



# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7, 2025 | 10:30AM

COMMUNION

## DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

### GATHERING THE COMMUNITY

*In this church we foster fellowship and relationships. Before the welcome feel free to move around and greet one another.*

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

*OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN*

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### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

THE MERCERS

### ✦CALL TO WORSHIP

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 OF PRAISE

*O COME, ALL YOU UNFAITHFUL*

*CLOW/KAUFLIN*

### ✦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, Amen.**

*(We continue to pray in silence.) Amen.*

### ✦ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

### ✦JOYFUL RESPONSE

*GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME*

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**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,**

**whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit whose love has set me free.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

✦ When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

**We invite you to fill out the fellowship pads** with your information so we can be in fellowship with you!

**Confession:**  
Having praised the holiness of God, we must also face the sinful state of the world and of our lives, confessing our unworthiness to enter into God's presence. Nevertheless, we approach God with confidence, trusting in the mercy of Jesus Christ. This turn from communal praise to corporate confession, established on the promise of God's grace, is one of the hallmarks of the Reformed Tradition.

We invite you to use this time to enter into conversation, and see where Christ's peace is moving in another's life.

Sermon Notes:

**Give Joyfully Cards:**  
We give not only our money, but everything we have to God. Please read our Give Joyfully card in the pew rack. You may place it in the offering plate as a reminder to offer yourself to God this week.

You may give to the church digitally by using your camera to hover over the QR code below which will take you to our online giving page.



## ✦ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**  
Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

# **DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

ISAIAH 43:19-21

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

## **ANTHEM**

*GESU BAMBINO*

*ARR. MCCHESENEY*

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

MATTHEW 11:1-11

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

*WHEN WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF HOPE, GOD IS AT WORK*

## ✦ **SERMON HYMN**

*LO HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING*

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# **DISCIPLES RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD**

## ✦ **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.**

## **POINTS OF MINISTRY**

## **OFFERTORY**

*PEACE ON EARTH/LITTLE DRUMMER BOY*

*ARR. EITHUN*

## ✦ **DOXOLOGY**

## ✦ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## COMMUNION

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

#### PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING & LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

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#### ACCLAMATION

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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#### 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.

## DISCIPLES DEPART TO SERVE GOD

#### ✠SENDING HYMN

*HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING/KING OF HEAVEN*

*ARR. BALOCHE*

#### ✠CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

### WELCOME VISITORS

A very special welcome to any visitors among us today. We sincerely hope that, when you leave us today, you have an abundant sense of love and welcome. Our pastor, A.J., would love to speak with you and your family if you have any questions about who we are as a family, and what we feel called to do and be in our neighborhood. You can reach him at [revmealor@gmail.com](mailto:revmealor@gmail.com). We hope that you have a blessed week and that you'll join us again.

#### An Open Table:

Regardless of where you are in your faith, God's grace and Christ's life have been given for you. The Holy Spirit continues to move among us today, and we give thanks for this opportunity for all us to gather at God's table.

Beginning at the back, ushers will invite all to come forward using the center aisle.

We will take communion by intinction, which means taking a piece of bread and dipping it in the cup of grape juice. If you are unable to come forward, or prefer a gluten free option, a server will come to you.

#### Worship Leaders:

Amy Hall  
Rev. A.J. Mealor  
Phillip Ashley  
Karey Fowler  
Handbell Choir

#### Next Week's Readings:

Luke 1:26-39  
Jeremiah 1:4-10

## NEWS TO KNOW

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7:

9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL  
CONFIRMATION CLASS  
10:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE  
(IN PERSON & YOUTUBE)  
11:30AM FELLOWSHIP HOUR  
11:45AM THRIVING CONG. MEETING  
2:00PM OFFICER TRAINING  
5:30PM YOUTH GROUP

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 8:

2:30PM BUNCO (ZOOM)

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10:

6:30PM CHOIR REHEARSAL

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14:

9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL  
CONFIRMATION CLASS  
10:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE  
(IN PERSON & YOUTUBE)  
11:30AM FELLOWSHIP HOUR  
DIACONATE MEETING  
5:30PM YOUTH GROUP

Livestream is available on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UW3333333333).

