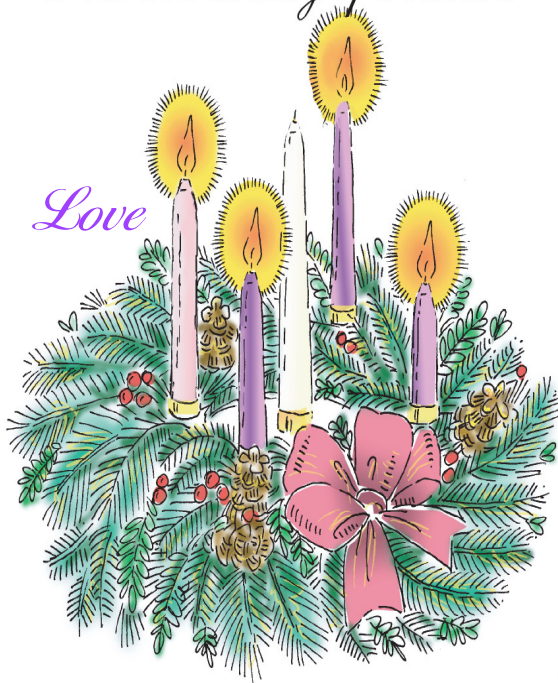


## Fourth Sunday of Advent



### God Is Love

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

<sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

1 John 4:7-12



## First Presbyterian Church

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

Founded 1792 -

*"For Christ in the Heart of Knoxville,"*

*the First Presbyterian Church seeks*

- *to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ*
- *to nurture those within its influence*
- *to serve spiritual and human needs*

*Church School at 9:45 a.m.*

*Sunday Worship Service 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.*

*Coffee Fellowship 9:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.*

*Worshipful Wednesday Evening Meal and Programs begin at 5:30 p.m.*

*Telephone (865) 546-2531 ● Fax (865) 546-2533*

*E-mail: [church@fpcknox.org](mailto:church@fpcknox.org)*

*Web Site: [www.fpcknox.org](http://www.fpcknox.org)*

*620 State Street, Knoxville, TN 37902*

## A Word of Welcome

To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are idle and look for service; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whosoever will come; this church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of Jesus Christ her Lord.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11:00 a.m.

December 18, 2011

## ❖THE PREPARATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE❖

PRELUDE

*Conditor Alme Siderum* (Creator of the Stars of Night)  
The tune and text to this hymn may be found in the hymnal, #4

Gerald Near

*...the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him!*

Habakkuk 2:20

Worship begins with the Prelude. As we reverently enter the pews, please use this time for quiet reflection and prayer, so that we, individually and as a great crowd of witnesses, may prepare ourselves to reaffirm our devotion to Him who is the author and finisher of our faith.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

- Voice 1: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; the one who follows me will not walk in darkness but have the light of life."  
Voice 2: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. (Isaiah 9:2)  
Voice 1: I will lead the blind by a road they do not know, by the paths they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I will do and I will not forsake them. (Isaiah 42:16)  
Voice 2: The LORD says to his servant, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." (Isaiah 49:6)  
Voice 1: Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. (Isaiah 58:8)  
Voice 2: Come, Lord Jesus, our light and our salvation.  
**All: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN 49

*Once in Royal David's City*

Irby

†PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(All)*

**Our prayer this season, O Lord, is for the most meaningful Advent ever, yet we sadly confess to having done so little with so much. Forgive us, Lord, for not reading your Word, for not searching our hearts, for not facing our sins, for not submitting to your will. Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God! Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us this year, we may have a fresh sense of your presence and a renewed resolve to live in the light of Christ's glory.** *(Silent personal confession)*

MUSICAL RESPONSE *(All)* 10

*On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry* (verse 2 only)

Winchester New

**Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within,  
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.**

†ASSURANCE OF PARDON

◆†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(All)* 23 *Angels We Have Heard on High* (refrain only)

Gloria

**Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

## †PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us, we are free to forgive each other. Therefore the congregation are invited to turn to each other, saying: "The peace of Christ be with you," responding with "And also with you."

## ❖THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD❖

### FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Samuel 7:1-17  
(Pew Bible, OT Page 281)

Jamie Keith

### SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN: LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The congregation and choir will sing *When God Is a Child* as the children come forward. (See insert)

♦† (*three-year-olds through first graders may leave for Children's Church.*)

### ANTHEM

*Ave Maria*

Sergei Rachmaninoff

### SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Luke 1:26-38  
(Pew Bible, NT Page 56)

### SERMON

*Mary's conception...our conception.*

The Rev. Dr. William C. Pender

## ❖THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE❖

### †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*All*)

adapted from a poem, "First Coming", by Madeline L'Engle

God did not wait until the world was ready, until nations were at peace.

**God came when the Heavens were unsteady and prisoners cried out for release.**

God did not wait for the perfect time.

**God came when the need was deep and great. God dined with sinners in all their grime,  
turned water into wine.**

God did not wait till hearts were pure.

