and proclaiming of the scripture. This prayer seeks the illumination of the Holy Spirit and calls upon God to make us receptive to the life-giving Word, which comes to us through the scripture.

**Those who are
able, please stand.*

SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:8–16

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Dr. Karl Kling

SERMON

SILENT MEDITATION

*Hymn 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

1*Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful all ye nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”*

3*Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”*

2*Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”*

*Those who are able,
please stand.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Cantique de Noël (O Holy Night)
Gabriel Lugo, tenor

Adolph Adam

*O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till he appeared, and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!
O night divine! O night, divine!*

*Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts, by His cradle we stand.
So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here came the wise men from the Orient land.*

*The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our friend;
He knows our need, to our weakness no stranger;
Behold your King! Before the lowly bend!
Behold your King!
Your King! Before Him bend!*

*Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord, then ever, ever praise we,
His power and glory evermore proclaim!*

*DOXOLOGY 606

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYERS OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Want to give your offering via credit card? Scan below.



FOR ONLINE GIVING

Special Offering:

Every Christmas Eve, you have the opportunity to give to our denomination's special "Christmas Joy Offering," which assists current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need. Additionally, it develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges, while also equipping communities of color. If you would like to give to this special offering, please specify on a giving envelope, or memo line of check, "Christmas Joy Offering."

**Those who are able, please stand.*

THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Eternal God, it is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, born of Mary, to be Emmanuel, God with us. On this holy night we remember the angels' song of peace, the shepherds' wonder, and the light that shines in the darkness. With the faithful of every time and place we sing the hymn of your glory:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and cup. Make them for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be his body for the world—shining with the light of your love, bringing peace to all the earth.

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Communion bread is gluten-free. Please eat the bread as it is shared as a sign of your individual trust in God's grace. Hold the cup and we will drink it together as a sign of our unity in Christ.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, in deep gratitude we give ourselves to you. Help us to live as transformed people because we have shared this bread and cup together. Give us your love and joy to share with others. We pray this in Christ's name, Amen.

Music During Communion:

What Child is This?

GREENSLEEVES

Brass Quintet

Musicians:
Joe Bader
(trumpet 1)
Each Hill
(trumpet 2)
Marshall Sealy
(horn)
William Bargetzi
(trombone)
Dr. Doug Black
(Tuba)

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

The elders will come forward to light their candles and in turn light the candles of persons at the end of each pew. The next person will light their candle by dipping it into the lighted candle.

*Hymn 122

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

¹ *Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child
Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace*

³ *Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

² *Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia
Christ, the Savior is born
Christ, the Savior is born*

⁴ *Silent night, holy night,
Wondrous star, lend the light;
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.*

*BENEDICTION

Dr. Kling

*POSTLUDE

Festive Voluntary on Adeste Fideles

Arr. Daniel Berghout

Many thanks to our communion preparers and servers:

Preparers

3:00 pm: Ellen and Jeff Little

5:00 pm: Ellen and Jeff Little

Servers

3:00 pm: Leigh Brown, David Young, Ashley Connor, Bruce Peters,
Anne Peters, Houston Matthews, Serena Neely

5:00 pm: John Howard, Erin Cobb, Janis Williams, Bruce Williams,
David Young, David Alan Smith, Ashley Connor, Buddy Guynes,
Hamilton Holliday, Houston Matthews, Serena Neely

****Reminder****

Services will be at the Gideon Blackburn House at 8:30 and 11:00,
starting next Sunday, December 28th.

**Those who are
able, please stand.*

PRAYER LIST

Names added to the prayer list will be removed after *six weeks*.

Please take the bulletin home to add these names to your daily prayers.

Prayer requests should be emailed to Kristin Pepper, Administrative Assistant, at admin@fpchsv.org.

