



Second Presbyterian
CHURCH OF CHARLESTON

THIS IS GOD'S HOUSE ALL ARE WELCOME

"Meeting people at their point of need, Inviting all into a dynamic relationship with Christ"

December 18, 2022

10:30 a.m.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - LOVE

Prelude

"Gesù Bambino"
Elliott Weeks, violin
Christmas carols
Katie Banish, trumpet

Pietro Yon

***Processional Hymn:**

**Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.**

Leader: God is love and those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in them.
This is the day the Lord has made,

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: Our King and Savior now draws near:

People: **Come, let us adore him.**

***Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

The Comer Family

Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy and love, remember the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope. *(lights candle)*
We light this candle in joy! *(lights pink candle)*

We light this candle for peace. *(lights candle)*
We light this candle with love. *(lights candle)*

Out of love for the people of God, the Lord speaks through the prophet Isaiah, as found in the seventh chapter, verses 10-14: "The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, 'Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let

it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.' But Ahaz said, 'I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.'"

Let us pray (ALL): God of Hope, Prince of Peace, Jubilee Judge, and Lord of Love, your goodness is beyond our imaginings. You give us more than we can think to ask, coming to us with impossible possibility in the union of flesh and spirit. Teach us to love this world and all people as you love us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.

*Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

#133

Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Unison

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. Have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Silent Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Response: *"Thanks be to God"*

Apostles' Creed

Unison

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.

Time for Children

Children's Sermon

Ken Carrington

Litany of Parting: Children: May God be with you here. **Congregation: May God be with you there.**

Children are invited to Children's Chapel for a time of fun, singing and faith formation at this time.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Ervin and Leonora Grove

Covenant of the Church

We, the members of Second Presbyterian Church, renewing our covenant with God and with each other, do now welcome you into our fellowship to share the joys and trials, the responsibilities and rewards of Christian discipleship. We pledge to you our support and love to the end that we may all increase in the knowledge and love of God and grow toward the stature of Jesus Christ.

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Tripp Carrington, Reader

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

HYMN

Once In Royal David's City
(soloist verse 1; congregation please join on verse two)

#140

FIRST LESSON - Genesis 3:8–15, 17–19

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

ANTHEM

"For Behold, Darkness" (from Messiah)
Joel Dettweiler, soloist

G.F. Handel
Text: Isaiah 60:2

*For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And gross darkness the people:
But the Lord shall arise upon thee, And his glory shall be seen upon thee.
And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, And kings to the brightness of thy rising.*

SECOND LESSON - Isaiah 11:1–4a, 6–9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,

but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
 and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
 he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
 The wolf shall live with the lamb;
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
 the calf and the lion will feed together,
 and a little child shall lead them.
 The cow and the bear shall graze;
 their young shall lie down together;
 and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
 They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain,
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
 as the waters cover the sea.

ANTHEM

"He Shall Feed His Flock" (from Messiah)
Kiri Taylor and Clarissa Rider, soloists

G. F. Handel

*He shall feed his flock like a shepherd, and He shall gather the lambs with his arm.
 And carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young*

*Come unto Him all ye that labor, come unto Him, ye that are heavy laden and He will give you rest.
 Take his yoke upon you and learn of Him, for He is meek and lowly of heart and ye shall find rest unto your souls.*

(The Offering will be received during the singing of this anthem)

THIRD LESSON - Luke 1:6–35, 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

ANTHEM

"Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day"

16th c English, arr. H. Clucas

*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day; I would my true love did so chance
 To see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance;*

Chorus: Sing, O my love, O my love, my love, my love, This have I done for my true love.

*Then was I born of a virgin pure, Of her I took fleshly substance
 Thus was I knit to man's nature to call my true love to my dance. Sing O my love...*

*In a manger laid, and wrapped I was So very poor, this was my chance
 Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass to call my true love to my dance. Sing O my love...*

FOURTH LESSON - Luke 2:1-7

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

HYMN (Congregation please sing)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

#121, vs. 1 and 4

FIFTH LESSON - Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger.

ANTHEM

"Glory to God" (from *Messiah*)
Clarissa Rider, soloist

G.F. Handel

SIXTH LESSON - Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the

east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

ANTHEM

“In the Bleak Midwinter”
Kiri Taylor and Joel Dettweiler, soloists

Text: Christina Rossetti
Music: Harold Darke

*In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen, snow on snow. In the bleak midwinter long, long ago.*

*Our God, heaven cannot hold Him Nor earth sustain, heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter a stable-place sufficed the Lord God Almighty — Jesus Christ.*

*Enough for Him, whom cherubim worship night and day, a breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay;
Enough for Him, whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore.*

*What can I give him? Poor as I am. If I were a shepherd I would give a lamb.
If I were a wise man I would do my part. But what I can I give him, give my heart.*

SEVENTH LESSON - John 1:1–14

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“Of the Father's Love Begotten”

Divinum Mysterium, 12th c.
Text: Prudentius, 4th c.

*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!*

*O ye heights of heaven, adore him. Angel hosts, his praises sing. Powers, dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be silent; every 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! Amen.*

* * * * *

Homily

Rev. Cress Darwin

*Closing Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#119

*Benediction

*Choral Postlude

"And the Glory of the Lord" (from Messiah) Georg Frideric Handel

*- please stand, as you are able

2nd Presbyterian CCLI Lic. #2046860

Large print hymnals are available on the back table

Please join us on Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th

4:00 p.m. – FAMILY-FRIENDLY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

11:00 p.m. – CANDLELIGHT AND COMMUNION SERVICE (Prelude music starts at 10:30)

Next Sunday, December 25th, Christmas Day Service at 10:30 a.m.

