

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today, December 15

CANTATA AT BOTH SERVICES

8:00 am: Chancel Choir Warm up
8:45 am: Worship Service, Sanctuary
9:30 am: Chancel Choir Breakfast, Hospitality Room
9:45 am: Handbell Choir Rehearsal
9:45 am: POP-UP, Fellowship Hall
9:45 am: Sunday School
10:00 am: 4th and 5th Graders Christmas Carol, Offsite
11:00 am: Worship Service, Sanctuary/Live Stream
5:30 pm: Welcome Families to the Alexa House

Monday, December 16

6:30 pm: Al Anon & Alateen, Trent Classroom, Reading Room, Library
6:30pm: Cub Scouts, Cafe
6:45 pm: Scouts

Tuesday, December 17

9:30 am: Staff Meeting
6:00 pm: Music Rehearsal for Longest Night, Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 18

12:00 pm: Bulletin Article Deadline for Dec 22 and Dec 29
5:15 pm: Finance Committee, Zoom and Session Room
6:00 pm: Longest Night, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 19

7:15 am: Men's Bible Study, Reading Room/Zoom
9:30 am: Preschool: Nativity Program, Sanctuary
10:30 am: Women's Bible Study, Session Room

Friday, December 20

Saturday, December 21

THIS SUNDAY

Music

We extend sincere thanks to the Chancel Choir and guest musicians for their presence at both services, in addition to John Frank and his breakfast crew. We appreciate all of you!

Flowers

The pink poinsettias in the Sanctuary today will be delivered to our homebound members during the coming week. Red poinsettias will be in the Sanctuary next Sunday and will remain through Christmas Eve.

Arranged by Denise Revercomb and Cindy Smith.

Ushers

8:45 A.M.: Darin Pearson (Head Usher), Ann Green, Christal Pearson, Lila Pearson.
11:00 A.M.: Chasity Fitzpatrick (Head Usher), Helen Burnette, B.T. Fitzpatrick, Mary Evelyn Russell.

Greeters

Jim and Angie Pittendrigh.

AV Technicians

Miranda Moore, Doug Settles.

Children, Worship, & Wonder

"The Shepherds Show the Way to Bethlehem."
Greeter, Amanda Copeland. Storyteller, Lori Privott. Program Coordinator, Rhesa Bailey.

For a list of church Committee Chairs, visit:
www.spres.org/about/leadership/

For upcoming events, a library of sermons (audio & text), and more, visit our website:

www.spres.org



Staff

Administrator
Nathan Anderson
Choir Director
Dr. Jeffrey Sandborg
Organist
Marianne Sandborg
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Trustees

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Bill Durham
Ken Lyons (Asst. Clerk)

Treasurers

Joe Miller
Bob Martin (Vice Treasurer)

Missionaries

National:
Beth-El Farmworker Ministry; Wimauma, FL
Local:
Presbyterian Community Center, Roanoke, VA

Preschool

Alice Light, *Director*
Lori Privott, *Asst. Director*
www.sprespreschool.com

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN

Finding direction by following Jesus.

214 Mountain Avenue, SW
Roanoke, VA 24016
540-343-3659 • info@spres.org
• www.spres.org •

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday Morning Worship

December 15, 2024



MEMBERS OF THE SESSION OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

Elders - Class of 2024

Maria Blackshaw
Pattie Clevenger
Nancy Gray
Robin Hobbs
Alice Holman
Kenneth Laughon
Betsy Prillaman
Chrissy Underwood

Elders - Class of 2025

Ginger Avis
Susan Carter
John Caudill
Kandy Elliott
Lucinda Hancock
Mark Lawrence
Megan Moore
Darin Pearson

Elders - Class of 2026

Mary Airheart
Margaret Ashburn
Chasity Fitzpatrick
Barry Green
Sally f'Anson
Drew Kepley
Randy Rhea
Ken Sizemore

PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. George C. Anderson, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Elizabeth N.H. Link, Executive Pastor
The Rev. Benjamin S. Brannan, Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults

Large-print copies of services may be requested from an usher.

