

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Is Calling" J.S. Bach

Lenora Morrow, Organist

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please assume a quiet and respectful attitude of worship.
Please silence your mobile devices.*

CHORAL INTROIT: "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending" . . WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Lo! He comes with clouds descending, once for favored sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of His train.
Alleluia! Alleluia! God appears on earth to reign.

Now Redemption, long expected, see in solemn pomp appear!
All His saints, by man rejected, now shall meet Him in the air.
Alleluia! Alleluia! See the day of God appear!

*The Westminster Singers
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP Ronald G. Sadlow

✦PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"HYFRYDOL

✦THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 24:3-16, 29-31 Ben J. Scott

As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the close of the age?"

**And Jesus answered them,
"See that no one leads you astray.**

For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet.

**For nation will rise against nation,
and kingdom against kingdom,
and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places.
All these are but the beginning of the birth pains.**

Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

**And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed
throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations,
and then the end will come.**

So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

**"Immediately after the tribulation of those days
the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will fall from heaven,
and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.**

Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

**And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call,
and they will gather his elect from the four winds,
from one end of heaven to the other."**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYFRYDOL

**Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending, in His temple shall appear:
All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising to th’eternal Three in One.**

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Jennifer and Gordon Thompson, Hil, Wilson and Hank

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: “Lost in the Night” Finnish Folk Tune, arr. Haugen

Lost in the night do the people yet languish,
Longing for morning the darkness to vanquish,
Plaintively heaving a sigh full of anguish.
Will not day come soon?

Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow?
Shall those who have light no light let us borrow,
Giving no heed to our burden of sorrow?
Will you help us soon?

Sorrowing wand’rers, in darkness yet dwelling,
Dawned has the day of a radiance excelling,
Death’s dreaded darkness forever dispelling.
Christ is coming soon! Come and save us soon!

B.J. Webster, soloist

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE VENI EMMANUEL

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

✦ GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE PROPHETIC READING Daniel 12:1-13
(page 750 in pew Bible)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

**The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** *(Isaiah 40:6b, 8)*

HOMILY

Until the Time of the End

Sanders L. Willson

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time. At Second Presbyterian, we encourage our children not to take communion until they have joined the church as communicant members.

We do, however, encourage non-communing children to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.

Those wishing to be served communion together as a group or family, please stand together in front of the two serving elders before taking the elements.

✦PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by Whom all things were made;
Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man,
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
Who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

✦GLORIA PATRI GREATOR EX

**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, Amen!**

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION T. Barton Kimbro

**Almighty God,
Who by Your grace has given us Your Son,
conceived in the womb of a peasant woman,
born under the law to redeem us who were under the law,
we confess that we, the recipients of Your grace,
have continued to transgress Your commandments
and have violated Your love.
We are again heartsick over our sin
and grieved at our ingratitude.
Please forgive us.
Please renew our gratitude for Your salvation
and move us by Your Spirit to a new obedience
for the unending glory of Jesus Christ,
in Whose Name we pray. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND 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.**

THE COMMUNION OF BREAD AND CUP

For those unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat.

Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing the hymns below.

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” PICARDY

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav’nly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the pow’rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.**

**At His feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!”**

INSTRUMENTAL REFLECTION: “Sheep May Safely Graze” J.S. Bach

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Of the Father’s love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!**

**O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;
And the Babe, the world’s Redeemer, first revealed His sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!**

**This is He Whom heav’n-taught singers sang of old with one accord,
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets promised in their faithful word;
Now He shines, the long-expected; let creation praise its Lord,
Evermore and evermore!**

**O ye heights of heav’n, adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing;
All dominions, bow before Him and extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent, ev’ry voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore!**

**Christ, to Thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore!**

INSTRUMENTAL REFLECTION: “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” David Ferreira

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

♣HYMN OF JOY: No. 195 “Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come” ANTIOCH

♣BENEDICTION

♣CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE:

“Chorale Fantasia on ‘How Brightly Shines the Morning Star’” D. Buxtehude

♣Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

Instrumentalists: Rebecca Yu, violin; Gabe Statom, piano

HANGING of the GREEN

Tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Join our Children's and Youth Choirs as we bring in the holly and ivy to begin our Advent season. The service will conclude with activities for children, a live nativity, and the decorating of the church campus.

Welcome!

If you are visiting with us today, we welcome you to Second Presbyterian. Please sign our Friendship Pad, which will be passed during the Greetings time of the service. Our Congregational Communities (CCs), also known as Sunday School classes, offer a wide variety of options appealing to various age groups and stages of life. Visiting a CC is the best way to get to know others and become involved. CCs meet on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. For a full listing of classes, visit www.2pc.org/cc.