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### CHURCH FAMILY

The Family of Billy Dickson	Wanda Alford	Cecelia Novak
Judy Renwick	Glenda Wilson	Dottie Lee
Larry Everett	Paul Burris	Duane Woods
Fisher, Audree, & Josh Yaney	Dick Buys	Beth Burr

### FRIENDS OF FAMILY

**Bob Roller**  
(Duane Woods)

**Randolph McInvale**  
(Donna & Rodney Weisman)

**Kim McDaniel, Janet Howarth,  
and Rosey Jones (friend)**  
(Jan Bell)

**Dan & Joanne Bohl, Ashley Moore**  
(Alice & Chuck Saunders)

**Jerre Michelin, Larry Posey, Bruce  
Barnes and Ruth Jamieson**  
(Rita Schumm)

**Heather Bailey Ray & Lisa and Mrs.  
Kristine Joubert**  
(Lisa Bigham)

**Tim and Aunt Liz Williford**  
(Cochran & Beth Keating)

**Nikita Mac**  
(Jamie Seidman McDonnell)

**Dan Mercer**  
(Beth & John Mercer)

**Charlie Sinclair**  
(Jane Fletcher)

**Lee Steel, The Jarvis Family,  
Mother, Father and Josh Huff**  
(Doc Dean)

**Carolyn Parsons,  
Calliope Rose and Scott Riley**  
(Michele & David Reed)

**Cade & Family**  
(Kristin Morgan)

**Shelia (niece) , Gene (husband),  
Amy (daughter)**  
(Louise Sadler)

**Minnie Lee Vann (mother)**  
(Gerome Brown)

**Gloria Byard**  
(Joyce Blocker)

**Freightlin Cox, Kevin Sattler,**  
(Elaine Wilbur)

**Anna (granddaughter)**  
(Melanie and Cliff Jordan)

**The Family of Jean**  
(Jo-Ann Schlorholtz)

**Jill Dooley & Family,  
Tammy and George, Kim**  
(Laura Harrison)

**Barrett Family and  
Byrd Lewis Mashburn**  
(Karan Newsome)

**MaryAnn King (mother),  
Patrice High, and Arlene Riley**  
(Diane Bodenhamer)

**Lee Stillwell (son-in-law)**  
(Wanda Alford)

**Karen & Joe Rodesta (cousins)**  
(Rita Sockman)

**Neysa Brogdon & Family,  
William Dunlap**  
(Laura Beth Hall)

**Brenda Lynch, Phil Ashley  
(father), Sarah White**  
(Phillip Ashley)

**Chris Beers (neighbor)**  
(Beth and Cochran Keating)

**The Family of Mitch Hall**  
(Amy Hall)

**All Military & Families,  
Robert Gamble &  
This Child Here**

If you have a prayer concern or celebration, or are interested in becoming a part of the prayer chain ministry, please call the office at (850) 893-0617 or send an email to [fellowshipprayer24@gmail.com](mailto:fellowshipprayer24@gmail.com).

### FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Church Email: [fellowshipchurch@comcast.net](mailto:fellowshipchurch@comcast.net)

Pastor A.J.'s Email: [revmealor@gmail.com](mailto:revmealor@gmail.com)

Music Director Email: [philpatashley@gmail.com](mailto:philpatashley@gmail.com)

Finance Email: [Fellowshippcusafinance@gmail.com](mailto:Fellowshippcusafinance@gmail.com)

Rev. A.J. Mealor

Pastor

Phillip Ashley

Music Director

Karey Fowler

Organist

Kim Bergstresser

Financial Secretary

Gerome Brown

Sexton

### THE SESSION

Jan Bell, Cliff Jordan, Melissa Wyllie  
Beth Keating, Elizabeth McGinniss, David Reed  
Shannon Woods, Heather Kidd,  
Jamie S. McDonnell  
CLERK: Elizabeth McGinniss

### THE DIACONATE

Michele Reed, Louise Sadler,  
Laura B. Hall, Rita Schumm

TREASURER: Hillman Brannon