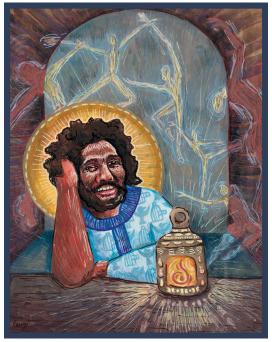


A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025 11:00 am



Laura Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



Welcome! Your presence in the worshiping community is a gift! Please be sure to let us know you're here by using your phone's camera to scan the QR code. If you have the Connect app, you may also check in using Realm.

Large print bulletins are available at each entrance. Hearing devices are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

Nursery is available for children through age 5.

At the sign * you may rise in body or spirit. **Bold text is read or sung in unison.**

Please be aware that you may be visible on the livestream camera at any time during worship.

We Gather at God's Call

Sounding of the Chimes

Pouring of the Water Mary and Frazier Holbrook

Welcome and Announcements John P. Leggett

Moment for Ministry Westminster Christmas Baskets Stan and Evelyn Kramer

Prelude O Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. by Lloyd Larson

Carillon Handbell Choir

Advent Reading Isaiah 11 (selected verses)

Advent Refrain KINGSFOLD

O let God's light now shine on us as we rise up to pray, to work for justice and for peace, both signs of God's new day. We light this candle as we wait in hope the day will dawn when all the sadness and the grief that haunt this world are gone.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

In a world full of fear, where do you see glimmers of peace?

We see glimmers of peace in the quiet of early morning, when people shake hands, when loved ones say they're sorry, and when the church sings together.

You are right. Even in a fearful world, peace is all around us.

Today we light the candle of peace as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, peace is present. We only have to look for it.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Advent Refrain KINGSFOLD

There is good news for us today so let your heart rejoice.
God's light is shining in the dark now raise your joyful voice.
We know the darkness will not win—fear not its mournful way.
Keep walking in the light of God that shines on you today.

*Call to Worship

Tom Kluemper

Family of faith, God is at work!

God is healing and creating,

God is nearing and creating

redeeming and dreaming,

calling and sending,

listening and loving.

Yes, indeed, God is at work!

So may we worship our God who never gives up.

May we worship our God who holds onto hope. Amen.

*Hymn 83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTGART

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

On-the-move God,

we have every reason to hold onto hope.

We have every reason to believe that spring will come,

that flowers will bloom, that the sun will rise.

And yet, too often hope slips through our fingers.

With anxious hearts we cry out to you,

"Will change ever come? Will things ever get better?

Will I ever make a difference?"

Soothe our wandering hearts and show us the places where the sun is shining.

Show us the places where you are on the move.

With open hearts we pray through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Promise of Forgiveness

Family of faith, in our honesty, we are heard.

In our worries, we are held.

In our failings,

we are forgiven.

In our fear,

we are not alone.

Friends, this is the good news of the gospel!

When we're running out of hope, God is still at work.

Thanks be to God!

Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism for Effie Marie Cuffe, Malone Matthew Cuffe, and Cora Grace Cuffe

Presentation

Renunciations and Affirmations

Baptism

Blessing

Children at the Chancel Jenna Coy

Children, welcome in the name of Jesus. Children, welcome in the name of love. All are welcome in the name of Jesus. All are welcome in the name of love.

Children Are Invited to W.O.W. (Worship Our Way)

Children can be picked up on the 3rd floor outside Rooms 300 and 301. Please wait in the hallway, and we will dismiss children by family at 12:00 pm.

We Listen for the Word of God

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Matthew 11:1-11

Sermon When Jesus Lets You Down John P. Leggett

*An Affirmation of Faith

We have seen the valley.

We have seen a sky without stars.

We have seen the longest night, and still we believe.

We believe in a with-us God.

We believe in the hope of tomorrow.

We believe that good news is louder than fear.

We believe this good news is for all people.

So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us, we will hold onto that good news.

We will reach for each other.

We will look for God in our midst. We will sing songs of joy.

We will proclaim: Unto us, love is born.

We have seen the longest night, and we have seen unimaginable love.

So still, we believe.

Amen.

(By Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org)

*Hymn 109

Blest Be the God of Israel

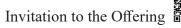
MERLE'S TUNE

We Respond to God with Thanksgiving

Concerns and Celebrations

Katherine Redmond

Prayers of the People





*Doxology (A Song of Praise)

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.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

Communion of the People

We will come forward to receive the bread and the cup.

Please move toward the center aisle, where two lines will move toward the servers.

Take a piece of bread and eat; then move to the outside

to take and drink the cup from the tray.

Place your used cups in the white bowl on your way back

and move back to your seat by the outside aisle.

Please raise your hand to signal you wish to be served in your seat

when the presider asks, "Have all been fed?"

Feel free to sing these hymns with the choir during the serving:

525 — Let Us Break Bread Together 175 — Seek Ye First, Vs. 1 227 — Jesus, Remember Me

God Sends Us to the World

*Prayer after Communion

*Hymn 106 Prepare the Way, O Zion BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

*Charge and Blessing John P. Leggett

*Postlude Noël Claude Louis D'Aquin

arr. Clarence Watters ©1939 H.W. Gray Co., Inc.

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Today's flowers are given by **Cissy and Kenny Leatherman** in celebration of their 54th Wedding Anniversary.

