



A Service for the Worship of God | December 24, 2025 |  
5:30pm  
*Christmas Eve*

### WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**PRELUDE**.....*Medley of Christmas Music from Around the World*.....Arranged  
Dr. Hollice Watson, organist

### CHIMES

**INTROIT**.....*African Noel*.....Liberian folk song  
The Children's Choir – Lynace Veit, conductor  
Sing Noel! Sing we all Noel!

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us worship God.

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH – The Ogden Family

Tonight we gather in the glow of Christmas, watching as darkness gives way to light. Throughout Advent we have lit candles—one by one—signs of our hope, our peace, our joy, and our love growing brighter as we prepared for the coming of Christ. Now the night is here. Now the Light has come.

### But why did he come?

Christ came into the world so that God's love would take on flesh—love we can see, and touch, and follow.

**CANDLE RESPONSE**.....*Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love*.....Randy Edwards  
(After the Sanctuary and Youth Choirs sing this chorus once, the congregation will join the second time.)

**Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love!**  
These are gifts you bring from above,

**Jesus, Emmanuel, come to be**  
The light of Christ, reflected in me.

This is the light that shines in every darkness, the light that darkness cannot overcome. As this flame burns, may the Light of Christ be kindled in us and reflected through us.  
**Let us bear the light of Christ.**

†HYMN, No. 133.....*O Come, All Ye Faithful*.....ADESTE FIDELES  
Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, on this night when heaven touches earth, we confess that we have not lived as children of your light. We have spoken words that dim the glow of your love. We have acted in ways that cast shadows on others. We have turned from those who needed compassion, and we have held back the grace you freely give. Forgive us, Lord. Kindle in us again the brightness of Christ. Let his light shine through our words, our deeds, and our lives, so that all may see your love made real in us. Amen.**

*(Continue your personal prayer of confession in silence.)*

RESPONSE, No. 294.....*Within Our Darkest Night*.....DANS NOS OBSCURITÉS  
*(We will sing this twice.)*

**Within our darkest night,  
You kindle the fire  
That never dies away,  
Never dies away.**

**Within our darkest night,  
You kindle the fire  
That never dies away,  
Never dies away.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made righteous! Thanks be to God!**

†ACT OF PRAISE, No. 583.....*Glory to God*.....GLORIA (Taizé)  
Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

## †PASSING OF THE PEACE

Greet one another saying: **"The peace of Christ be with you."**

Respond by saying: **"And also with you."**

## **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

A TIME WITH CHILDREN.....Lynace Veit

*Childcare is available in Room CE 103 for children 4 years old and younger.  
There is no Worship Center this evening.*

**RESPONSE, No. 121**.....*O Little Town of Bethlehem*.....ST. LOUIS

Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

**O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.**

**Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**.....Luke 2:1-7

Pew Bible, page 54 | Large Print, page 71

*Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.*

**HYMN, No. 115**.....*Away in a Manger*.....MUELLER

Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**.....Luke 2:8-14

Pew Bible, page 54 | Large Print, page 71

**HYMN, No. 113**.....*Angels We Have Heard on High*.....GLORIA

Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

**THIRD SCRIPTURE READING**.....Luke 2:15-20

Pew Bible, page 55 | Large Print, page 71

**HYMN, No. 147**.....*The First Nowell*.....THE FIRST NOWELL

Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

**The first Nowell the angel 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, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.**

**SERMON**.....*A Savior is Born*.....Rev. Brent Anderson

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL**

†**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**.....*Stars Are for Those Who Lift Their Eyes*.....Pauline Delmonte  
The Youth and Sanctuary Choirs

Stars are for those who lift their eyes.  
We stand on a cloudless night  
And look up at a million stars  
So distant and so bright.  
I wonder if that shining night,  
The night of Jesus' birth,  
The stars sang with the angels  
Above the sleeping earth.

The shepherds heard, near Bethlehem,  
The heavenly host proclaim  
The wonder of his coming  
And the power of his name!  
If stormy clouds should hide the stars,  
No fearful thought is mine.  
Far beyond all earthly storms  
The stars, the heavenly stars still shine!

