

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 28, 2025

First Sunday of Christmas

We Gather in God's Name . . .

PRELUDE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(Take a moment to center yourself with this prayer)

Almighty God, greet us with your grace and grace us with your presence as we gather to worship you this day. Clothe us with your wisdom and mercy so that we may continue to grow in faith and in love for you and for others. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Le us come to give thanks to God.

All: We have come to celebrate this day.

One: Let us come and rejoice with all our hearts.

All: We sing praises to the Holy One.

One: Let us come to worship Christ the Redeemer.

All: We come to give thanks to God.

*OPENING HYMN “O Sing a Song of Bethlehem” #308

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Because we have seen pain without being moved, because we forget your love with solemn pride, because we pass by happiness before poverty and sadness. Because we speak of love without loving our sisters and our brothers. Because we speak of faith without living your word. Because of all this and more, let us now confess our sins in silence.

*SILENT PRAYER OF PERSONAL CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON “O Little Town of Bethlehem”
(verse 4) #44

Singing: O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus the Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

. . . to Proclaim God’s Word

FIRST READING Isaiah 63: 7-9 p. 693

SECOND READING Hebrews 2: 10-18 p. 219

DUET “Still Is the Night” David & Jane Arends

GOSPEL READING Matthew 2: 13-23 p. 2

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Hope In Jesus” Gary Klette

*HYMN OF RESPONSE “On This Day Earth Shall Ring” #46

. . . to Give Thanks to God . . .

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD

THE OFFERTORY

*OFFERING RESPONSE

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” #592

Singing: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, receive these gifts that we present to you this day. Bless them to continue the work of this community of faith. May your love continue to be shared with others in both word and deed. In the spirit of Christ; Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our 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.

. . . and to Be Sent in God’s Name

*CLOSING HYMN “I Came Upon the Midnight Clear” #38

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION “Go with God”
Lt. Blue Songbook #138

Singing: Go with God. Go with God.
As you leave this place, go with God.
God will direct your way, God will light ev’ry day.
As you leave this place, go with God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

| | | |
|----------------|---|--------------------|
| Mon. Dec. 29 | Easy Does It Exercise Handbells | 10:00 AM 6:00PM |
| Tues. Dec. 30 | CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Prayer Ministry | 12:00PM |
| Wed. Dec. 31 | Easy Does It Exercise | 10:00 AM |
| Thurs. Jan. 01 | CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY | |
| Fri. Jan. 02 | CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Easy Does It Exercise | 10:00 AM |
| Sun. Jan. 04 | Sunday Bible Class | 10:00 AM |

Welcome to worship this morning! If you have small children, you're welcome to keep them in worship or take them into the quiet room.

Our thanks go to our guest speaker Gary Klette, lay reader Karen Burditt, David & Jane Arends, and pianist Dave Thomas.

You will find **prayer request cards** in the backs of the church pews that you may fill out and drop in the offering plate as needed.

For **Prayer Chain Requests**, please call either Martha Orcutt, 406-868-1890 or Karen Burditt, 406-450-5295.

It's almost that time of year again. Annual reports are due in the church office **the week after Christmas**. If the office is not open when your report is ready, you may put it in an envelope and slip it through the mail slot or email your report to conpres@3rivers.net.

The Church Office will be closed on **Tuesday, December 30th** but open for regular hours on Wednesday, December 31st. **Thursday, January 1st, 2026, will also be closed** in observance of New Year's Day and **will also be closed Friday, January 2nd**.

Youth Group and Church School will resume January 7th, 2026.

Wednesday Night Adult Discipleship Class will resume January 7th, 2026.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

The **Wednesday Night Adult Discipleship Class** is taking a break from our regular series to study "*Voices of Advent*" by Matthew Skinner November 26th through December 17th. **We won't meet December 24th or December 31st** but will resume "*Taming Your Thoughts*" by Max Lucado starting **January 7th, 2026**. Please join us Wednesday's from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM in Room 4 for these scripture-based studies and Christian fellowship. All are welcome!

We will have Installation of the newly elected Elders and Deacons during worship service Sunday, January 11th, 2026.

By order of session, the **Annual Meeting** of the congregation has been called for Sunday, **January 18th, 2026**, immediately after morning worship for the purpose of receiving annual reports and expressing support for the church budget.

If you have any articles to contribute to the **February Newsletter**, please turn them into the office no later than **Wednesday morning, January 21st**, which should provide enough time for article placement and proofreading if all articles are received by the due date. The newsletter will be printed and mailed out the following week, providing enough time for the newsletter to be delivered with time sensitive articles.

Last week, the combined giving was **\$1,547.00**. In order to meet expenses, we need to average **\$3,104.00** per week.

Please remember to pray for Jean Baringer, Bruce Benjamin, Cecil & Alice Benjamin, Amy Zimbelman, Helen Stordahl, Barb Perry, Wally McHenry, Wendy Wagner, Dave Perry, Ward Orcutt, Kristine Ries Prewett, Mary Sanders, Lavon & Karen Carter, Sean Carter, Dana & Marie Ahmed, Pearl Severtson, and Hazel Jones.

First Presbyterian Church



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