THE COVER: The *Sing in Exultation* Advent sermon series image was generated by Adobe Firefly Image 3, Nov. 2024.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP – PINK CANDLE OF JOY: (8:45 A.M.) Kit and Brownie Ed Polly (11:00 A.M.) Chris, Elizabeth, and Eleanor Link

WHY THE COLOR PINK? Pink points to the minor theme of Advent, which is joy. The pink, joyful color reminds us that, even as Advent helps us get in touch with our sober yearning for God to come to us, we know that God did in fact come in the person of Jesus.

WHILE WE ARE WAITING, COME will be familiar to those who attended Sunday Advent services last year. Each Sunday, we sang the first verse as a sung response to the Prayer of Confession. The hymn reflects the focus of Advent in addressing past, present and future. *Glory to God; A Companion* says: “The address to Emmanuel in this text speaks to the concern with the past (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23). The invitation to “Jesus, Our Lord” evokes the future-oriented prayer, ‘Come, Lord Jesus!’ (Revelation 22:20) Yet the recurring ‘while we are waiting’ call us back to the present. All these kinds of coming blend in this text.” (*Glory to God; A Companion*, p. 93.)

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION comes from *Feasting on the Word, Liturgies for Year C, Vol. 1*.

DECEMBER 15, 2024
WORSHIP AT 8:45 A.M. AND ON SITE & ONLINE AT 11:00 A.M.
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / CANTATA SUNDAY

Gathering Music *Veni Emmanuel* arr. James Pethel

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude I. *Pastorale* III. *Allegro* (Concerto Grosso Op. 3, No.12)
 Orchestral Ensemble Francesco Manfredini

***Call to Worship**

Throughout all of human history, God’s promise has stayed the same:

“I will be your God, and you will be my people.”

This day we worship our God, whose name “Emmanuel” reminds us of the promise:

God-with-us.

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of joy and give thanks for God’s abiding presence among us.

Let us sing and worship God.

*Hymn No. 92 *While We Are Waiting, Come*
 (11:00 A.M.) Children, Worship, & Wonder participants (Pre-K–1st grade)
 excused during the last verse of opening hymn.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord, have mercy on us. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation.

We enter Advent silence, waiting for the coming of your Saving Word.

Assurance of Pardon

*Response of Praise No. 581 *Gloria Patri*

***Affirmation of Faith**

John 1:1-5

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 overcome it.

Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer *Glory to God* p. 35 (using debts, debtors)

Christmas Cantata *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* J.S. Bach
 (Now Come, Redeemer), BWV 61
 (see insert)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Luke 1:46-55 New Testament p. 827
 The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon *Sing in Exultation: Mary* Dr. George C. Anderson

Moment of Reflection

Call to Discipleship**

Offering

Offertory *The Coventry Carol* Gilbert M. Martin
 Ritual of Friendship

(Please sign the Friendship Pad, pass it along to others in your pew, then return it to center.)

*Doxology (Hymn No. 606)

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn No. 99 *My Soul Gives Glory to My God (Song of Mary)*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Joy to the World (in the Style of Vivaldi)* James F. Konkel

**Please stand in body or spirit.*



THE OUTREACH OFFERING for December will support *Bradley Free Clinic*. For the past 50 years, Bradley Free Clinic has been a lifeline for the underserved members of the Roanoke Valley, offering no-cost medical, dental, behavioral health, and pharmacy services. Over the last 12 months alone, the clinic provided care to more than 3,800 patients—a testament to the increasing need for their services. The demand for dental services continues to increase as they provide care to patients, to children enrolled in the TAP Head Start program, and to immigrant families enrolled in CHIP. Critical services like lab testing are essential for managing chronic illnesses and combating infectious diseases. The on-site pharmacy depends on donor generosity in stocking the medications they urgently need—a need that has risen sharply alongside the expansion of their behavioral health program. By supporting Bradley Free Clinic, you help sustain vital services that transform lives and strengthen our community. Together, we can continue providing hope, healing, and health to those whom most need it. **As of Thursday, Dec. 12, \$466.38 has been collected.**

Monthly Food Collection for PCC: The food items for the month of December are **Christmas season foods** and **baking mixes**. A donation bin is in the coat closet (please check the expiration date before donating).

CCLI #2642604.
 ONE LICENSE #A-742472.

— NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, BWV 61 —

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)
First performance, December 2, 1714 (Advent I)

CANTATA

The cantata is a musical genre that emerged in the late 1600s. Its name is derived from the Italian *cantare*, to sing, while the sonata is instrumental or a piece that is played (*sonare*, to sound or play). A sonata is always instrumental, and a cantata is always vocal and always accompanied by instruments.

The cantata emerged and developed in Italy as an offshoot of opera which, from the late seventeenth century, remained the most popular genre in Europe. One of the many ways that opera influenced the creation of other types of pieces is how it was constructed. The standard template for such works laid out a succession of movements, comprising arias (songs), duets, recitatives (a sort of sung speech), and orchestrally accompanied choruses. Those familiar with Handel's oratorio *Messiah* will recall this pattern. Indeed, oratorio is often defined as a "sacred, unstaged opera."

CHURCH CANTATA

J.S. Bach's many adaptations of this model are found in the Lutheran "church cantata." These pieces comprise a significant percentage of his choral/orchestral oeuvre. Needing a cantata for every Sunday of the year (to reflect, amplify, reinforce, elaborate upon), Bach composed a five-year cycle of these widely varied pieces of which, about 225 are extant.

Very often Bach's church cantatas include a chorale tune (a German hymn) that reflects the Scriptures required for the day. Frequently, there is a choral-orchestral setting of the chorale at the end of the cantata. Traditionally, the congregation joins in the singing but not in today's work!

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (NOW COME, REDEEMER)

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland is an example of how Bach assembled this genre. Composed in 1714 when he was twenty-nine years of age, *Nun komm* uses the chorale, *Now comes the Savior of the World*, in the first movement (in the sopranos). But this cantata is also unusual in its use of a second chorale—but only the last part of it—in the final movement, *Wie schoen leuchtet der Morgenstern* (*How Brightly Beams the Morning Star*).

TEXTS

I – Martin Luther; II, III, V – Erdmann Neumeister; IV – Revelation, 3:20; VI – Philipp Nicolai

The "librettist" (individual who assembled the texts into a whole) was Erdmann Neumeister. Not only did he select the texts but contributed a few of his own (II, III, V) so that he might pull everything into a coherent whole.

The theatrical nature of our cantata text would have resonated with opera goers or simple church goers, as it does today:

I: Mankind invites the savior (Chorus) who arrives to an expectant world.

II, III: The Savior is further encouraged to join and save mankind (Soprano recitative and aria).

IV: The Holy Spirit visits the soul, knocking on the door of the soul (pizzicato stings) and offering to come in (Bass).

V: The soprano soloist (the soul) commands the heart to open the door.

VI: The chorus responds with a resounding "Amen." (Using the last bars of "How Brightly beams the Morning Star" chorale.)

H. W. Gray Publications.

— NOW COME, REDEEMER — NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, BWV 61

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Pattie Clevenger, Soprano
Marianne Sandborg, Soprano
Michael Pikel, Bass
Rick Dolan, Kevin Matheson, Violins

Sam Phillips, Bryan Matheson, Violas
Julia Goudimova, Cello
Cara Hubbard, Organ
Jeffrey Sandborg, Conductor

COME, NOW, REDEEMER OF OUR RACE (CHOIR)

Come, Redeemer of our race, Virgin-born by holy grace.
Hailed by all the wondering earth:
God of old ordain'd His birth.

RECITATIVE (SOPRANO)

The Saviour now appeareth, and our poor human form
of Flesh and Blood He weareth,
that we may all be one with Him indeed.
Oh! Thou most perfect joy;
what wondrous things has Thou not done,
what dost Thou not each day Thy love expressing?

ARIOSO (SOPRANO)

Thou comest down in light to crown Thine own with
blessing.

ARIA (SOPRANO)

Come, Jesu, come, Thy church awaits Thee,
and deign to bless the newborn year.
Help us in all to seek Thy glory, to hold in truth the
sacred story, and grow in love and holy fear.
Come, Jesu, come ...

RECITATIVE (BASS)

Behold, I stand at the door and knock.
If any man hear My voice and open the door I will come
in to him and will sup with him, and he with Me.

ARIA (SOPRANO)

Open wide, my heart, thy portals, Jesus enters in to thee.
Though my dust to dust returneth, He a home in me
hath sought who the soul that He hath bought never
from His presence spurneth. O, how blessed shall I be!