**In joy God came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt. To a world like ours, of anguished shame, God  
came and God's Light would not go out.**

God came to a world which did not mesh; to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.

**In the mystery of the Word made Flesh, the maker of the stars was born.**

We cannot wait till the world is sane to raise our songs with joyful voice, or to share our grief, to touch our pain,

**God came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!**

### †HYMN OF RESPONSE 27

*Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

Tempus Adest Floridum

### CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY/PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP BOOKS

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

### RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Mary Had a Baby*  
Linda Williams, soprano

William Dawson

### †DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**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.**

### †HYMN 12

*People, Look East*

Besancon

### †CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICES**

*The Friendship Book* is passed each Sunday for guests and members to sign. Guests' names and addresses are used to acknowledge your presence and welcome you to worship. In expressing what it means to be a *family of faith*, the church appreciates your willingness to share this information with us!

**THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY**

**Officer in Charge:** Jennifer Maryanski  
**Deacon of the Week:** Anne Hart  
**Phone Monitor:** Len Dwarshuis  
**Library Worker:** Barbara Villadsen

**Baker and Taker:** Elizabeth Henderson and Anne and Gaines Pittenger  
**Nursery Workers:** Erin Ahlstedt, Becky Dwarshuis and Emily Smith  
**Children's Church:** Brianna Cook, Charlie Cwiek, Raymond McCord and Sharon Patton

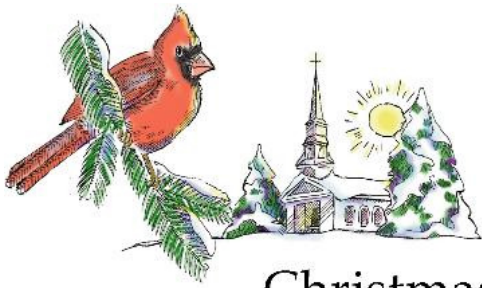
**LEADERS IN WORSHIP**

Dr. William C. Pender . . . . . Senior Pastor  
Dr. Paul Rader . . . . . Associate Pastor  
Mr. J. Ashley Burell . . . . . Organist/Choirmaster



*For this year's Christmas Eve Family service* in the Chapel at 5:00 p.m., there will be a musical drama based on the story of Silent Night as written by Hal H. Hopson. The First Strings and First Pipes will also play. Our 11:00 p.m. service is a candlelighting service with Communion in the form of Lessons and Carols led by our Handbell Ensemble, Chancel Choir, and Women's Youth Ensemble Alumnae.

**SCROLL DOWN FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS**



## Christmas Flowers 2011

## MEMORIALS

### IN LOVING MEMORY OF

### GIVEN BY

Glenn Beckham .....	Kyla Keck
Martha Beckham .....	Kyla Keck
Melvin C. Bowers, III .....	Mrs. Melvin C. Bowers, Jr. and Family
.....	Mr. and Mrs. H. Baxter Ragsdale, Jr.
Melvin C. Bowers, Jr. ....	Mrs. Melvin C. Bowers, Jr. and Family
.....	Mr. and Mrs. H. Baxter Ragsdale, Jr.
Cameron and Margaret Brackney .....	Fred and Susan Brackney
Penny Polk Buethe .....	Paige and Tom Galfano and Family
.....	Molly Polk and Peter Low and Family
.....	Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
.....	Robert and Lucie Polk
.....	Susan Harrill Polk
C. Sanford Carlson .....	Paige and Tom Galfano and Family
.....	Molly Polk and Peter Low and Family
.....	Robert and Lucie Polk
.....	Susan Harrill Polk
Ronald L. and Ella H. Carmichael .....	Ann and Charlie Wright
Alfred Cousins .....	Betty Dean
Eunice Cousins .....	Betty Dean
Frances Cousins .....	Betty Dean
Robert Cousins .....	Betty Dean
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cousins .....	Betty Dean
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Dempster .....	Pego Dempster
Robert H. Dempster, Jr. ....	Pego Dempster
Thomas C. Dempster, Jr. ....	His Family
Margaret Dickson .....	Elizabeth Henderson
Mary Tindle Driver .....	Phyllis and Ely Driver
Dorothy and Paul Emery .....	Suzann T. And Geoff Emery
Rudy and Elsie Erdody .....	Ron and Jean Mayer
Thomas R. Evans .....	Sarah Mac Evans
Edward Ford .....	Gordon and Laura Ford
Bessie Keener Garrison .....	Bob and Diana Samples
Dot Gray .....	Ann and Charlie Wright
Mike Hagler .....	Earl and Peggy Hagler
Mr. and Mrs. Gaines McNew Harrill .....	Paige and Tom Galfano and Family
.....	Molly Polk and Peter Low and Family
.....	Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
.....	Robert and Lucie Polk
.....	Susan Harrill Polk

