Christmas Eve Worship December 24, 2021—9:00 p.m.

Welcome to Second Presbyterian Church

Sharing the grace of God with one another and the world around us.

This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. We are Christ's people; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.

Please visit our website 2ndpreslou.org to connect with our various ministries, or to contact our office for more information about our faith community.



If you are new to Second Presbyterian, or would like to share a prayer concern, please scan this QR Code to fill out our online Friendship Pad.

Thank you for silencing mobile phones or any other devices to honor the sanctity of our worship.

Sharing grace through giving: We welcome you to visit our Giving Page on our website (2ndpreslou.org/giving) to fulfill your pledges and offer your financial support for the ongoing ministries of Second Presbyterian Church. When you scan this QR code, it will direct you to the giving page of our website. Giving by text message is also available: text 844-584-2059 or by using the Vanco app and entering the amount you wish to donate. Thank you for your faithful support!





* Please stand if you can do so comfortably.

Bold type is sung or read in unison. ⁺Anthem texts can be found in the back of your bulletin. PRELUDE

The Gathering

Still, Still, Still Away in a Manger & Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella Louisa Woodson, harp

> *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* Samuel Libra, organ

arr. Rees-Rohrbacher arr. McDonald/Wood

arr. A.D. Miller

+Sans Day Carol trad. Cornish carol, arr. John Rutter Sanctuary Choir & Chamber Ensemble

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP



*PRAYER OF CONFESSION read in unison

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ, you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to the glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt and renew our hope, so that we may watch and wait and once more hear the story of our Savior coming into our midst. Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world waits for you. Savior of the nations, come.

Time for silent prayer.

RESPONSE

+Glory to God from MESSIAH

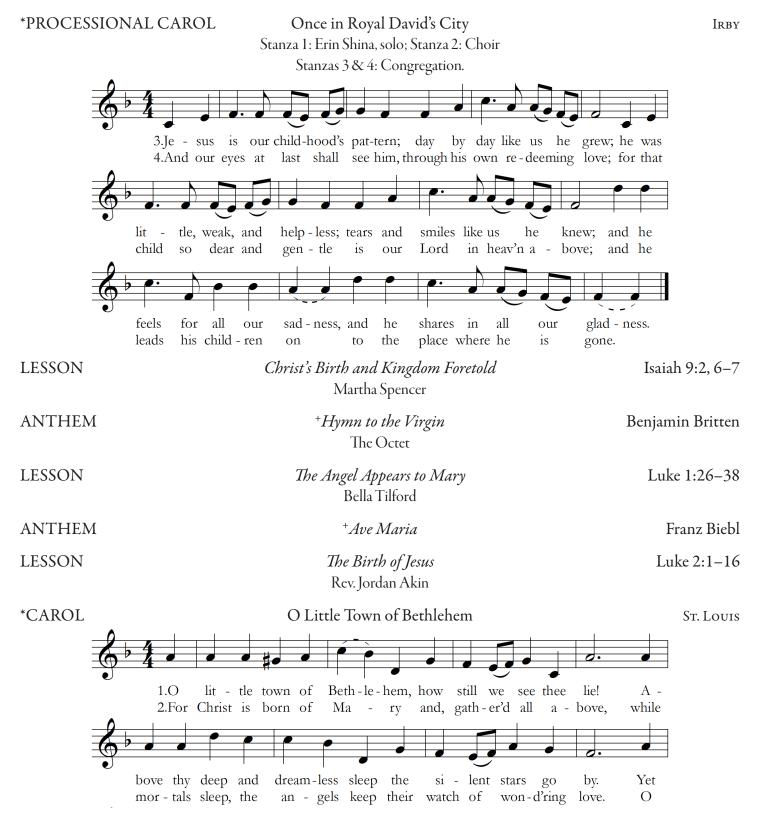
G.F. Handel

Christina Bouras Recktenwald, soprano; Sanctuary Choir; Chamber Ensemble; Samuel Libra, organ

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Word: A Service of Lessons and Carols

BIDDING PRAYER





LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Susan & Bill McDowell, Trey McDowell, and Leslie & Dutch Fox

ANTHEM

+What Is This Lovely Fragrance?

