

# SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Advent



December 15, 2024 - 11:00 a.m.

# *Order of Worship*

## **Centering Music**

Zephaniah 3:15

The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Cathy Meyer

Welcome to Second Presbyterian Church, we are glad that you are here! If you are a visitor, please fill out the red visitor card in the pew and place it in an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. We invite you to listen for the Spirit, in word, in song, in this space. You are safe here, settle in with expectation.

## **Presentation of “40 in 40” to Habitat for Humanity**

John Guthrie and All of Us

## **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

*Joy*

Natasha and Kevin Condra, Damon Stewart

## **Choral Introit**

*Send out Thy Light*

Balakirev

## **Prelude**

*Gesù Bambino*

Pietro Yon

## **Call to Worship**

Light three candles to watch for Messiah,

**Let the light banish darkness.**

Lift your heads and lift high the gateway,

**For the King of glory comes.**

## **Hymn 93**

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

## **Prayer of Peace**

**Source of compassion and grace, we yearn to embody the joy of your salvation, but we are easily distracted by the demands of the season; we long to taste the wellspring of your mercy, but we are caught up in the frenzy of the holidays. Be our quiet center, that we may find your joy deep within. Be our secret heart, that we may live lives of love wherever we go. In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

## **Words of Assurance**

## **Gloria Patri** (hymnal, back cover)

## **Time for Young Disciples**

Mary Lynn Morrison

*After the time for young disciples, children through Kindergarten may be dismissed for childcare upstairs.*

## **Anthem**

*Prepare the Way, O Zion*

arr. Shackley

Brian Klapman, trumpet

**Isaiah 12: 2-6**

Surely God is my salvation;  
 I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
 for the Lord God is my strength and my might;  
 he has become my salvation.  
 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.  
 And you will say in that day:  
 Give thanks to the Lord,  
 call on his name;

Mary Lynn Morrison  
 make known his deeds among the nations;  
 proclaim that his name is exalted.  
 Sing praises to the Lord,  
 for he has done gloriously;  
 let this be known in all the earth.  
 Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
 for great in your midst  
 is the Holy One of Israel.

**Zephaniah 3:14-20**

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
 shout, O Israel!  
 Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
 O daughter Jerusalem!  
 The Lord has taken away the judgements against you,  
 he has turned away your enemies.  
 The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
 you shall fear disaster no more.  
 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
 Do not fear, O Zion;  
 do not let your hands grow weak.  
 The Lord, your God, is in your midst,  
 a warrior who gives victory;  
 he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
 he will renew you in his love;  
 he will exult over you with loud singing  
 as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,  
 so that you will not bear reproach for it.  
 I will deal with all your oppressors  
 at that time.  
 And I will save the lame  
 and gather the outcast,  
 and I will change their shame into praise  
 and renown in all the earth.  
 At that time I will bring you home,  
 at the time when I gather you;  
 for I will make you renowned and praised  
 among all the peoples of the earth,  
 when I restore your fortunes  
 before your eyes, says the Lord.

**Hymn 97***Watchman, Tell Us of the Night***Sermon***A Prophetic Birth: Song of Joy*

Rev. Cathy Meyer

**Prayer of the People/The Lord's Prayer**

**Lord of Life, you call us to prepare the way for your reign. You lift up a vision before us of a world that is shared and fair, where no one is outcast. We pray for the nations of the world, both allies and enemies; for your church here and abroad that we may be good news for all people; for those who suffer hunger and cold; for the frail and sick, the disabled and oppressed; for the earth from which we draw our health and strength. Surely, God, we can trust in you and not be afraid. Lead us in songs of praise and shouts of joy, for you are in our midst, as is our Lord Jesus, who taught us to pray...**

**Hymn 113***Angels We Have Heard On High***Charge and Benediction****Postlude***Toccata in G*

arr. Brown

*Offering plates, hearing assistance devices, and large print Bibles are located at the back of the sanctuary.*

## Sunday Worship

### December 15, Third Sunday of Advent

Moccasin Bend Worship Companions

Lighting of the Advent Candle

“A Prophetic Birth” - Zephaniah 3: 14-20

Session Meets

### December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Lighting of the Advent Candle

“A Prophetic Birth” - Micah 5: 2-5a

Mission Committee Meets

### December 24, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

6:00 p.m.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

“Lessons and Carols”

### December 29, First Sunday of Christmas

Worship at Northside Pres. - A Christmas Story

(Relaxed service for families and all!)

## Weekly Calendar

### December 15

Moccasin Bend Worship Companions

Session meets

### December 16

Dining Out 6:00 p.m.

### December 17

Faith Community Nurse 10:00 a.m.

Bible study 2:00 p.m.

### December 19

Second Hands 10:00 a.m.

### December 21

Silent Meditation 9:30 a.m.

Mini Tennis 10:00 a.m.

## Prayer Requests

Martha Huskins	Linda Waitsman	Robby Carney
Dorothy Jump	Bonnie Bryant	Dot Loeffler
Kathryn Walker	Valera Knight	Kent Dailey
Nataly Dempsey	Debbie Grohman	

facebook



Instagram

Follow us on  
socials!

@secondpreschatt

## Announcements

**Please have all submissions for the January newsletter to the office by tomorrow, December 16, so that we may publish before Christmas. Thank you!**

### Dining Out | December 16

Feliz Navidad! Join this fun group on Monday, December 16 at 6:00 p.m. just down the street from the church at 423 Taco.

### Congregational Meeting | December 22

A congregational meeting has been called after worship on December 22 for the purpose of electing new officers. Special thanks to the nominating committee for selecting the following slate: for Elder - Tom Tyler, Pete Steyn; for Deacon - Cliff Duke, Janet Ulm; Members at-large - Charly Brown, Ann Riley, Susan Lipford.

### Lessons and Carols | December 24

Celebrate the coming of the Christ Child on Christmas Eve at our beautiful candlelight service of lessons and carols at 6:00 p.m.! This traditional service combines beloved hymns with familiar readings of the Christmas story from the Bible.

### Worship at Northside | December 29

On December 29, we'll join the congregation at Northside Presbyterian (923 Mississippi Ave. 37405) for a very casual and relaxed worship service. Come spend some time reflecting and recharging as this year draws to a close and a new one begins.

### Youth Christmas Party | December 29

All youth and college age kids are invited to the Rushworth's home (501 W. Oxford Rd. 37415) for the annual Christmas After Party! Come decorate cookies, enjoy a delicious dinner of highly requested foods, and help sort items placed on the Giving Tree. The fun starts at 5:30, we hope to see you there!

### Giving Tree

The Giving Tree will be up until the end of December. Please help Presbyterian Women decorate the Tree again this season with socks, gloves, hats, and scarves for all ages. These items are donated to Northside Neighborhood House. Thank you for your generosity!

### Christmas Joy Offering

One of the social offerings we collect each year is the Christmas Joy Offering. This offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. Donation envelopes may be found in the pews throughout the month of December.

Security Phone Number 423.777.0620

Please call this dedicated number for any security related issues, including fire, suspicious activity, or emergency of any kind.

WiFi Information Network: 2ndPres-Guest Password: @SecondPres!

Second  
Presbyterian  
Church

Rev. Cathy Meyer, Pastor | Dr. Kevin Ford, Director of Music | Jody Brown, Organist  
Claire Broome, Administrator | Hayden Perry, Sexton | Kacey Dodson, Sound Technician

700 Pine St. Chattanooga, TN 37402

secondpreschatt.org

423.266.2828