

FIRST



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LEBANON



January 5, 2025

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 5, 2025

11:00 A.M.

THE GATHERING

To Glorify God and Enjoy God Forever

PRELUDE *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* Albin C. Whitworth
CHIMING THE HOUR

WHO WE ARE

Leader: We are called Christians but what does that mean?

People: We are a welcoming community of disciples of Jesus Christ continually demonstrating God's reign.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 147

Leader: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Zion!

People: He grants peace within your borders;
he fills you with the finest wheat.

Leader: He gives snow like wool;
he scatters frost like ashes.

People: He sends out his word and melts them;
he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

Leader: He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes to Israel.

People: He has not dealt like this with other nations.
Praise the Lord!

*HYMN NO. 485

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of the Word, we come before you in humility, for we do not live as we ought. We do not love you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We do not love our neighbor as ourselves. So, we pray, in all humility, that you will change our hearts and minds, that you will show us again how to love others the way you love us, that you will put power and courage in our hearts to do your will. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

* Those who are able are invited to stand.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends. Sisters, brothers: hear this good news and see the grace of God: You are forgiven. You are free to go and live in the light of love.

People: Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI

Hymn No. 579

*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.*

*THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

God of Light, you have revealed yourself to us through Christ, the Word made flesh, who lived among us, full of grace and truth. Open us to your revelation once again, that in the words of your holy scripture, we might know your presence and follow your light each day of our lives. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-18

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

O Lord Most Holy

Cesar Franck

*O Lord most holy, O Lord most holy,
O loving Father, we would praise Thy name forever;
Help us to know Thee, Know Thee and love Thee;
Father, Father, grant us Thy truth and grace;
Father, Father, guide and defend us.
Lead with Thy guiding light, Keep us in paths aright,
In our sorrows let us find our rest in Thee;
And in temptation's hour, Save through Thy mighty pow'r,
Father, hear us; Hear us in mercy;
Show us Thy favor, So we shall live and sing praise to Thee.*

SERMON

In the Beginning

Kimberly Dillard

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN NO. 322 *Spirit of the Living God*

LIVING GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY *Jesus, Jesus Rest Your Head* Albin C. Whitworth

*DOXOLOGY

*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. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Traditional) Hymnal Page 16

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN NO. 341 *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!*

ASSURANCE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE *The Holly and the Ivy*

Gilbert Martin

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us this morning. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to become a member of First Presbyterian Church. For more information, please speak to the pastor at the close of the service.

📶 For WiFi access go to FPC_CONNECT and enter password 6154441360.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner

January 8, 6:00 p.m.

Chicken Casserole, Butter Beans, Salad, Orange Juice Cake

To make a reservation, please call the church office at
(615) 444-1360 by Tuesday.

Sherard will lead Bible study following the meal.

WELCOME TO KIMBERLY DILLARD – Kimberly Dillard is an integrative existential counselor and coach at Tapestries Counseling Center in Nashville. She is a PhD intern researching how spiritual, somatic, and expressive arts practices can help people heal from trauma and other challenges. She worked for over 10 years in Northern Virginia as a mental health therapist serving youth, couples, and families. Kimberly earned a Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree from Vanderbilt University.

Rev. Edington has been in Alabama this week visiting family. He will return to the office on Tuesday.

COMPASSIONATE HANDS MEAL – FPC will prepare and serve food on January 6 for the unhoused guests at Compassionate Hands.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS FOR 2025 – If you would like to provide a flower arrangement in memory of or in honor of loved ones for a particular Sunday in 2025, please contact Kristy in the church office.

YOUTH

YOUTH GROUP (5th -12th grade) will meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

THIS WEEK AT FPC

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|----------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Today | | Wednesday | |
| 8:45 a.m. | Worship | 6:00 p.m. | Fellowship Meal |
| 9:45 a.m. | Church School | 6:30 p.m. | Choir Practice |
| 11:00 a.m. | Worship | 6:30 p.m. | Bible Study |
| Monday | | Thursday | |
| 6:00 p.m. | New Day Group | 9:00 a.m. | Preschool |
| Tuesday | | 6:00 p.m. | Boy Scouts |
| 9:00 a.m. | Preschool | Friday | |
| | | Saturday | |

SESSION

Class of 2024
Max Carter
Nancy Gebhardt
Mickey Stueck
Allen Vance

Class of 2025
W.P. Bone
Jack Emmert
Frank Reeves

Class of 2026
Carol Hill
Margaret Ann Trail

DIACONATE

Class of 2024
Jonathan Bouton
Carol Turner
Van Turner
Sandra Weatherford

Class of 2025
Rachel Low
Jim Stueck

Class of 2026
Melissa Cassetty
Karen Hunter-Lowery
Jim Murff

CHURCH COMMITTEES

Clerk of Session – Barbara Howell
Treasurer – Jim Stueck
Budget & Finance – Jim Stueck
Buildings and Grounds – Allen Vance
Christian Education – Nancy Gebhardt
Congregational Care –
Outreach – Margaret Ann Trail
Personnel – Jack Emmert
Worship – Mickey Stueck

STAFF

Ministers – All Members of the Congregation
Pastor – Sherard Edington
Organist/Director of Music – Darryl Nettles
Office Administrator – Kristy Vincent
NCC Worship Leader – Natalie Loader
Preschool Director – Angela Hankins
Custodians – Stratus Cleaning Service

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Children
Elementary Class and
Middle - High School Class

Adult
Crossroads Class
Faith Builders Class

First Presbyterian Church
304 West Main Street
Lebanon, TN 37087
615.444.1360
fpclabanon.org
CCLI# 22268