

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Great God, as you came at night when all was still, so enter our lives this night. Illumine our paths with the light of Christ's presence, that we may clearly see the way to walk, the truth to speak, and the life to live for him, our Lord Jesus Christ. As you have given yourself to us, now we offer ourselves to you, to your glory and for the work of your Kingdom. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

SHARING THE LIGHT

The ministers will bring the light to the worshippers at the end of each row. Please hold lighted candles upright and tip unlighted candles into the flame of a lighted candle. Following the benediction, please extinguish your candle. May you carry the light of Christ in your heart now and always.

*HYMN *Silent Night, Holy Night* 122

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.
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!"
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.
4. Silent night, holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born.

*BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE** Toccata: *Angels We Have Heard on High* Richard Elliot
*Please stand if able.

WELCOME

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville. We have been part of the downtown Knoxville community since 1792. We embrace people from all walks of life and seek to share our spiritual journey with our community. We are part of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

We are delighted that you have joined us in worship today.

To learn more about us, please make a note on the Friendship Pad, sign up for our Thursday newsletter, or connect with us at fpcknox.org, via the QR code to the right, or through social media.



Hearing enhancement devices are available for use during the service. Please ask an usher for assistance.

OFFERING

You may place your offering in the offering plates when they are passed, or you are invited give securely online at www.fpcknox.org/donate or by scanning the QR code to the right with your smart phone.



STAFF AND LEADERS IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Mark R. Curtis <i>Senior Pastor</i>	Laura Harmon <i>Church Administrator</i>
The Rev. Meredith Loftis <i>Associate Pastor</i>	Lauren Nunn <i>Director of Parent's Day Out / Childcare Coordinator</i>
Mark Pace <i>Organist/Choirmaster</i>	Sandra Robinson <i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Mary Wilson <i>Adult Ministry Coordinator</i>	Victor Lenoir <i>Custodian</i>
Katie Norrell <i>Director of Communications</i>	Paul Seguna <i>Sound Engineer</i>
Jane Holland <i>Director of Finance/Facilities</i>	

FOR OUR YOUNGER WORSHIPPERS

All children are welcome in worship at FPC. Children, Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, are invited to attend Children's Worship in the Children's Area (2nd floor) after Special Time with Young Disciples. Worship Bags are available at each entrance to the sanctuary. A nursery is available for children, in preschool and younger, in the Nursery rooms (2nd floor).



First Presbyterian Church
FOR CHRIST IN THE HEART OF KNOXVILLE

CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2022

11 P.M. SERVICE

Connect With Us



www.fpcknox.org

620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

CAROLS, CANDLELIGHT, AND COMMUNION

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come away, come away tonight to Bethlehem.

**Come adore on bended knee,
one whose birth the angels sing.**

Come away, come away from the noise of the weary world,
to a place of solemn stillness,
to the quiet of the Prince of Peace.

Come with wonder, come with awe.

Take your place among those gathered at the manger.

Sing Glory to God in the highest!

Christ is born! Christ is born!

Come away, come away. Come tonight to Bethlehem.

***HYMN**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

133

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Brent, Rachel, Emmie,
& Belle Trentham*

Here is good news of great joy, for all people:
to you is born this day in the city of David
a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

God has rescued us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of Christ,
in whom we have redemption,
and our sins are forgiven.

The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has never overcome it.

Let us pray that we may know the
warmth and brightness of Jesus Christ,
and show Christ's love to the world.

**Risen Christ, Light of the world,
shine in our lives
and shine among us now.**

CHRISTMAS GREETING

Rev. Mark R. Curtis

THE ANCIENT PROPHECY Isaiah 7:10-14

Grayson Maryanski

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.”

CAROL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv. 1, 6, 7)

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THE ANGEL'S VISIT

Luke 1:26-37

Abby Bible

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

ANTHEM

Before the Marvel of This Night
(see insert)

Carol Schalk

THE JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM Luke 2:1-7

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. This taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.