**†DOXOLOGY, No. 606**.....OLD HUNDREDTH

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

## **SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

### **INVITATION**

### **GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

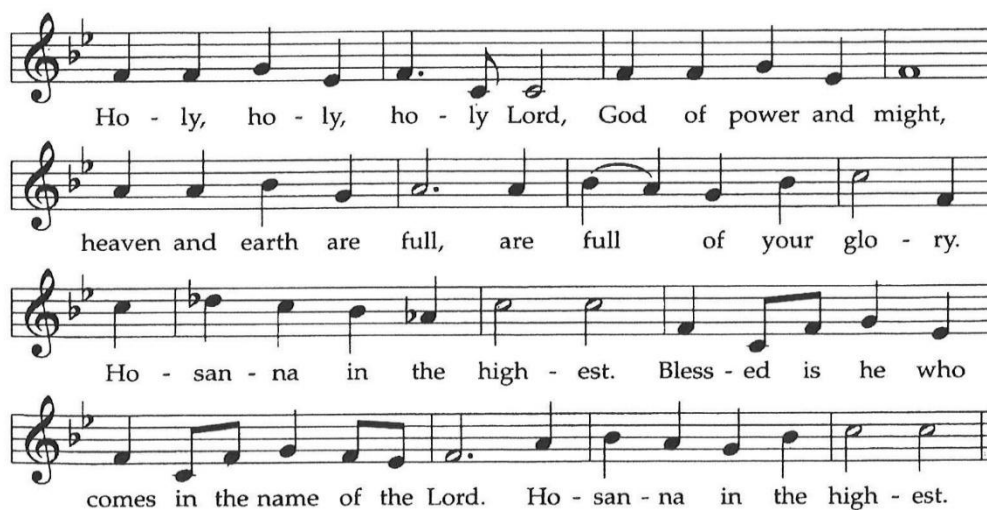
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

*...with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious name:*



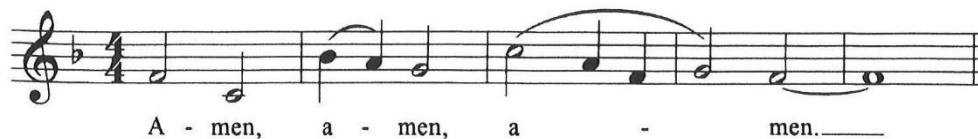
The musical notation is written on four staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full, are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*...together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:*



*...Even so, come Lord Jesus! Amen.*



## 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

†HYMN, No. 122.....*Silent Night, Holy Night!*.....STILLE NACHT  
Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Silent night, holy night!<br>All is calm, all is bright<br>'Round yon virgin mother and Child!<br>Holy infant, so tender and mild,<br>Sleep in heavenly peace,<br>Sleep in heavenly peace.    | 3. Silent night, holy night!<br>Son of God, love's pure light<br>Radiant beams from thy holy face,<br>With the dawn of redeeming grace,<br>Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,<br>Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth. |
| 2. Silent night, holy night!<br>Shepherds quake at the sight;<br>Glories stream from heaven afar,<br>Heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:<br>Christ the Savior is born;<br>Christ the Savior is born!" | 4. Silent night, holy night!<br>Wondrous star, lend thy light;<br>With the angels let us sing<br>Alleluia to our King:<br>Christ the Savior is born,<br>Christ the Savior is born.                  |

## WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME

## †CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†RESPONSE, No. 134.....*Joy to the World*.....ANTIOCH  
Accompanied by The Jordan Street Ringers

<b>Joy to the world! The Lord is come!</b>	<b>He rules the world with truth and grace,</b>
<b>Let earth receive her king;</b>	<b>And makes the nations prove</b>
<b>Let every heart prepare him room,</b>	<b>The glories of his righteousness</b>
<b>And heaven and nature sing,</b>	<b>And wonders of his love,</b>
<b>And heaven and nature sing,</b>	<b>And wonders of his love,</b>
<b>And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.</b>	<b>And wonders, wonders of his love.</b>

†POSTLUDE.....*Fantasy on 'Il est né, le Divin Enfant'*.....Richard Hudson

† *Worshippers standing if able*

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Liturgist: Charles Grubb

Ushers: Holly Guy, Sammy Guy, Kelly Hodgson, Brett McCulloch, Greg Sonnenfeld, Harrison Sonnenfeld,  
Preston Sonnenfeld

### WORSHIP NOTES

**WE WELCOME FRIENDS AND VISITORS.** This church is for anyone who wants to be counted as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and who wants to be included in its worship and work. Thank you for signing your name and address on the attendance sheet.