Healey Willan

LESSON

The Great Mystery of the Incarnation Rev. Steve Jester John 1: 1–5, 9–14

Mendelssohn



HOMILY

Rev. Steve Jester

The Response

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH read in unison

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please also see the information about ways to give on the inside of the front cover of the bulletin. You are invited to pass the Friendship Pad found at the end of the pew.

Philippians 2:5–11

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving 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.

+Christmas Day

Communion of the People

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION ⁺O Holy Night Adolphe Adam Christina Bouras Recktenwald, soprano; Louisa Woodson, harp

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

To light your candle, tilt your unlit candle toward the lit candle held by the person next to you.

*CAROL Silent Night 1.Si - lent night, ho ly night! All is all is bright _ calm. 2.Si lent night, _ ly night! Shep - herds quake the sight; ho at 3.Si lent night, ly night! Won - drous thy light; ho star, lend 'round yon vir - gin mo-ther and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten-der and mild, glo sing "Al - le - lu - ia: ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n-ly hosts -Al - le - lu with the an gels let us sing _ ia to our King: 7. heav - en-ly sleep in peace, sleep in heav - en-ly peace. Christ Sav - ior is Christ the Sav - ior is born!" the born; Christ Sav - ior is the born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

The Sending

*BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Rev. Steve Jester

Rev. Jordan Akin

STILLE NACHT

Texts & Translations

Sans Day Carol

Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk, And Mary bore Jesus, all wrapped up in silk, And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be, And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly. Holly! Holly! Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass, And Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross, And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be, And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly. Holly! Holly!

Glory to God from MESSIAH

trad. Cornish carol, arr. John Rutter Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal, And Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all, And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be, And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly. Holly! Holly! Now the holly bears a berry as blood is it red, And Mary bore Jesus who rose from the dead, And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be, And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.

Cornish carol

G.F. Handel

Benjamin Britten

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. *Isaiah 40:5*

Hymn to the Virgin

Of one that is so fair and bright *Velut maris stella,* Brighter than the day is light, *Parens et puella:* I cry to thee, thou see to me, Lady, pray thy Son for me *Tam pia,* That I may come to thee. *Maria!*

Ave Maria

Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae et concepit de Spiritu Sancto.

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum, benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.

Maria dixit: Ecce ancilla Domini Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum.

Ave Maria ...

Et verbum caro factum est Et habitavit in nobis.

Ave Maria ...

Sancta Maria, mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus. Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Nativity Carol

Born in a stable so bare, Born so long ago; Born neath light of star He who loved us so. Far away, silent He lay, Born today, your homage pay, Christ is born for aye, Born on Christmas Day.

What Is This Lovely Fragrance?

What is this lovely fragrance wafting like to the scents of flow'rs in spring! Shepherds, O tell us, whence such beauty, Hear you not heavn'ly carolling? All this world was forlorn *Eva peccatrice,* Till our Lord was y-born *De te genetrice.* With ave it went away Darkest night, and comes the day *Salutis* The well springeth out of thee. *Virtutis.*

> The Angel of the Lord announced to Mary And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Holly! Holly!

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Mary said: Behold the handmaiden of the Lord. Do to me according to your word.

Hail Mary ...

And the Word was made flesh And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary ...

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen. Angelus & Ave Maria, trad.

Cradled by mother so fair, Tender her lullaby; Over her son so dear Angel hosts fill the sky. Far away, silent He lay, Born today, your homage pay, Christ is born for aye, Born on Christmas Day. Wise men from distant far land, Shepherds from starry hills Worship this babe so rare, Hearts with His warmth He fills. Far away, silent He lay, Born today, your homage pay, Christ is born for aye, Born on Christmas Day.

What is this light so fair, so tender Breaking upon our wond'ring eyes? Never the Morning Star so radiant Followed his course o'er eastern skies.

