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A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day  
*Second Sunday of Advent*

December 7, 2025

11:00 am

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Laura Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)



Welcome! Your presence in the worshipping 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*  
Carillon Handbell Choir

arr. by Lloyd Larson

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,**  
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, 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	<i>When Jesus Lets You Down</i> 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	<i>Blest Be the God of Israel</i>	MERLE'S TUNE
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We Respond to God with Thanksgiving

Concerns and Celebrations	Katherine Redmond
Prayers of the People	
Invitation to the Offering	

Musical Offering

*Silent Night! Holy Night!*  
Carillon Handbell Choir

arr. by Lloyd Larson

\*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  
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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

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

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](mailto:jennac@2preslex.org)  
**Katie Baird:** [katieb@2preslex.org](mailto: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 Coffee, 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 even 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](http://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](http://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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