

PRELUDE

WORD OF WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

CALL TO WORSHIP

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: The LORD is our Judge
All: **The LORD is our Leader**
Leader: The LORD is our King
All: **Our God will deliver us!**

*HYMN

Joy to the World!

Hymnal #270 (Verses 1, 3, 4)

Verse 1: Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Verse 3: No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow, far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

Verse 4: He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders, of His love.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

Meghan Tidwell

Please sign and pass the friendship register located on the center aisle under the pew in front.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: As the wayward son said, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you”, let us go to God and admit our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: **Heavenly Father, as we close out this year, we want to make a fresh start. Forgive us for all the ways we have sinned against You. Forgive us for all the ways we have sinned against people at work, school, here at church, at home, and out in the highways and byways of life. Forgive us for the ways we have sinned on our apps and devices. Forgive us for the ways we have not lived up to our true selves. You sent Jesus to free us from the trap. Help us to walk away from the wrong and head down the path of right, for the sake of Jesus’ Name, AMEN.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: Jesus told people He healed, “Go on your way, your faith has made you well.” In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*GLORIA PATRI

All: 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.*

PASSING THE PEACE

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

SOLO

Noel

Allison Carroll | arr. Tomlin

*Love incarnate love divine, Star and angels gave the sign.
Bow to babe on bended knee, The Savior of humanity.
Unto us a Child is born, He shall reign forevermore.*

*Noel, Noel! Come and see what God has done.
Noel, Noel, The story of amazing love.
The light of the world given for us, Noel!*

*Son of God and Son of man, There before the world began.
Born to suffer, born to save, Born to raise us from the grave.
Christ the everlasting Lord, He shall reign forevermore.*

FAITHFUL FRIENDS

Children ages 5 through 8th grade are dismissed at this time for children's worship.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:25-38

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

SERMON

"Transitions"

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

*HYMN

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Hymnal #267 (Verses 1-4)

Verse 1: I heard the bells on Christmas day their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat Of peace on earth, good will to men.

Verse 2: I thought how, as the day had come, The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along th'unbroken song Of peace on earth, good will to men.

Verse 3: And in despair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song Of peace on earth, good will to men."

Verse 4: Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, With peace on earth, good will to men."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.*

CALL FOR OFFERING

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: Let us thank God with our offerings.

OFFERTORY

Jesu- Noel

Bach/Whitsett

***DOXOLOGY**

The Old Hundredth

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

***HYMN**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Hymnal #278 (Verses 1-3)

*Verse 1: Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains. Refrain*
*Verse 2: Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear? Refrain*
*Verse 3: Come to Bethlehem and see Him Whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain*
Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION**

**All: Make us one, Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let Your love flow so the world will know, we are one in You.**

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP

- Liturgist**.....Meghan Tidwell
- Greeters**.....Susan Espiritu, Brett Miller
- Ushers**.....FCPC Youth
- Music**.....FCPC Chancel Choir
- Tech Team**.....Mac Holland, Thomas Rader, Brett Miller, Debbie Hawkins
- Faithful Friends (Children's Worship)**.....Susan Espiritu, April Lamb
- Nursery**.....Laurismar Wrinkle, Laura Marquez

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sanctuary Flowers this week are given in honor of the dedicated servants who are rotating off their Session roles, but their impact will leave a lasting legacy as they continue to work within the congregation as a whole. Thank you, Teresa Brittain, Don Grogan, Mac Holland, Thomas Rader, and Denna Grogan.

Office Hours This Week: The church office will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, 2025 in observance of New Year's Day and will reopen at 8:00 AM on Thursday, January 2.

Family Promise is Coming: From January 19 – 26, 2025, FCPC will have the opportunity to shelter, feed, and welcome up to 4 families with children, who recently became homeless. Family Promise of Knoxville is helping these families address the issues that lead to homelessness and get back into housing. Families in the program are often experiencing homelessness for the first and hopefully the last time in their lives. Signup by scanning the QR code or visiting the link in the weekly word.



Women of Hope: The Women of Hope Bible Study will begin a new book, "Brave and Beloved- An In Depth Study of Women in the Bible" by Meredith Storrs beginning Tuesday, January 7th. This group meets every Tuesday at 10:00 AM in the library and is ed by Susan Espiritu. If you have any questions, you may reach out to her or call the church office.

Realm Church Software: As we enter into 2025, our office administrator Ashton and the finance team have been working hard to upgrade our church management software. This includes updates to our accounting software and online giving platform- which you can now access on our website.

JAHREZEIT

May their memory be for a blessing

12/31/81 Gordon Witt, 1/1/82 Helen Jack, 12/30/85 Elmer Sienknecht, 1/4/86 Francis Bowditch,
12/29/88 Anne Sims Hobt Payne, 1/3/01 Myrtle Whitehead, 12/29/01 Ralph Lufkin, 12/29/05 Laverne Scott,
1/2/09 Frances Hixon, 1/3/10 Zack Kennard, 12/31/20 Bob Collier, 1/3/22 Nina Wyrick, 1/4/24 Marcia Cartledge

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

12/30 Cathy Forester 12/30 Dave & Tracye Robertson



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Our Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse, *Interim Pastor*
Ashton Hicks, *Office Administrator*
Bob Eubanks, *Choir Director*
George Hill, *Organist*
Nancy Wells, *Pianist*