Lady, flow'r of ev'rything, *Rosa sine spina,* Thou bare Jesu, Heaven's King, *Gratia divina:* Of all thou bear'st the prize, Lady, queen of paradise

Electa: Maid mild, mother es Effecta. *Effecta. Anon, Middle English*

Franz Biebl

John Rutter

Love in that stable was born Into our hearts to flow; Innocent dreaming babe, Make me Thy love to know. Far away, silent he lay, Born today, your homage pay, Christ is born for aye, Born on Christmas Day. J. Rutter

Healey Willan

Shepherds, O hast with eager footsteps Seek the Saviour, born today. Low at His feet we lay our treasure, Heart's adoration, love for aye. *French carol*

Christmas Day

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart, and soul, and voice; Give ye heed to what we say: News! News! Jesus Christ is born today: Ox and ass before him bow, And he is in the manger now. Christ is born today!

God rest you merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay, Remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas day, To save us all from woe and sin, When we were gone astray. O tidings of comfort and joy.

In Bethlehem, in Jewry, This blessed babe was born, And laid within a manger, Upon that holy morn; The which His Mother, Mary, Did nothing take in scorn. O tidings of comfort and joy.

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice; Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this. He hath oped the heav'nly door, And man is blessed evermore. Christ was born for this.

Come ye lofty, come ye lowly, Let your songs of gladness ring; In a stable lies the Holy, In a manger rests the King: See in Mary's arms reposing, Christ by highest heav'n adored:

The first Nowell, the angels did say, Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay, Keeping their sheep, On a cold winter's night that was so deep. Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

Come, your circle round him closing, Pious hearts that love the Lord. Come, ye poor, no pomp of station Robes the Child your hearts adore. He, the Lord of all salvation, Shares your want, is weak and poor. Oxen, round about behold them; Rafters naked, cold and bare, See the shepherds, God has told them

O Holy Night

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! 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 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 is no stranger. Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!

That the Prince of Life lies there. Come ye children, blithe and merry, This one Child your model make; Christmas holly, leaf, and berry, All be prized for His dear sake;

Come, ye gentle hearts, and tender, come, ye spirits, keen and bold; All in all your homage render, Weak and mighty, young and old. High above a star is shining, And the wisemen haste from far: Come glad hearts and spirits pining: For you all has ris'n the star. Let us bring our poor oblations, Thanks and love and faith and praise: Come, ye people, come ye nations, all in all draw nigh to gaze.

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart, and soul, and voice; give ye heed to what we say: News! News! Jesus Christ is born today: Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice; Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this. He hath oped the heav'nly door, And man is blessed evermore. Christ was born for this.

Now to the Lord sing praises, All Israel, Now to the Lord sing praises, All you within this place, And with true love and brotherhood Each other now embrace; This holy tide of Christmas All others doth deface. O tidings of comfort and joy.

Good Christian men rejoice, With heart, and soul, and voice; Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all, To gain his everlasting hall. Christ was born to save. *English carols*

Adolphe Adam

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! O praise His name forever! His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim! *Placide Cappeau, trans. J.S. Dwight*

The flowers and wreathes are given to the glory of God and...

