

**PRELUDE**

**WORD OF WELCOME**

*Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

**LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE**

*The Snow Family*

*One:* We were once in darkness,  
*All:* **Now we are light in the Lord!**  
*One:* Let us live as children of light,  
*All:* **The light that produces goodness, justice, and truth.**  
*One:* Wake up, o sleeper, and rise to life!  
*All:* **And Christ will shine upon us!**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Meghan Tidwell*

*Leader:* Children of Zion, rejoice and be glad in the LORD your God!  
*All:* **We will praise the name of the LORD!**  
*Leader:* Our God has done wonderful things for us,  
*All:* **The LORD is in our midst!**

**\*HYMN**

*Give to Our God Immortal Praise*

*Hymnal #112 (Verses 1 & 2)*

*Verse 1:* Give to our God immortal praise; mercy and truth are all His ways:  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah! Wonders of grace to God belong,  
Repeat His mercies in your song: Hallelujah!

*Verse 2:* Give to the Lord of Lords renown: The King of kings with glory crown:  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah! His mercies ever shall endure,  
When lords and kings are known no more: Hallelujah!

**RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP**

*Meghan Tidwell*

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

**COMMISSIONING OF JOE & LINDA SCHNORR**

*Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

**ADVENT MESSAGE IN MUSIC**

*Arr. Parker/Shaw*

*“O Come O Come 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.*

*O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, Thou Key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home.  
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

**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.**

## ADVENT MESSAGE IN MUSIC

Arr. Martin

*Mountain Carol - Tune: "The Babe of Bethlehem"  
(William Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835)*

*Ye nations all, on you I call: Come hear the declaration, and don't refuse the glorious news of promise and salvation. For soon the earth will see the birth of Christ, the great Messiah, As was foretold by prophets old, Isaiah, Jeremiah.*

*To Abraham the promise came, and to His seed forever, A Light to shine in Isaac's line, in Scripture we discover. Hail, Promised One! God's only Son, the glorious Mediator, God's Living Word will come to earth and dwell with us forever.*

*To Bethlehem this holy Lamb will come with God's salvation. To us a King will come and bring good news to ev'ry nation. Rejoice! Rejoice! Make joyful noise and shout the jubilation, for soon a Star will rise afar and wake the celebration. Alleluia! Rejoice! Alleluia! Rejoice!*

## PRAYER OF HOPE AND EXPECTATION

Meghan Tidwell

**Leader:** This is a season for hope and expectation. Let us pray:

**All:** **Joined to each other by the cords of our common need, we quiet our hearts and listen for the coming of the Lord. In the stillness we prepare our lives to receive the music of promise that can only come from the heart of God.**

## ADVENT MESSAGE IN MUSIC

Arr. Martin

*Hope and Expectation - Tune: "Restoration"  
(William Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835)*

*Come, Thou long expected Jesus; Born to set all people free.*

*Come, Jesus, Come, From our fears and sins release us. Let us find our rest in Thee.*

*Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art. Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.*

*Born thy people to deliver, Born a child, and yet a King. Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring. By Thine own external Spirit, Rule in all our hearts alone. By Thine own sufficient merit, raise in us Thy glorious throne.*

*Hark, the prophet's voice is calling, "Christ is near", he seems to say.*

*"Cast away your sin and sadness, In your heart prepare His way."*

*Sleeper's, awake! Prepare for Jesus. Trim your lamps and keep the flame;*

*For to you a King is coming. Love and life are in His name.*

*Come, Almighty to deliver. Let us all Thy grace receive. Suddenly return, and never, never more Thy temples leave.*

*O come, Lord Jesus, come!*

## CALL FOR OFFERING

Meghan Tidwell

**Leader:** Let's worship God with our tithes and offerings.

## OFFERTORY

"In Dulci Jubilo"

LeDoux

## \*DOXOLOGY

**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.**

## ADVENT MESSAGE IN MUSIC

Arr. Hayes

*“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent” (Traditional French Carol)*

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence. Keep silence!*

*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.*

*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!”*

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence.*

## RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE READING

Meghan Tidwell / Paraphrased from Luke 2:9-12

**Leader:** Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord’s glory surrounded them. They were terribly frightened, but the angel reassured them. “Don’t be afraid!” he said. I bring you good news of great joy for everyone! The Savior- yes, the Messiah, the Lord- has been born tonight in Bethlehem, the city of David!”

Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others- the armies of heaven- praising God.

**All:** **“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to all whom God favors.”**

## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE IN MUSIC

Arr. Martin/Hayes

*“Glory To God”*

*God took the corners of the sky and shook it with His might.  
A thousand stars came tumbling down and spilled into the night.  
Like diamonds on a velvet cloth they shimmered in the height.  
The angels could not help but sing God’s praises at the sight.*

*Gloria, Gloria, glory to God! Glory to God on High!  
Gloria, Gloria, glory to God! A Child is born tonight!  
Peace on earth, Good will to all! Hear the news we bring!  
Gloria, Gloria, glory to God. Let earth receive her King!*

*The voices of the angels sang to herald Jesus’ birth.  
The music danced across the stars and hung above the earth.  
God shook the heavens once again; the song began to ring  
like bells across the mountains and valleys in between.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria! Gloria! We sing Gloria!*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Meghan Tidwell / Ephesians 2:12

**Leader:** Once you were without Christ. You were foreigners rather than citizens of God’s kingdom, outside the promise of God. In this world you had no hope and no God. But now, thanks to Christ Jesus, you who were once far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. He is our peace. With His body, He broke down the wall of hostility that divides us.

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## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE IN MUSIC

Kauflin/Clow Arr. Sorenson  
Ft. Allison Carroll & Frank Gardner, Soloists  
Hunter Wilburn, Violin

### *“O Come, All You Unfaithful”*

*O come, all you unfaithful. Come, weak and unstable. Come, know you are not alone.  
O come, barren and waiting ones, weary of praying, come see what your God has done.  
Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you.*

*O come, bitter and broken, Come with fears unspoken, Come, taste of His perfect love.  
O come, guilty and hiding ones, There is no need to run, See what your God has done.  
Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you.*

*He's the Lamb who was given, Slain for our pardon. His promise is peace.  
For those who believe. He's the Lamb who was given, Slain for our pardon.  
His promise is peace for those who believe.*

*So come, though you have nothing, Come, He is the offering,  
Come, see what your God has done. Christ is born, Christ is born,  
Christ is born for you. Christ is born, Christ is born  
Christ is born for you.*

## \*HYMN

### *Arise Shine*

*Hymnal #241*

Verse: Arise, Shine, for Thy light is come. Arise, Shine for Thy light is come:  
And the glory of the Lord is risen, the glory of the Lord is come,  
The glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE IN MUSIC

*“Carols of the British Isles”*

### *“What Child Is This” (16<sup>th</sup> Century German Carol)*

*What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?*

*This, this is Christ, the King.  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

### *Medley “What Child Is This? / God Rest You Merry Gentlemen” (Traditional 18<sup>th</sup> Century English)*

*So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king to own Him.  
God rest you Merry Gentlemen let nothing you dismay.  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day;  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray.  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

### *“The Wexford Carol” (Traditional Irish Carol)*

*Good people all, this Christmas time, Consider well and bear in mind  
What our good God for us has done In sending his beloved son  
With Mary holy we should pray, To God with love this Christmas Day  
In Bethlehem upon that morn, There was a blessed Messiah born.*

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**“Baloo, Lammy” (17th Century Scottish Carol)**

Solo – Claudia Schorr

*This day to you is born a child Of Mary meek the Virgin mild:  
That blessed bairn(child) so loving and kind,  
Shall now rejoice both heart and mind. Baloo, lammy.*

**“The Snow Lay on the Ground” (1860 Traditional Irish-English Carol)**

*The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright,  
when Christ our Lord was born on Christmas night.  
Venite Adoremus Dominum. Venite Adoremus Dominum.*

**“Joy to the World”**

Words – Isaac Watts, Music – G.F. Handel

*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 heav’n, and heav’ en, and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns; Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*Joy to the world! Joy to the world!  
Shout out with Joy!*

**\*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**

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**THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP**

- Music Director**.....Bob Eubanks
- Pianist/Organist**.....Nancy Wells and George Hill
- Choir**.....The Fountain City Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir
- Liturgist**.....Meghan Tidwell
- Greeters**.....Pat Lipps, & Sue Wheeler
- Ushers**.....Darlene & Jon Miller, Joe & Linda Schnorr, Amy Ogden
- Tech Team**.....Mac Holland, Thomas Rader, Brett Miller, Debbie Hawkins
- Faithful Friends (Children’s Worship)**.....Susan Espiritu, April Lamb
- Nursery**.....Laurismar Wrinkle, Laura Marquez

*A special thank you to Bob Eubanks and the entire music program here at FCPC for this wonderful celebration of Advent and Christmas. “Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music...”*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sanctuary Flowers** this week are given in honor of our accompanist and organist Nancy Wells, George Hill and the entire music program here at FCPC. They bless us each week with beautiful music and deeply enrich our worship.