Church Members:

Joseph & Allison Davis and family
Ida Jo Daughtry
Betty Loeb
Paula Weider
Stella Wilson
Sandra Stewart
Carsten Schroer
Frances Byrd
Anne Whitfield
Bob Monroe
Betty Thompson
Family of Richard McElveen
Ed Green
Maxwell R. Carter and family
Becky Buckner
Alicia Beam
Janice Fowler
Charlie Watkins
Ted Buckner
Barbara (Bonny) Morris
Cay Lambert
Amelia Beimrohr

Friends and Family:

April Woods- great-niece of Dave & Peggy Galloway
Chad Self- friend of Maxwell Carter
Misty Short Anderson and family and friends
Maggie Day & Josie-cousins of George Harsh
Marlene Stark - mother of Lisa Everett
The Wilmer Family - friends of Katy Bryan
Melinda Thompson - daughter of Mary Edith Thompson
Rob Klouw & Katherine Randall - friends of Rachel Harrod
Chet Johnston - friend of Frederick Wessel
Brian Cain
Mike Moore
Erik and Paul Davis

Family of Mike Galant - friends of Maxwell R. Carter
David Barnes - friend of Maxwell R. Carter
Frances Kyser - friend of Tam Bevel & Judy Howard
Deborah Lamb - aunt of Kaitlyn Huaroto, sister of Pam Huaroto
Emily Loeb Locke - daughter of Betty Loeb
Nathan Harsh Brown Chitty - cousin of George Harsh
Bennie Jacks - friend of George & Eleanor Harsh
Emily Neely - daughter-in-law of Serena Neely
Katie Little Pickle - great niece of Dave & Peggy Galloway
Nancy Neely Harris - sister of Mary Margaret Cofield
Marie Mitchell - mother of Libby Smith
Antony Leo - brother of Lori Smith
Charles Trainosky - grandson of Charlie Watkins
Grant Adams - brother of Glen Adams
David, Jessi, and Emma Grace Hill-friends of Davis Carter
Jared Breach
Claudia Fahrner
Sam Eidt - friend of Betty and Ed Green
Patty Monnett- friend of Katy Bryan

Members and Relatives in Specialty Care:

Marlyn and Hoyt Harris (Brookdale)
Cay Lambert (Huntsville Health & Rehab)
Chuck Hooker (Floyd E. Tut Fann State Veteran's Home)
Annewhite Fuller (Whitesburg Gardens)
Kathleen Perry (Valley View)

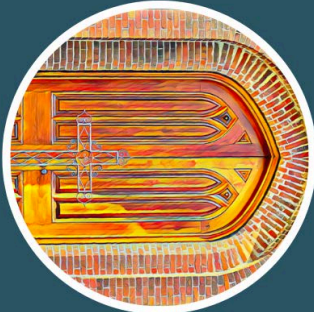
Military & International:

Prayers for Haiti and our mission partners. This is a critical time as the civil unrest there may undermine all humanitarian work.
All those serving in the armed forces; particularly
LT Connor Howard, U.S. Navy Pilot

Flower Guild Honors and Memorials

Flowers were given to the glory of God and in honor or memory of

- In memory of Harvey & Kay Meier by their family.
- In memory of my husband, Stan Fee, by Ann Fee
- In memory of our parents, Jimmie & Morgan Williams and Janett & Fred Ridout by Bruce and Janis Williams
- In honor of our grandchildren, Emmary, Reece, and Anna Williams and Abbott and Nola Myers by Bruce & Janis Williams
- In memory of Elliott Lee Abernethy by Sharron, Damon, and Miranda Abernethy
- In memory of Ryan Meade Abernethy by Sharron, Damon and Miranda Abernethy
- In honor of Mr.& Mrs. Damon Abernethy by Sharron Abernethy
- In honor of the Chancel Choir by Patricia Hacker
- In honor of June and Buddy Guynes, wonderful friends and members of First Presbyterian Church, and in memory of Robert by Pat and Sara Graves
- In honor of Bobbie O' Farrell and in memory of Dean and Dean Jr. by Pat and Sara Graves
- In loving memory of Wayne Bonner by Charlie & Caroline Bonner
- In memory of Hill Knapp by Margaret & Ryan Parker
- In memory of Robert Guynes by Sarah and Andy Watson
- In memory of Kathy Rene Laird to spread the joy of all that Kathy is and was and to continue her legacy of beauty, intelligence, kindness, and love by Christine Little



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

307 Gates Ave SE
Huntsville, AL 35801