## Welcome

We're so glad you are joining us for Worship Today! If you would like more information about how you can be involved in the life of First Methodist Church, Shreveport:

- Ask one of our wonderful servants in the Welcome Center, located on the ground floor of the Education & Administration (E&A) Building. They'd be glad to help!
- Call the church office at 318.424.7771. We're open 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday - Thursday and 8:30am -4:00pm on Friday.

#### MINISTRY MOMENT

Women from the Hospitality Team gathered to prepare Christmas gifts for the children of J.S. Clark Elementary!





During the Christmas season, if you would like to have a poinsettia placed in the Sanctuary in memory or in honor of family or friends, please complete the form below or online at firstshreveport.com/events, and return to Anna Beth Crowson in the church office by Monday, December 8, 2025. The cost is \$20 per plant. Checks should be made payable to First Methodist Church.

(Please Print) In memory of:	
In honor of:	
From:	

### Connect With FMC Shreveport

Visitor Information + Request Prayer + Give Online



#### Joys & Concerns

HOSPITAL: Lounelle Black, Jack Easterwood, Hutton Montgomery, Delena Thomas RECOVERING: James Chaney, John Pou, Ricky Stafford, Hardy Foreman **SYMPATHY** is extended to Lee DuCote in the death of his dad, Leo DuCote; and to Janet Coughlin and Marla Basham in the death of their mother, Frances Gilbert. WE CELEBRATE with Kristy Michelle Hunter on her baptism in a private ceremony this morning.

THE WHITE POINSETTIAS UNDER THE CROSS are given in loving memory of Mary Edna Adams Brossette and Dianne Rose McCollum Brossette by their families. THE RED ROSE near the altar honors those serving in the armed forces at home and abroad

#### New Members of FMC-S (october-november)

Martha and Bill Foy Sybil Kelly Deborah Kincannon Stephen Logan Leah Middlebrook Laura Wood WE WELCOME YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL FAITH FAMILY!

## VITAL SIGNS

Contributions	Weeks Ending 11.23 & 11.30	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date		
Goal	\$104,344	\$260,860	\$3,329,426		
Received \$120,406		\$316,770	\$3,464,484		
Over/(Under)	\$16,062	\$55,910	\$135,058		

ATTENDANCE: WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 2025		
Traditional worship, 8:30	161	
Traditional worship, 11:00	311	
Faithlink worship	238	
Palabra Viva Combined Services	198	
On-line Viewers	27	
Total worship attendance:	935	
Total Sunday School attendance, all ages	313	
Weekly Discipleship Activities	493	
TOTAL Discipleship	806	



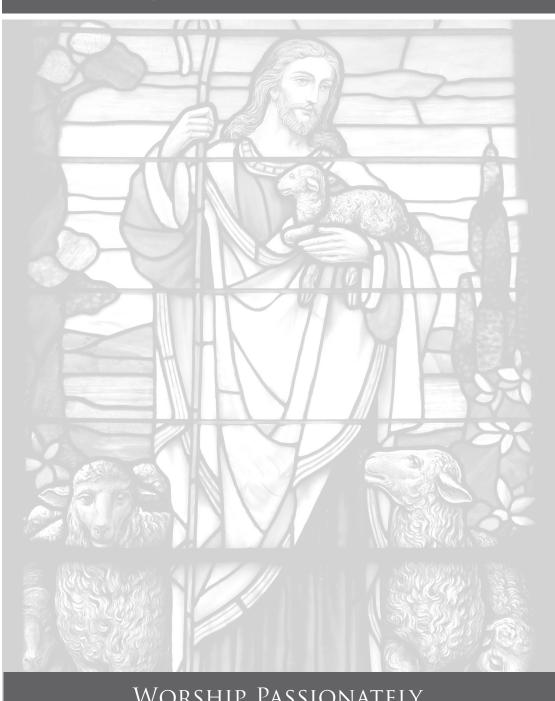
WE ARE A STEPHEN MINISTRIES CARING CONGREGATION. A Stephen Minister will be to the left of the altar at the end of each service to listen and pray with you. If you are in need of a confidential Stephen Minister, call Ann Shocklee at 424-7771.