2022 Poinsettias

GIVEN IN MEMORY OF

My mother, Edith Allen Ellis and my aunt, Beverly A'Daire Hafers

by Sue and Barney Henderson

Marguerite Speer and Seabrook Jenkins VanNess, Virginia Gertrude Craven Tindall and James Franklin Tindall, Sr., Brenda Joyce Tindall, Clyde David Tindall, and Virginia Courtney Tindall

by Kathy VanNess Tindall and James Franklin Tindall, Jr.

Shannon and Daniel James Cumming; Elizabeth and Marion Mitchell

by Sarah and Marion Mitchell

My husband, Don, parents, William & Elizabeth Ziegler and my sister, Betty Jean Anderson

by Lila Heath & family

In Loving Memory of Ashley Amanda Hinson and David Hinson,

by Cathy Hinson, Meredith, Joey, Caleigh, and Poppy Mosny and Mary Wimberly

In Loving Memory of Edith and Mendel Hinson, Sr., Buddy Hinson,

Joyce Hinson, William Wimberly and Ken Wimberly

by Cathy Hinson, Randy Hinson, The Mosny Family and Mary Wimberly.

In memory of my late Godmother, Barbara Jo Meale Colaciello *by Brigitte Kettering*

Elizabeth Ann and James Kettering, Betty and Richard Bloomer, Joseph Bloomer, Richard Bloomer

by Rebecca Kettering

Our Mothers Joan S Hodges and Margaret Berry *by Kathy & Steve Berry*

My parents *by Julia Harlow*

Patti McGee *by her family*

Patti McGee and Sallie Schuh *by the Darwins*

GIVEN IN HONOR OF

Ervene Hiers and Doris Bowen *by Melinda and Rocky Accardo*

Our family *by Erin and Pat Mellen*

INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND FAMILY PRAYERS – Liz Lipscomb, Frank and Martha Barkley, Craig Baumer, Susanne McLaughlin, Annie Ravenel, Ervine Hiers, Mary Wimberly, Jennie Harding, Mary Taylor, Catherine Castellano, Allston Kitchens, and Maria Howe.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR GUEST MUSICIANS TODAY – Katie Banish is a student at C of C where she studies with Antonio Marti of the CSO. Elliott Weeks played for us a few years ago as a high school student and is now a student at Baylor University.

CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERING is an opportunity to join other Presbyterian churches throughout the country to support our PC(USA) leaders and honor the faithfulness of current and retired church workers in need. This special offering will be received **this morning** during offering. You can also give online at 2ndpc.org/give.

CAROLING AND S'MORES IN THE PARK in front of the church today, **Dec. 18th** at 5 p.m.

POINSETTIAS – Fill out the form to dedicate a white poinsettia in honor or memory of someone. Poinsettias are \$15 each. Place your form in the offering plate or submit online at 2ndpc.org/advent.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND MIDWEEK GROUPS will resume in 2023. More information available at 2ndpc.org/small-groups.

REMEMBER SECOND CHURCH IN YOUR YEAR END GIVING – We serve a generous God and are blessed by your faithful commitment to God's work at Second. Offering is received during the service but can also be made online through our secure online system at 2ndpc.org/give or text "2ndpc" to 73256, through **Venmo** @chs2ndpc, or by mail (342 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29403). If you have questions about giving, please contact Suzann in the church office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December Birthdays

Jim Kimmitt 27th
Edwin Smythe 30th
Trish Milner 2nd
Annabeth Crabtree 2nd
Harper Most 3rd
Alice Driver 5th
Michael Ott 7th
Julia Driver 7th
Sarah Coleman 8th
Nick Thompson 10th
Bradshaw Milner 10th
Tina Smith 12th
Cathy Lipp 13th
Erin Kerr 15th
Millie Powell 15th
Rosie Bailey 18th
Ervene Hiers 18th
Crevon Brown 19th
Tayshawn Brown 19th
Nancy Brooks 20th
Mary Driver 24th
Sally Barnett Salameh 26th
Jane Stephens 26th
Llewellyn Clarke 28th
Gracie Smythe 29th
Amy Roddey 31st

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SMALL GROUPS

ONLINE GIVING
TEXT "2NDPC" TO 73256

FIND OUT MORE ONLINE
WWW.2NDPC.ORG
ON FACEBOOK
@SECONDPRESCHARLESTON
OR SCAN THE QR CODE
(WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA)



STAFF & LEADERS

Rev. Cress Darwin, Pastor, cdarwin@2ndpc.org

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Lee Lingle, Chancel Choir Director, lee.lingle@2ndpc.org

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Jordyn Pritchard, Director of Communications & Community, jordyn.pritchard@2ndpc.org

Ken Carrington, Director of Children and Youth, ce@2ndpc.org

Co-Directors of SPK, Sue Henderson & Erin Kerr

Housekeeping, Mary Brown

Finance, Patterson Smith

Music and Worship, Wendy Jewell

Personnel, David Savard

Sarah Mitchell, **Elder of Month**

Sue Henderson, **Deacon of the Month**

Videography, Ken Carrington

Christian Education, Jessica Brock

Missions, Sarah Mitchell

Connections Committee, Brittany Jones

Property, Rob McCready