And all went to be taxed, each into their own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

MEDITATION

Rev. Mark R. Curtis

CAROL

O Little Town of Bethlehem
(please remain seated)

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CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Rev. Meredith Loftis

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

Sir Christémas
(See insert)

William Mathias

THE ANGEL'S ANNOUNCEMENT Luke 2:8-14

Eleanor Efurd

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!”

***MEDLEY OF CAROLS** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (vv.1 & 3)* 119

Angels We Have Heard on High (vv.1 & 3) 113

Joy to the World! (vv.1 & 4) 134

THE SHEPHERD'S JOURNEY Luke 2:15-20

Charlie Smith

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. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

CAROL

Away In a Manger (v. 1)
(please remain seated)

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SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION ANTHEMS *Candlelight Carol*

John Rutter

Wonderful Peace

Norqvist/Davison

(See insert)

PRELUDE

<i>The First Noel</i> man	Michael Hel-
	<small>One License #1056295</small>
<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i> Eithun	Sandra
	<small>One License #CGB451</small>
	Adult Handbell Choir
<i>Bring a Torch</i> Tyree	Arr. Michael
	String Quartet
<i>Rejoice Earth and Heaven</i>	Dietrich Buxtehude
No. 1-Rejoice Earth and Heaven	
No. 2-Soprano Aria-Joy is God's Great Gift From Heaven	
LeAnne Johnson, soprano	
No. 3-Ritornell for Strings	
No. 4-Alto Aria-Grace Brings Peace to All Believers	
Tracy Pace, alto	
No. 5-Ritornell for Strings	
No. 6-Tenor Aria-Peace Brings Joy Beyond All Measure	
Eric White, tenor	
No. 7-Ritornell for Strings	
No. 8-Bass Aria-Truth Divine Our God Hath Pledged Us	
Scott Beasley, bass	
No. 9-Ritornell for Strings	
No. 10-Thank God for the Goodness	
<i>O Holy Night</i>	Adolph Adam
	<small>One License #211091</small>
	Ryan Ford, Tenor


LYRICS

ANTHEM Schalk	<i>Before the Marvel of This Night</i>	Carol
		<small>One License #33341</small>
<i>Before the marvel of this night, adoring, fold your wings and bow, Then tear the sky apart with light, and with your news the world endow. Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease: Sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace! Awake the sleeping world with song, this is the day the Lord has made. Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed. Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss: Sing bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss! The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light, Now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night. Into one</i>		

song compress the love that rules our universe above: Sing love, sing love, sing God is love, sing love, sing God is love!

OFFERTORY	<i>Sir Christémas</i>	William Mathias
<i>Nowell, nowell. Who is there that singeth so, I am here, Sir Christémas. Welcome, my lord Sir Christémas! Welcome to all, both more and less! Come near, come near, come near, Nowell, nowell. Dieu vous garde, beaux sieurs, Tidings I you bring: A maid hath borne a child full young, Witch causeth you to sing: Nowell, nowell. Christ is now born of a pure maid, Born of a pure maid; In an ox-stall he is laid, Wherefore sing we at a brayde: Nowell, nowell. Buvez bien, buvez bien par toute la compagnie. Make good cheer and be right merry, And sing with us now joyfully Nowell, nowell!</i>		

COMMUNION ANTHEMS	<i>Candlelight Carol</i>	John Rutter
		<small>One License #198770</small>

	<i>Wonderful Peace</i>	Norqvist/Davison
		<small>One License #99095</small>
<i>Peace, peace, wonderful peace, Peace to the world is given. Hushed are the angels, so still is the night; Then in the East shone a heavenly light. Join in the chorus His praises to the newborn King. Peace, peace, bearer of will receive Him. Holiest wondrous of days; kings lift their voices in</i>		<i>Peace, peace, wonderful peace, Peace to the world is given. Hushed are the angels, so still is the night; Then in the East shone a heavenly light. Join in the chorus His praises to the newborn King. Peace, peace, bearer of will receive Him. Holiest wondrous of days; kings lift their voices in</i>

STRING QUARTET

Helen Breyenton and Ilia Steinschneider, violin,
Kathryn Gawne, viola, and Theodore Kartal, cello

ADULT CHOIR