Senior Pastor: Dr. Steven Bell + Executive Pastor: Rev. Matthew Hulbert Associate Pastor: Rev. Kathy Wafer + Associate Pastor: Rev. Stephanie Kidd + Associate Pastor: Rev. Emily Blair Minister of Music: Dr. David Hobson + Associate Director of Music: Dr. Alison Beck + Organist: E. Ray Peebles

Traditional Worship Service: 8:30 & 11:00am, Live Telecast on KTBS/ABC at 11:00am FAITHLINK CONTEMPORARY SERVICE: 11:00am + SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45am COMMUNION SERVICES: First Sunday of each month at 8:30 & 11:00am in the Sanctuary during services; Each additional Sunday at 9:30am in the Sanctuary & 12:00pm in Couch Chapel. 318.424.7771 office + 318.429.6888 fax + PRAYER LINE: 318.429.6898 www.firstshreveport.com

# METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

December 7, 2025 , Second Sunday of Advent



WORSHIP PASSIONATELY. LOVE EXTRAVAGANTLY. Witness Boldly.

# Celebration of Worship

Second Sunday of Advent - December 7, 2025

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE: 8:30 & 11:00 AM, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC at 11:00 AM

Welcome & AnnouncementsDr. Will Andress
Prelude
Call to Worship & InvocationDr. Will Andress
† Нумп of Praise"О Come, O Come Emmanuel"No. 162 [Stanzas 1-2, 4, 6]
† Affirmation of FaithNo. 691Rev. Kathy Wafer
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (8:30)Wil and Marissa Adams Mary, and Lucy
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (11:00)Scott and Emily LeBlanc Anna and Pierce
Musical OfferingLo, How a Rose E'er BloomingHandbell Choir [see No. 168 for text] arr. Beverly Simpson
† Scripture ReadingMatthew 1:18-25Laura Crawford
† Gloria PatriNo.33
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.
CHILDREN'S BLESSINGHelen Palmer
Morning & Offertory PrayerRev. Emily Blair
The Lord's PrayerCongregation (speaks in unison)
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. It Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. It Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. It And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. It For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.
Prayer Response
O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell:

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Musical OfferingO		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	[see No. 166 for text]	Chancel Choir (11:00)
	arr. Walter Pelz	Handbell Choir
+ Doxology	•••••	VENI EMMANUEL
Praise God, from whom all ble	ssings flow;	
Praise Him all creatures here b	elow;	
Praise Him, above ye heavenly	host;	
Praise Father, Son, and Holy C	Ghost!	
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel sho	all come to thee, O Israel.	
MessageBrou	однт то тне Light: Реасе	Dr. Steven Bell
† Hymn of Invitation	"It Came Upon a Midn	ight Clear"No. 194
(During the singing of this hyn are invited to come to the front	•	
Reception of New Members.		Dr. Steven Bell
We rejoice to recognize you as a the congregation of First Metho it by our prayers, our presence,	odist Church. With you, we	renew our vows to uphold
† Benediction		Dr. Steven Bell
† Sending ForthWord	of God, Come Down on Ea LIEBSTER JESU	erthEnsemble (8:30) Chancel Choir (11:00)
·	est né, le divin Enfant he Divine Christ Child] enis Bédard	E. Ray Peebles, organ

8:30: Banner Carrier - Max Henry Smith • Crucifer - Lorynn Farrington Acolytes - Sadie Farrington and Molly Ann Petree

11:00: Banner Carrier - Albany Lyles • Crucifer - Mollie Rice Acolytes – Genna and Leeda Bradley

- † Those who are able may stand. ‡ Latecomers may be seated at these times.
- \* IF YOU WISH TO JOIN the First Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.
- \*\*Children leaving the service for Children's Chapel may be picked up after the service.
  - · 3–4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children's Ministry Center
  - K5-3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary

Childcare for infants through 4 years is available from 8:15 to 12:15 in the Children's Ministry Center. From the sanctuary, follow the sign located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the Dawson

#### Sermon Notes

BROUGHT TO THE LIGHT: PEACE MATTHEW 1:18-25

The Word of the Lord Brings Peace

What Appears as a Disruption to the Plan May Actually Be God's Fulfillment of It

Peace Rooted in God's Presence and Promise Fuels Obedience

#### Scripture Memory Verse

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14