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF CONTINUED:**

Lib and John Hart	Anne Hart
Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Hollingsworth, Sr.	Jay and Barbara Hollingsworth
	Holly Watts
Al Holmes	Norma Holmes
C. Wilson House	Ellen and Scott Liston
Chris House	Ellen and Scott Liston
Mr. and Mrs. Hazen E. House	Pego Dempster
Janie Esther Keener	Bob and Diana Samples
J.H. Kuhns	Ginny and Bill Morrow
Jijj and Joe Kuhns	Ginny and Bill Morrow
Sarah Kramer	Elizabeth Henderson
Jim Lester	His Family
Jason, Danny and Linda Liston	Ellen and Scott Liston
Catherine Long	Mary Adair Horde
	Ellen and Scott Liston
Alice and Alex Manson	Harry and Linda Manson
Sam and Wilmuth Mayer	Ron and Jean Mayer
Dr. and Mrs. John H. McKinnon	Margaret McKinnon
Madeline Beckham Metts	Kyla Keck
Betty and Gene Morrow	Ginny and Bill Morrow
Les and Eleanor Myers	Rebekah Myers
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Anton Nelke	Phyllis and Ely Driver
Susan Darlene Nelke	Phyllis and Ely Driver
Our Parents	Gordon and Laura Ford
	Earl and Peggy Hagler
	Barbara and Howdy Johnston
Our Parents	Julia and Walter Pulliam
Jack and Martha Pelton	Fred and Susan Brackney
Frank H. Pittenger	Paige and Tom Galfano and Family
	Molly Polk and Peter Low and Family
	Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
	Sam and Kallee Pittenger
	Robert and Lucie Polk
	Susan Harrill Polk
James C. Pittenger	Paige and Tom Galfano and Family
	Molly Polk and Peter Low and Family
	Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
	Sam and Kallee Pittenger
	Robert and Lucie Polk
	Susan Harrill Polk
Scott Carlson Polk	Paige and Tom Galfano and Family
	Molly Polk and Peter Low and Family
	Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
	Robert and Lucie Polk
	Susan Harrill Polk
William G. Polk	Paige and Tom Galfano and Family
	Molly Polk and Peter Low and Family
	Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
	Robert and Lucie Polk
	Susan Harrill Polk
Mr. and Mrs. H. Baxter Ragsdale	Mrs. Melvin C. Bowers, Jr. and Family
	Mr. and Mrs. H. Baxter Ragsdale, Jr.

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF CONTINUED:**

Elton Ridge	Ann and Charlie Wright
Wheeler D. Samples, Jr.	Bob and Diana Samples
Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler D. Samples, Sr.	Bob and Diana Samples
Rob Schmid	John Schmid
Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd F. Seatz	William L. Seatz
Bob and Betsy Sharp	Elizabeth Henderson
Helen B. and George W. Smith	Harry and Linda Manson
Joe Spengler	Mary Spengler
Ora and Delmas Turner	Suzann T. And Geoff Emery
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Walters	Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
Dr. Glenn Watts	Holly Watts
Bob and Elsie Williams	Jay and Barbara Hollingsworth
Fred S. and Elizabeth L. Wright	Ann and Charlie Wright

**HONORARIUMS**

**IN HONOR OF**

**GIVEN BY**

Mrs. Jane Armstrong	Mr. and Mrs. Joe G. Brownlee, Jr.
Kyla Keck and Ashley Burell	Ginny and Bill Morrow
Jeanette J. Carlson	Paige and Tom Galfano and Family
.....	Molly Polk and Peter Low and Family
.....	Robert and Lucie Polk
.....	Susan Harrill Polk
Our Children	Mr. and Mrs. Joe G. Brownlee, Jr.
Tuesday Night Women's Circle	Suzann T. And Geoff Emery
Anders Eastman	Margaret McKinnon
Gavyn Eastman	Margaret McKinnon
Jack Eastman	Margaret McKinnon
Laura and Gordon Ford	Suzann T. And Geoff Emery
Mrs. Marie Fox	Mr. and Mrs. Joe G. Brownlee, Jr.
Diane Gross	Alyssa Murray
Mary Adair and Hop Horde	Suzann T. And Geoff Emery
Katie Bell House	Ellen and Scott Liston
Our Parents	Mr. and Mrs. Joe G. Brownlee, Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. William C. Pender	Mr. and Mrs. Joe G. Brownlee, Jr.
.....	Ginny and Bill Morrow
Mrs. Frank H. (Patsy) Pittenger	Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
.....	Sam and Kallee Pittenger
Mrs. William G. (Susan) Polk	Paige and Tom Galfano and Family
.....	Molly Polk and Peter Low and Family
.....	Mr. and Mrs. Gaines S. Pittenger
.....	Robert and Lucie Polk
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Rader	Mr. and Mrs. Joe G. Brownlee, Jr.
.....	Ginny and Bill Morrow
Diana and Bob Samples	Anne Hart
Katherine Forster Watson	Anne Hart
Barb Wiest	Alyssa Murray