

SERMON NOTES:

1. The Baptism of John

2. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Fire



First Presbyterian Church exists to be a Christ-exalting, city-center church committed to fulfilling the Great Commission in Chattanooga, North America, and around the world, to the glory of the Triune God.

The Lord's Day
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022

11:00 AM

Please stand as you are able.

This Week at 1st Pres

Sunday, December 18

9:00 AM Worship Service Sanctuary
9:15 AM Children's Church Children's Wing
10:15 AM Youth Large Group Youth Building
11:00 AM Worship Service Sanctuary
11:30 AM Children's Church Children's Wing

Monday, December 19

10:00 AM Flower Delivery Pick-Up Connector
Women's Prayer Ministry Session Room
5:15 PM Diaconate Meeting Nell Davis
6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice SS 208

Tuesday, December 20

10:00 AM All-Staff Meeting Tower 402
12:00 PM Beatitude Living Tower 404
5:45 PM Bonded in Fellowship Fellowship Lounge
6:30 PM Virtual House of Prayer Zoom

Wednesday, December 21

6:30 AM Dead Theologians Society Fellowship Hall
5:30 PM RAPHA Fellowship Nell Davis
6:15 PM Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

Thursday, December 22

10:00 AM Balance Exercise Class Student Center
7:30 PM Virtual House of Prayer Zoom

Friday, December 23

All Day Church Offices Closed

Saturday, December 24

4:00 PM Christmas Eve Service Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25

11:00 AM Christmas Service Sanctuary

PRELUDE

Christmas Bells by Gerry Stephens Reformation Bells
Barbara Mindeman, flute

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT READING & CANDLE LIGHTING

PREPARING HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

Joy to the World arr. Lloyd Larson Reformation Bells

THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 1:68-69, 76-79

Reader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David.

People: And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways,

Reader: to give knowledge of salvation to His people in the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God,

People: whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION



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## 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.

## †HYMNS OF PRAISE

*“While by the Sheep We Watched at Night”* No. 215 (vv. 1-4)

*“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”* No. 207 (vv. 1-3)

## †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 29, 31*

Reader: Why is the Son of God called “Jesus,” meaning “savior”?

**People: Because He saves us from our sins,**

**and because salvation should not be sought**

**and cannot be found in anyone else.**

Reader: Why is He called “Christ,” meaning “anointed”?

**People: Because He has been ordained by God the Father**

**and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit**

**to be our chief prophet and teacher**

**Who fully reveals to us the secret counsel**

**and will of God concerning our deliverance;**

**our only high priest**

**Who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of His body,**

**and Who continually pleads our cause with the Father;**

**and our eternal king**

**Who governs us by His Word and Spirit,**

**and Who guards us and keeps us in the freedom**

**He has won for us.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

**O most great, most just and gracious God,**

**we confess that we have all sinned**

**and come short of the glory of God.**

**We have neglected Your holy worship.**

**We have not sought first Your kingdom.**

**You have revealed Your wonderful love to us in Christ**

**and offered us pardon and salvation in Him,**

**but we have turned away.**

**We have run into temptation,**

**and the sin that we should have hated, we have committed.**

**Have mercy on us, most merciful Father!**

**In Your Son is our salvation, in Your promises our hope.**

**Take us for Your children and give us the Spirit of Your Son,**

**through Jesus Christ our only Savior. Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Isaiah 60:1*

Pastor: Arise, shine, for your light has come,

and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

## HYMN OF ASSURANCE

*“What Child Is This?”*

*No. 213 (vv. 1-2)*

## PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S PEOPLE

## OFFERTORY

*“Wexford Carol” arr. Elaine Hagenberg*

*Peggy Jenkins, soloist*

## GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH\*

*\*Please check in your children PreK-1st grade at the check-in station by the*

*Fellowship Hall level elevator and walk them to the PreK-K dept.*

## †DOXOLOGY

### THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

## SERMON

*Luke 3:15-17 — “The Spirit of the Coming Kingdom”*

*“The Spirit of Christmas” Sermon Series*

Dr. Gabe Fluhrer

## †HYMN OF RESPONSE

*“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”*

*No. 224 (vv. 1-3)*

### THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

## †BENEDICTION

*from Numbers 6:24-26*

Pastor: May the LORD bless you and keep you;

May the LORD make His face to shine upon you

and be gracious to you;

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you

and give you peace, both now and forevermore,

in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

*“Carol of the Bells”*

*Reformation Bells*

*The flowers for today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Lawrence H. Lassiter by*

*Mrs. Lawrence Lassiter, Charlotte McNally, Lynn Lassiter-Kendrick, and Charles Lassiter.*

*“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11.*

*The flowers will be arranged by the Flower Committee and delivered by volunteers to our*

*homebound and hospitalized on Monday, December 19th.*

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