Poinsettias

In loving memory of J.D., Angelina, and Carletta Buckman by Ann Buckman. In loving memory of my parents, Lois & Al Ahlers by Sherry Farson. In loving memory of Mary Hagan and Charlie Scholtz by Frances Scholtz. In loving memory of Kenneth Middleton by Sarah Middleton, Brian & Margaret Lewis. In loving memory of Robert Nichols by Kent & Kathy Oyler. In loving memory of Lucy & Gene Owen by Virginia, Rob, Caroline, Graham & Olivia Foshee. In loving memory of Bing & Bert Summerell by Eric & Susan Lehmann. In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Hughes and Mr. & Mrs. Robert K. Lewis by Mr. & Mrs. W. Edwin Lewis. In loving memory of Caroline Vitale, granddaughter; Hazel & Herb Ledford, Emily's parents; Harold & Ruby Lawrence, & Lucy Lawrence, Tom's parents & Sister; by Emily & Tom Lawrence. In loving memory of our parents, Alice Cary & Eugene Farmer, Leslie Reynolds Hill & Douglas H. Owen by Elizabeth & Doug Owen. In loving memory of Jeanie Wilson by Ed Wilson. In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Charles L. Dade; Mr. & Mrs. Gerald F. Tyrrell; and Gerald G. Tyrrell; by Sandall & Tom Tyrrell. In loving memory of Helen & Edward Berry and Elizabeth & Clifford Duke by Marilyn & Gordon Duke. In loving memory of Kathleen von Roenn by Joan & LaMar Gaston. In loving memory of Gorman J. Roberts Sr. by Madge, Jeff, Paula, Grant & Katherine Roberts. In loving memory of Robert W. Nichols and Thomas B. Nichols by Martha Clay Nichols and The Pecceu Family. In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Carter and Mr. & Mrs. W. Roberts Wood by Susan & David Wood and Family. In loving memory of our parents by Bonnie & John Stone. In loving memory of Mr. John G. Seiler Jr. By Kelly, Joe, Campbell, & Elizabeth Seiler In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. John G. Treitz and Mr. & Mrs. Albert C. Dick Jr. by Harriet & Greg Treitz In loving memory of Elsa Kalmbach by Emory Apple. In loving memory of our parents, Mr. & Mrs. Mason Venner Smith and Mr. & Mrs. Lester J. Rausch by Gene & Connie Smith. In loving memory of Frederick C. Ehrman, M.D. by his family. In loving memory of Ethelyn & John Jeffords and Ruth & Charles Clark by Sharon & Tim Clark. In loving memory of Eloise & Marshall Lane and Eunice & Brooks Blevins by Linda & Harold Blevins. In loving memory of Nellie Ruth Smith Haynes, Pearly Clair Haynes, Ann Elizabeth Haynes Borrett, Lloyd Milburn Borrett, Jr., Willie Warner Skiles Smith, Earl Franklin Smith, Anna Wilhema Ernsteina Koch Haynes Pearly Clyde Hanes, Donnadella Ann Haynes Gardner, William Hardwick Gardner, Herbert Vine, Peggy Rae Cohen Vine, Betty Seligman Bernstein by Jim Haynes. In loving memory of Barbara & George Dudley by their family. In loving memory of Sean's parents and Connor, Carter, Kennedy & Kerrigan's grandparents, Robert G. Lohman, Jr. & Phyllis Lee Deeb by Sean, Connor, Carter, Kennedy, and Kerrigan Lohman. In loving memory of BeBe & Granddaddy Shaneyfelt by Mark, Shannon, Henry, Louisa, and Charlie Doyle. In loving memory of Dr. Nick Ochs by Susan Ehrman Ochs. In loving memory of Paxton Price by Sissy and Makenzie, with love. In loving memory of Courtney Cooper by Cheryl & Walter Crutcher. In loving memory of Joseph & Irene Egan and Charles W. "Chippy" Drury by Tanner & Paige Williams. In honor of our children, Abby, Allison, & Scott by John & Laura Davis. In honor our children, Campbell & Elizabeth Seiler by Kelly & Joe Seiler. In honor of our families by Jeanne & Stan Curtis. In honor of our grandchildren by Nancy & John Hubbard