**2025 Stewardship Campaign Update:** Today marks the culmination of our Stewardship Campaign. Thank you to each of you that have pledged your support for this church in 2025. As of Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> we have received 52 pledge cards- down 6 from last year. If you have not submitted your pledge of support, consider placing a card in the offering plate or scanning the QR code to submit a card digitally.

**Yuletide Tales and Treats:** Join us on December 13 from 6-8 PM in the Fellowship Hall for a festive, fun-filled evening geared toward kids and presented by our Youth. Come dressed in your comfiest pajamas and enjoy a night of games, singing, pizza, and the heartwarming story of Jesus. It's the perfect way to celebrate the season with good times and great company!



**Advent Candle Volunteers:** This Advent season, we invite your family to be a part of our church's tradition of lighting the Advent candles and reading Scripture each Sunday. We need one more family to volunteer to light the candle next week. It's a meaningful way to prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas, reflecting on the hope, peace, joy, and love that Christ brings to our world. Signup by scanning the QR code.

**Sleeping Bag Donations Needed:** With the drop in temperatures, many of our neighbors experiencing homelessness are exposed to the conditions without shelter. Consider donating your old sleeping bag- in good condition to help warm our neighbors in need. Donations may be brought to FCPC or by contacting Tony Mosley.



**Christmas Cookie Swap:** Join us for a sweet time of holiday cheer after church on Sunday, December 15! Bring a batch of your favorite homemade Christmas cookies or desserts to share, and leave with a delicious assortment of treats from others. It's a fun way to celebrate the season and enjoy some festive fellowship. Signup by scanning the QR code.

**Christmas Eve at FCPC:** We will offer two services at 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm. Our 5:30 service will be geared toward the youngest members of our congregation with the telling of the story of Jesus and carol singing. The 7:00 service is our traditional candlelight service. We hope that you and your family will join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

**Lunch Bunch Christmas Party:** Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> hosted by Susan and Charlie Espiritu. The church van will load in the FCPC parking lot at 10:30 AM. Please let Susan know if you will be attending by this Monday- December 9<sup>th</sup>.

## JAH RZEIT

*May their memory be for a blessing*

12/12/84 Buna Howell, 12/8/87 Ruth Cowan, 12/10/91 Mildred Jenkins, 12/13/00 Lila Childress,  
12/11/05 Patty Thompson, 12/9/09 Bob Brewer, 12/10/09 Billie Witt, 12/10/17 Ruth Barkley, 12/11/20 George Jones,  
12/12/20 John Dowling, 12/10/22 Sue Hutchins

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

12/9 Bedford Chapman, 12/10 Dave Robertson, 12/10 Gilliam Wright, 12/10 Zachary Wright, 12/11 Jon Miller,  
12/12 Rob Riehl, 12/13 Jake Watson, 12/9 Roxie and Darrell Williams



**FOUNTAIN CITY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
500 HOTEL ROAD  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918  
OFFICE@FOUNTAINCITYPRES.ORG  
(865) 688-2163

## 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*



# COOKIE



# SWAP

## HOW IT WORKS

- **Step 1.** Signup online or on the signup sheet in the narthex.
- **Step 2.** Make enough Christmas treats to fill baggies for everyone who signed up. This number will be posted in the Weekly Word.
- **Step 3.** Santa's elves will arrange the baggies on the day of the swap. Everyone who signed up will then be able to pick up multiple baggies of Christmas treats and sweets!

## THE RULES

- Treats DO NOT have to be homemade- those elves in the hollow tree are good at making cookies if you don't want to bake.
- This isn't only a cookie swap, it's also a goody swap- this includes but isn't limited to fudge, peanut brittle, and other treats.
- The number of goodies in each bag will depend on how many people sign up- numbers will be posted in the Weekly Word.
- Questions? Call Happi Chamblee at 865.803.2536



