



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH of  
CHATTANOOGA

**Christmas Eve**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2021**  
**4:00 PM**

† *Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

*“Joy to the World”*

*Reformation Bell Choir*

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

**THE PRAISE OF GOD’S PEOPLE**

† CALL TO WORSHIP

*Luke 2:10-15*

Reader: And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

**People: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, Who is Christ the LORD. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”**

Reader: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!”

**People: When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”**

† PRAYER OF INVOCATION

† CAROLS OF PRAISE

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*  
*“What Child Is This”*

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The 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 at 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.**

CAROL OF HOPE

*“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”*

PRAYER FOR CHRIST’S PEOPLE

CHORAL ANTHEM

*“Anthems of Love” by Dan Forrest*

**THE WORD FOR GOD’S PEOPLE**

† MEDITATION

*Luke 1:1-4—“Can We Still Believe the Christmas Story?”*

Dr. Gabe Fluhrer

PREPARATION FOR THE TABLE

CONFESSION OF SIN

**We do not presume to come to this Your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Your table. But You are the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Father, to partake of this sacrament of Your Son Jesus Christ, that we may walk in newness of life, may grow into His likeness, and may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us.**

THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give You thanks, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

WORDS OF PRAISE

Leader: Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Alleluia!

**All: Alleluia!**

Leader: These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Take these in remembrance that Jesus Christ died for you. Feed on them in your heart by faith and drink remembering that Christ’s blood was shed for you.

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS\*

*“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” by Michael Praetorius Adam Fluhrer, Guitar*  
*“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Instrumental*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CAROL OF RESPONSE

*“Silent Night”*

THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

†BENEDICTION

*Isaiah 60:1*

Pastor: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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

POSTLUDE

*The flowers are given by Dr. and Mrs. George S. Edwards Jr. in honor of their 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. The Edwards have three children, ten grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. The flowers are also given in memory of their parents; Mr. and Mrs. George S. Edwards, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. John E. Osborne.*

*\*Our church warmly welcomes all members of any branch of Christ’s Church to the Communion Table of our Lord.*

*On our table tonight is the communion set which was used at the first communion of our church in 1840. The chalice, paten, and flagon were made in England between 1087-1100 AD. The set was also used by Brainerd Mission Missionaries (1838) to minister to the Cherokee Indians before the “Trail of Tears.”*



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