This Week at Second

Sunday, December 7		Thursday, December 11	
8:30 am	Worship	6:00 pm	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
9:40 am	Sunday School	7:15 pm	Covenant Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am	Worship		
3:00 pm	Advent Workshop	Friday, December 12	
		5:30 pm	Preschool Movie Night
Monday, December 8			(Fellowship Hall)
9:30 am	Coffee and Conversation		
	(Gathering Place)	Saturday, December 13	
1:00 pm	Beth Wachs Circle (Forum)	9:00 am	Women's Book Discussion
5:00 pm	Senior Trip to Southern Lights	5:00 pm	DYG Christmas Party
			(Central Christian Church)
Tuesday, December 9			
10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Sunday, December 14	
5:30 pm	Needlepoint Group (Forum)	9:00 am	Christmas Brunch (Gathering
5:30 pm	Yoga		Place)
6:30 pm	BUILD Action Kick-Off	9:40 am	Sunday School
	(Fellowship Hall)	11:00 am	Worship
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	12:15 pm	Youth Fellowship and
Wednesday, December 10		-	Westminster Basket Delivery
6:30 am	Men's Book Group (Zoom)		·
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Upcoming Events:

December 14: Christmas Brunch and Cantata **December 21:** Children's Christmas Pageant

January 11, 2026: Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event

Children & Youth Announcements

Jenna Coy: jennac@2preslex.org Katie Baird: katieb@2preslex.org

Downtown Youth Group Christmas Party will be held at **Central Christian Church** (219 E. Short St) **on Saturday, December 13th from 5:00-7:00 pm.** All 6th-12th graders are invited and bring a friend!

Youth Fellowship Christmas Party will be held next Sunday, December 14th, following the 11am worship service. We will have lunch and dessert followed by fun Christmas games! Around 1:10, we will head to Westminster Village to deliver baskets to the residents (PICK-UP will be between 2:45-3pm at WESTMINSTER VILLAGE). Scan the QR code on page 7 to let us know you're coming.

Children's Christmas Pageant will be held during the 11:00 worship on December 21st. Rehearsals are underway with the next being held Thursday, December 11th from 6:00-7:00 pm.

Other Announcements

Sign-ups for all events can be found by scanning the QR code.

Additional information is available on our website.



Coffee and Donuts: You're invited to come today and meet others in our church for fellowship and a time to connect with one another in the Gathering Place. We are looking for hosts. If this is something you or your family could help with, please scan the QR code above to sign up.

Our annual Advent Workshop will be held TODAY from 3:00-5:00 pm. This is a free event that gives church members of all ages a great way to kick-off the Advent season. We will have 12 crafts, a music station, and a Christmas-themed photo booth. Come and join us!

Stop by the Gathering Place for Second's Alternative Gift Fair. You may purchase fair trade items as gifts or contribute to girl education in Malawi through the Tambu Chirwa Scholarship. Give a blanket to the Hope Center in honor of someone, donate to the Mountain of Coff ee, or look for items to purchase and place under the Christmas Tree.

Christmas Baskets to the Residents of Westminster Village and Lakeside Manor will be delivered on Sunday, December 14th. If you'd like to help with the costs, please make checks payable to Second (note Christmas Food Baskets) and use the special envelopes in the pews. We do need volunteers for picking up the food and delivering the baskets. If interested, please contact Evelyn Kramer (ebkramer55@yahoo.com or (859) 361-0280).

Coffee & Conversation: Do you need any of these things? A chance to connect with others. A safe place to talk about your faith or your fears—or event the mundane thing of your life. If so, join unknown others in the congregation each Monday morning from 9:30-10:30 am (or so) in the Gathering Place. Hope to see you there

Join us next Sunday, December 14th beginning at 9:00 am for Christmas Brunch. Come and fellowship with others in the Gathering Place and enjoy breakfast items, coffee, hot cider and more! *No reservation necessary*.

Christmas Cantata will be held next Sunday, December 14th. Join us for ONE service at 11:00 a.m., as the Covenant Choir and Chamber Orchestra present *On This Shining Night*. Written by Lee Dengler and Susan Naus Dengler, this work is for choir, soloists, narrators and chamber orchestra. Through vocal and instrumental music, narration and scripture, the Christmas story is retold of a world that lay in shade, crying out for a Savior; the visit of angels who announced the news of that Savior's coming, and the birth of Jesus, the *Light of the World*.

Our Rise Against Hunger meal-packaging event will take place on Sunday, January 11th from 12:30-2:30 pm. Scan the QR code above to register. (Light meal will be provided.)

Would you like to serve as a worship leader for an upcoming Sunday service? Scan the QR code above to sign up.

Prayer Concerns

In Our Church Family

Jim Potts Kenny Leatherman Barb Hauke

Bill McAtee **David Porter**

Global Concerns

You may keep up with the most recent and ongoing responses of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance from the link on our church website, or by going directly to the denomination's website at www.pcusa.org. Your gifts support good and important work.

For updates on the current status of denominational mission partnerships, please visit www.pcusa.org.

We Celebrate with...

...the family Effie Marie Cuffe, Malone Matthew Cuffe and Cora Grace Cuffe on their baptisms today during the 11:00 am service. Parents are Mac and Lauren (Kluemper) Cuffe, and Tom and Kathy Kluemper are the grandparents.

Church Staff

Gary L. Anderson, Director of Music and Covenant Choir Martha Anderson, Organist **Katie Baird.** Assistant Director of Children and Youth Jenna Coy, Director of Children and Youth Jackie Graves, Parish Nurse Scarlet Hall, Director of Finance and Operations Jerry Huddleston, Security Evelyn Kramer, Clerk of Session John P. Leggett, Pastor Robert Lockard, Maintenance/Security Shawn Phelps, Administrative Assistant Donna Phillips, Carillon Handbell Choir Director Katherine Redmond. Parish Associate Abigail Royal, Co-Director of Children's Choir Liam Schippers, Co-Director of Children's Choir Carl Soper, Building Manager

Second Presbyterian Church

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