



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

*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.

Pastoral Prayer and 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

Giving and Receiving
Offertory.....

The First Nowell
HUGO GEHRKE

*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

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!

*Hymn 134 Joy to the World

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, the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

*Benediction

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

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

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!

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,

to Refrain

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.

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 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