Paraments

There are four Sundays in the Advent Season. The liturgical color is blue, representing the skies, the heavens, and eliciting feelings of hope and joy. On the Pulpit Scarf is the Christogram, a monogram of a kind, which has the Greek letters Chi and Rho (the first letters in the spelling of Christos, the Greek word for Christ). The Chi Rho is within a circle, symbolizing eternal life with Christ and of Christ, never ending. The Bible Markers contain the Greek letters Alpha and Omega, signifying that Christ is the beginning and the end, as He tells us in Revelation. The blue Advent paraments will hang until Christmas Eve.

Weekly Focus on Missions

World Missions: Advent is a busy time for our partners, Rob and Tunde Futo. Tunde serves as choir director for their church in suburban Budapest, Hungary, and is preparing the choir for its annual outreach Christmas musical. The program of Christmas hymns and drama will be performed in the town hall. The choir has also produced a CD, *Emmanuel, God is with Us*, one of the first distinctly Christian CDs in the Hungarian language. Rob continues in his teaching and counseling ministry. He has written a book about marriage, which is soon to be published. Pray that the Lord will enable the Futos to keep their focus on Jesus during this busy time, that He will bless the various ministries to which he has called them, and that He will give their family health, strength, and joy in each task.

Mission Memphis: Memphis Union Mission asks that we pray for God to save and deliver the many homeless

men and women who seek help at the Emergency Shelter and that He will bring total transformation to the men, women, and families enrolled in our long-term recovery programs. Pray for MUM's staff of pastors, counselors, and many volunteers — that they will be encouraged while ministering to the needy.

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called the congregation to meet on December 4 at the 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services to elect officers to begin service in January 2012 on the Diaconate and Session. Those being elected have previously been nominated by the congregation and have completed a period of training and examination.

This Week/Coming Soon

Bringing Advent Home: Stop by tables outside the Fellowship Hall before and after worship services today for helpful Advent materials provided by the Children's Ministry.

Loaves and Fishes: We collect non-perishable food for those in need on the first Sunday of every month. Please place your contribution in the collection boats in the hallway outside the Sanctuary next Sunday. Your contribution will make a difference in the lives of others.

CityServe Explorers: Join the Explorers on November 30 as they visit STAX Music Academy and the Soulsville Charter School. We will leave the West Parking Lot promptly at 4 p.m. and return by 6 p.m. Please contact Rachel Brannigan at rbrannigan@2pc.org or 454-0034 for a spot on the church van.

Master's Men's Luncheon: The December meeting of The Master's Men's Group (65 plus senior men) will be on December 5 in C310 with lunch beginning at 11:30 a.m. and dismissing promptly at 1:00 p.m. Sandy Willson will be our speaker. Please call Kathy Oswalt at 454-0034 by November 30 if you would like to attend. The cost will be \$8.

WOC Christmas Coffee: All women are invited to the annual WOC coffee on December 13 at 10:30 a.m. in the Salmon Room and C310. Adrienne Smithey, Second's Assistant Senior High Director, will be our guest speaker. Contact Nancy Webster at nwebster@2pc.org or 454-0034 for more information.

Gift Giving with the Library: The Growing Place makes gift giving easy: simply select an item from our Adopt-a-Material cart, and we will notify the honoree and commemorate the gift with a bookplate that reflects the giver as well as the honoree. You may also make arrangements by phone or email: 454-0034 or library@2pc.org.

Crown Financial Ministries: This small group study trains adults to practically apply financial principles from God's Word. Topics include: getting out of debt, spending and earning money, giving and saving, budgeting and investing. The cost of this class is \$45 for singles and \$55 for couples and includes all materials needed. To sign up for the class which begins January 4, 2012, please contact Kathy Oswalt at koswalt@2pc.org or 454-0034 by December 15.

A Mother's Heart 2012 Registration: *Give Them Grace: Dazzling your Kids with the Love of Jesus*, written by Elyse Fitzpatrick and Jessica Thompson, will be the Spring 2012 study at A Mother's Heart on Thursdays, January 19-April 26, 2012, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in C100. Register online at www.2pc.org/women or contact Nancy Webster at nwebster@2pc.org or 454-0034.

WOC December Circle Meetings

Abigail: Chairman: Tracey Williams; Hostess: Glenda Sharp; 957 W Riverwalk Dr; 2nd Tues, 6:45pm. **Anna:** Chairman: Carolyn Branton; Hostess: Florence Leffler; 230 Baronne Pl; 1st Tues, 10:15am.

Deborah: Chairman: Brenda Vincent; Hostess: Mary Lawrence Allen; Church C310; 1st Tues, 1:00pm. **Esther:** Chairman: Nina Wilson; Church B102; 1st Tues., 9:30am. **Hannah:** Chairman/Hostess: Jean McSwain; 2915 Tishomingo Ln;

2nd Thurs, 10:00am. **Lydia:** Chairman: June Robinson; Church C101/Mission Closet; 2nd Tues, 11:15am. **Martha/Mary:** Chairman: Vicki Gore; 4036 Dumaine Way; 1st Tues, 11:00am. **Naomi:** Chairman: Bebe Sorrels; Church B101; 1st Tues, 11:30am.

