

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures high and low.  
Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Praise God, in Jesus fully known:  
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

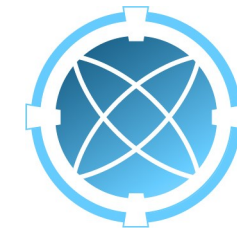
and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
and heaven and na - ture sing,  
and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

Postlude.....*Joy to the World*  
HUGO GEHRKE

\*All Who Are Able Please Stand | + Ushers Will Seat Latecomers



# First Presbyterian Church *of* Beaufort

A Service for the Worship of God  
First Sunday After Christmas  
December 28, 2025  
11:00 AM



Evelyn Graczyk 2025

*To all who are weary and need rest,  
To all who mourn and need comfort,  
To all who are lonely and need friendship,  
To all who are glad and would serve their neighbors,  
To all who are complacent and need disturbing,  
To all who sin and need a Savior,  
This church opens wide its doors  
In the name of Christ and bids you welcome.*

**Sanctuary:** 410 Church Street

**Office, Education & Outreach Building:** 1201 North Street  
firstpresbeaufort.org 843-524-3051

www.facebook.com/firstpresbeaufort

info@firstpresbeaufort.org



Striking of the Hour

Prelude .....*Holy Child Within the Manger*  
SARA GLICK

Welcome & Call to Worship ..... Elder Geneva Baxley

*We recount the gracious deeds of God,  
all the praiseworthy acts the Lord has done for us:*  
**Praise God for coming to dwell among us, Immanuel.**

*Praise God for the good news of Jesus, the pioneer  
of our salvation.*  
**Praise God for making us brothers and sisters in Christ.**

*Praise God who is present with us still, lifting us up and carrying us.*  
**God’s glory shines in heaven and on earth. Praise the Lord!**

*In this Christmas season of great joy, we praise the Lord;  
for in mercy and abundant steadfast love,  
God has become our Savior.*

*Even in times of danger and threat,  
we praise God, who has set us free from fear and death  
through Jesus Christ, the pioneer of our salvation.*

+\*Hymn 147..... *The First Nowell*

1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor  
2 They look - ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the  
3 And by the light of that same star three wise men  
4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; o’er Beth - le -

shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing  
east be - yond them far; and to the earth it gave  
came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their  
hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop

their sheep, on a cold win-ter’s night that was so deep.  
great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher-ev - er it went.  
and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

Refrain

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,  
born is the King of Is - ra - el.

“Nowell” is the English form of the French “noel,” a shout of joy formerly used at Christmas (as in Chaucer’s “Franklin’s Tale”), a clue that the word is older than its first printing. It may have Latin and French roots related to “born” (*natus / né*) as well to “news” (*nova / nouvelle*).

TEXT: English carol; *Some Ancient Christmas Carols*, 2nd ed., 1823, alt.  
MUSIC: English carol; Sandys’ *Christmas Carols*, 1833

THE FIRST NOWELL  
Irregular

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in great love you have claimed us as your children. We confess that we have not loved you as we should. We have not participated fully in your purposes and plans; we grow weary and give up when the way is hard. We have not loved our brothers and sisters as you intend. Complacent in the presence of injustice and violence, we fail to recognize our own complicity. Forgive us, especially when we fail to protect children so vulnerable and precious in your sight. Forgive our misuse of power against people, and against your creation. Help us to praise you by living in harmony and peace. Set us free from fear that we may wholly trust in you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who shared our flesh and blood. Amen. (Let us continue in prayer silently)

Assurance of Pardon

*Children of God,  
it is clear that Jesus Christ came to help sinners.  
He is our Savior in all our distress,  
and it is his presence that saves us.  
Declare with me the good news of the gospel:*  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

\*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end, Amen, Amen.*

Musical Offering ..... *Of the Father’s Love*  
Jordan Plair, Music Director, soloist DIVINUM MYSTERIUM  
Lily Cooper, Organist

Children’s Sermon ..... Geneva Baxley  
As we sing *Jesus Loves Me*, all children are welcome to come down front

Passing of the Peace

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

First Lesson .....Hebrews 2:10-18

\*Hymn 136..... *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

Fine

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o’er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior’s birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

to Refrain

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

TEXT: African American spiritual; stanzas, John W. Work II, 1940  
MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. John W. Work III, 1940; harm. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987  
Music Harm. © 1989 Melva Wilson Costen

GO TELL IT  
7.6.7.6 with refrain

Gospel Lesson .....Matthew 2:13-23

Sermon..... **Scrooge’s Joy**  
Dr. Rob Blumer

# WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME to all who join us for worship today.** If you are without a church home, you will be warmly welcomed into our fellowship. We are glad you are here! Please like us on Facebook and visit our website at [www.firstpresbeaufort.org](http://www.firstpresbeaufort.org) for sermons, news, and current events.

**TODAY THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN** in celebration of Christmas and in thanksgiving to God.

**Our Guest Minister today:**



**Dr. Rob Blumer**

Rob Blumer graduated from Furman University in 1977 with a BA in Political Science. After a brief stint in the Office of the Governor in the State of South Carolina, he attended Columbia Theological Seminary. After his first year at Columbia, Rob completed his required summer internship here at First Presbyterian, under the supervision of Frank Sells. He attained his Doctor of Ministry Degree in 1983.

Before retiring on October 31, 2021, Rob served as Senior Pastor of Sharon Presbyterian Church for 12 years. Rob had served congregations previously in South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky. Rob has been married to Pat McCauley Blumer, for forty-three years. Together they have two sons, Bobby and Hastings, one daughter-in-law, Kristin, and two grandchildren, Berkeley and Bear. Rob and Pat live on Dataw and have made their church home with us.

## **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS:**

**AWAKENING THE SPIRIT IN US TO BECOME MORE COMPASSIONATE**

"Indecision steals many years from many people who wind up wishing they'd just had the courage to leap." -Doe Zantamada