In honor of Ed & Mary F. Glasscock. Love, your family. In honor of Henry W. Snyder by Susan & Chip Snyder. In honor and celebration of our grandchildren by Charlie & Edith Huber. In honor of my children, Connor, Carter, Kennedy & Kerrigan Lohman by Sean Lohman. In honor of our grandchildren, John & Eleanor Gleason, Rose, Josephine, and Dorothy Conway by Lorrie & Peter Conway. In honor of Sara Gail Haynes, Ashley Ann Haynes, Marc Travis Haynes, Margaret Claire Haynes, Alexandra Elizabeth Haynes, Jeffrey Austin Haynes by Jim Haynes. *Wreaths* In loving memory of their parents, Robert & Marilyn Smith and George & Ruth Conway by Peter and Lorrie Conway. In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Ben W. Kilgore, Jr. by their daughter Betty Kilgore Gibbs. In loving memory of Dr. Jerry Flowers by his family. In loving memory of William Hancock, Jr. by Mary Collis Hancock and family. In memory of her parents, Mr. H. Lyle Duerson, Jr. and Jane Duerson Potter by Mrs. W.T. Scovil and family.

In honor of my mother and father, Lucy & E. J. O'Brien by Jay O'Brien.

Thank you to Anne Ehrman, Nancy and John Hubbard, Diana Jester, Susan and Eric Lehmann, Susan Ochs, Kathy Oyler, Sallye Pence, Lorrie Conway, Jennifer Scott, Marcy Suter, Susan Wood, Bonnie & Larry Boram, for the decorating of the church for Christmas.

In Worship Today

Ushers

Diana Jester, Tom Tyrrell, Bonnie Boram, Larry Boram, Scott Carothers

Our Worship Leaders

Rev. Steve Jester, preacher; Rev. Jordan Akin, liturgist; Martha Spencer, Bella Tilford, Ricky Case, readers *The Sanctuary Choir & Octet*^{*}: Laura Atkinson^{*}, Mary Ayers, Ricky Case^{*}, Lamoine Cash, Terry Cissell, Dick Clay, Jonathan Cornell, Jeanne Curtis, Patty Dailey, Kit Davis, Russ Dunlap^{*}, Chris Ellis, Richard Ellis, Karen Hadley, Krista Heckmann^{*}, Jean Herp, Carol Hull, Lindsey Hundley, Clay Kannapell, David McCandless, Bill McDowell, Susan McDowell, Trey McDowell, Kenneth Oeth^{*}, Harrison Palmer-Ball, Christina Bouras Recktenwald^{*}, Janet Rittenhouse, Erin Shina^{*}, Deborah Skaggs, Martha Spencer, Jason Steigerwalt^{*}, Camille Williams-Neal Jim Rittenhouse, Director; Samuel Libra, Organist

Evan Vicic, Audio/Video Engineer

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We Lift Up in Prayer

Brad Williamson and his family on the death of his father, Bill, 12/16/21. Susan Schmidt and her family on the death of her husband, Steve, 12/14/21. Kelly Seiler and her family on the death of her brother-in-law, Nick Strong, 12/10/21. Priss Hovious and her family on the death of her father, Nelson D. Rodes Jr., 12/01/21. The family and friends of Bill Brittain on his death, 11/21/21. Jean Herp and her family on the death of her aunt, Elizabeth (Betsy) Gray, 11/19/21. Charlie Castner and his family on the death of his brother, Henry Castner, 11/19/21.

On Sundays December 26 and January 2, we will have just one worship service in the Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m. Both Sundays will also be livestreamed.



3701 Old Brownboro Road

The Ministry Team

Rev. Steven P. Jes	ter Pastor	Tanner Williams	Receptionist &
Rev. Jordan Akin	Associate Pastor for Youth		Administrative Assistant
Jim Rittenhouse	Director of Worship &	Chelsea Beasley	Interim Formation Assistant
2	Music Ministries	Jackie Grimley	Bookkeeper
Lorie Williamsor	Director of Children's Ministries	Christina Recktenwa	ld Children's Choirs
Hayley Abell	Director of Weekday School		Co-Coordinator
Lisa Bickett	Pastoral Assistant	Ricky Case	Children's Choirs Co-Coordinator
Keith DeCosta	Sexton	Amy Heckmann	Childcare Coordinator
Rick Farrow	Facilities	Elizabeth Clay	Parish Associate
Samuel Libra	Organist & Communications Assistant	Paula S. Roberts	Organist Emerita