NCC: Chairman: Eileen Wood; Robinhood

Park Apts; Thursdays, 12:30-2:00pm.

Priscilla: Chairman: Jo Sammons; Hostess: Ruthann Schroth; 4116 Baldwin Sq; 1st Tues, 10:30am. **Rachel:** Chairman: Norma

McHugh; La Baquette; 1st Tues., 11:00am.

Rahab: Chairman: Donna Platt; Hostesses: Deborah Tipton and Libbee Clifford; 382

Ripplebrook; 1st Mon, 12:30pm. **Rebekah:** Chairman: Beverly Carrick; Hostess:

Janet Cox; 4048 Baronne Way; 1st Tues, 10:30am. **Ruth:** Chairman: Martha Roper;

Church A100; 1st Tues., 10:30am. **Urban Ministries:** Chairman: Marion Quinlen; St. John's Methodist Church; 1st Wed, 2:00pm.

Student Ministries

Sixth Graders: All sixth graders are invited to the RiverKings game on December 10 (6-9 p.m.). Meet at the church.

Jr. High: Three Degrees will not meet tonight. Tuesday Morning Prayer meets at 6:00 a.m. at the Nelsons' home (2051 Shadowood Cove). Mark your calendars for our Christmas Party on December 4, 7:15-8:45 p.m. Cost is \$10. Three Degrees Small Groups will resume January 11. Visit www.2pcyouth.org for more information!

Sr. High: Life Groups will not meet tonight. Meet at the church on Monday for REP Tutoring (5:15-6:30 p.m.). Tuesday Morning Prayer meets at 6:00 a.m. at the Nelsons' home (2051 Shadowood Cove). True North meets on Wednesdays from 7:30-9:00 p.m. The True North Christmas Party will be at Playhouse on the Square December 7, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Cost is \$10. Visit www.2pcyouth.org for more information!

College: The College Class meets every Sunday, upstairs in the EC Building at 9:45 a.m. For more information about our College Ministry, email Amanda Coop at acoop@campusoutreach.org.

Career Transition Group

The Career Transition Ministry welcomes those currently in transition or looking for a career change. This group, led by Robert Sutton, meets on the first and third Thursday mornings of the month at

Christmas Flower Order Form

I/We wish to contribute \$_____ to the Flower Ministry of Second Presbyterian Church for use in decorating the church for the Christmas season in memory or honor of loved ones. Please acknowledge the gift (omitting the amount) in the bulletin on Sunday, December 18 as follows:

Please check **ONLY** one: In Memory of In Honor of In Gratitude for

Name: _____

Given by: _____

Telephone number of donor: _____

December 13, 2011 is the deadline for the inclusion of names in the bulletin on December 18, 2011.

Please return this form with your check made out to Second Presbyterian Church and send to 4055 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38111. Clearly designate the gift for the "Flower Ministry."

8 a.m. and focuses on prayer and support, networking, and practical employment advice. All are invited! Please contact Gail Turner in the Caring Ministry at 454-0034 with questions.

Caring Ministry

Congratulations to:

Michelle and Andy Adair on the birth of a son, *Carson Daniel Adair*, November 15, 2011.

Meghan and John Sullivan on the birth of a son, *John Daniel Sullivan*, November 18, 2011.

Sympathy to:

Alicia Baker and Kathy Carruthers on the death of their father, *James E. Harwood, III*, November 16, 2011.

In the Hospital (as of 11/21/11):

Dorothy Davis, Baptist

Steve Collins, Baptist

Janet Wright, The Village at
Germantown Rehab

November Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary for the month of November are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of: *S.G. and Dixie J. Collins and Marjorie Wunderlich* by Keith, Kristi, Elliott and David Collins; *Norma Jean Duckworth* by her family; *Ann and Oscar Edwards* by Jimmy and Mary Edwards and their family; *George Shea Flinn* by his sons George, Fred, and Carl, and their families; *Jim Fox* by his family; *Catherine Otey* by her cousin, Rena Jirack; *Dr. Max Wesley Painter* by his family **and in honor of:** *Barbara and Jerry Billions*, who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary, by their children and grandchildren; *Louise and Charles Housholder*, who are celebrating seventy years of marriage this month, by their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



4055 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38111
www.2pc.org · (901) 454-0034

OUR MISSION:

To glorify God through joyful worship, to show God's love to all people, to lead them to faith in Jesus Christ, to make them His disciples, and to call them to His service.

Our 11:00 a.m. service is broadcast live each week on WHBQ (AM 560). The same service is telecast one week later, every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. on WREG-TV (Channel 3). Live streaming of our Sunday morning worship services is also available at www.ustream.tv/channel/second-stream