**WE WARMLY WELCOME CHILDREN** as a vital part of our worshipping community! We understand that every family is different, and we strive to support each one in the way that fits them best. Children are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary during worship, and we offer worship bags and children's Bibles to help engage them in meaningful ways. Worship Center, a Montessori-based approach to worship, is available for 4-year-olds -1<sup>st</sup> graders following the Time with Children. Childcare is offered in the CE building when needed. In addition, a comfort room is located on the same floor as the sanctuary, equipped with a speaker so you can listen to the service while caring for your child.

### PRAYER LIST - FOR HEALING, PEACE, AND COMFORT:

Martha Fitch, Joy Young, Zama Dexter, Jean and Jerry Sayres, Jean Mendenhall,  
Leigh Taylor, Erika Asseff, Stephen Roberts, Josh Kilpatrick, Susie Nunnally,  
Ken Copeland, Lorna Rodman, Michael Avery, Vernon Chance, Claudia Engi, Jan Melton  
*Please keep the church staff updated on those who are listed.*

### FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING:

Mary Blackman and family, family of Marilyn Gallagher, Mary Anne Selber, Anne Jenkins and family, Peggy  
Guilbert and family, Marilyn Madison and family, Glenn Jackson, family of Jean Carroll,  
Amy Bowman and family, Susan Laverne and family, Brian Carberry and family,  
Mary Bush and family, Mary Jane Lowder and family, Bob Neff and family, Pam Naifeh and family

### FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERVING:

Ryan Markham, U.S. Navy; Jennifer Markham, U.S. Navy; Reed Markham, U.S. Army; Evan Akers,  
U.S. Army; Josh Freidel, U.S. Navy; Evan Richey

### **CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP:**

Rev. Brent Anderson.....	Transitional Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Lynace Pabst Veit.....	Pastor for Children and Family Ministries
Dr. Hollice S. Watson.....	Organist/Choir Director
Dakota Dunn.....	Youth Director
Ginger Garfield.....	Church Administrator
Kathy Booth.....	Director of First Presbyterian Day School
Susan W. Abney.....	Communications Director
Jan Melton.....	Church Librarian
Tanna McAteer.....	Church Secretary
Lona L. Lockard.....	Staff Secretary
Jeff A. McKenzie.....	Sexton/Maintenance Coordinator
Sheri Rowell.....	Kitchen Coordinator
Jacob Dickson.....	Pastoral Care Coordinator

### **SESSION MINISTRY MODERATORS:**

Calvin Head.....	Administration
Gene Hodgson.....	Church Facilities
Simone Hennessee.....	Stewardship
Karen Day.....	Congregational Life
Anne Jenkins.....	Welcome Ministry
Piper Moritz.....	Adult Ministries
Brett McCulloch.....	Youth Ministry
April Carberry.....	Children's Ministries
Brandy Williams.....	Worship Ministry
Amy Bowman.....	Outreach Ministry
Robin Jones.....	Clerk of Session

### **DEACON, PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN & STOER MODERATORS:**

Mary Bush-Board of Deacons; Ann Morell-Presbyterian Women; Liz LaBorde-Stoer Committee

### **IN OUR OUTREACH CENTER:**

Volunteers for Youth Justice/CASA - Kelli Todd, Director  
Youth Outreach Services – Jewell House

### **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN SECURITY OFFICERS:**

Corp. Srederick Matthews 230-3628  
Ofc. Troy Jackson 453-3908



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



### *Presbyterian 101*

**Interested in becoming a member at FPC?**

**Sunday, January 11, 2026**

Join us after worship to learn more about our congregation and the Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Lunch Provided



### *Legacy Luncheon*

**Please Save the Date**

**Sunday, February 1, 2026**  
after worship in the Gymnasium

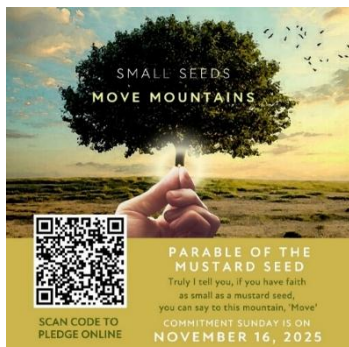


### *A Congregational Conversation*

**A PNC hosted lunch and conversation**

**Sunday, February 8, 2026**

after worship for everyone who considers themselves a part of the FPC Community



### *Small Seeds Move Mountains*

**It's not too late to turn in your pledge for 2026.**

Scan the QR code to the left or visit our website at [www.fpcshreveport.com](http://www.fpcshreveport.com).