CHORALE (CHOIR)

Amen, amen! O come, Thou crown of all rejoicing;
come, and no more linger. All my soul for Thee is
longing!



SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHANCEL CHOIR

Soprano

Pattie Clevenger
Susan Durham
Sandra Kelley
Cynthia Lawrence
Catherine Prescott
Marianne Sandborg
Jean Sanders
Carol Worley

Alto

Frances Buford
Gloria Burleigh
Lilli Clevenger
Pat Howard
Molly Simpson
CJ Swanson
Betty Wetherington

Tenor

Frank Nave
Rob Nordt
Preston Waldrop
David Wardell
Tom Worley

Bass

Ron Ayers
Bob Cole
Joe Duckwall
Bill Durham
Barry Green
David Harrison
David Johnsen
Paul Kuhnel
Bruce Marquis
Hank Simpson
John Stafford

Dr. Jeffrey R. Sandborg, Director

Christmas 2024

Poinsettia Memorials and Celebrations



In Loving Memory of . . .

- Barbara Inez Boyle Lemon, *given by* William J. Lemon
- John W. and Sadie M.R. Boyle, *given by* William J. Lemon
- James G. and Elizabeth W. Lemon, *given by* William J. Lemon
- Our loved ones, *given by* Martha and Geoff Ottaway
- John Michael Flannagan, Jr. and John Michael Flannagan, Sr., *given by* Debbie Flannagan, Hunter Johnston, and family
- Samuel Gordon Bickford, Jr., *given by* Berta Lowe
- Richard Burleigh, *given by* Gloria Burleigh
- Robert F. and Eva G. McCoy, Mary E. Gammon, *given by* Susan M. Carter
- Gregory W. Carter, *given by* Susan and Meredith Carter
- Our parents and brothers, Mr. and Mrs. George A. McLean, Frank McLean, Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Lineweaver, Jr., and Mrs. Robert N. Lineweaver III, *given by* Al and Anna McLean
- Our deceased loved ones, *given by* Tom and Carol Worley
- Mary Watkins, our mother, *given by* Mary Phillips and Phyllis Hart
- Mr. and Mrs. Arthur T. Ellett (Katherine Tyler), *given by* Frank and Lucy Ellett
- Mr. and Mrs. William Scott Russell (Lucy Brown), *given by* Frank and Lucy Ellett
- Buck and Carolyn, Don and Peggy, Stewart, Nancy, Douglas, Hope, Karen, and Bud, *given by* Steve and Judy Bodley
- Jack and Jeanne Coulter, and Roy and Louise Martin, *given by* Philip and Linda Coulter
- My parents, James R. Stafford and Lee Fink Stafford, *given by* John Stafford
- William S. Trinkle, Jr. and William P. Vinyard, Jr., *given by* Annie Trinkle and Virginia Vinyard
- Stoke and Rosemary Caldwell, and William and Virginia Trinkle, *given by* Annie Trinkle and Virginia Vinyard
- Jack Airheart, *given by* Sara, Mary, Becky and Mike Airheart
- Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth White, *given by* Gwen and Bruce Hauser
- Dr. and Mrs. John Hauser, *given by* Gwen and Bruce Hauser
- Betty and Dick West, *given by* Becky and Jeff Mackey, and Sara West
- Paul C. Buford, Jr., *given by* Frances B. Buford
- Nellie Bishop, Charlie Cole, and Peter Leggett, *given by* Nancy and Jim Bishop
- Jim Settles and Ron Howlett, *given by* Betsy Settles Howlett

- Alma Newman, *given by* Johnny and Pam Newman Morris
- My family, Percy, Ramona, and Mac Rhea, *given by* Randy Rhea
- Bill Mangus, *given by* Robert and Carol White
- Billy White, *given by* Robert and Carol White
- Our parents, *given by* Robert and Carol White
- LaVonne R. Smith, *given by* Fletcher Smith
- Harry F. Smith, Sr., Ruth O. Smith, and Charles O. Smith, *given by* Fletcher Smith
- Dick Burleigh, *given by* his children and grandchildren
- Ronald J. Mack, *given by* Darin, Christal and Lila Pearson
- Frederick A. Wilson and Nancy R. Wilson, *given by* Marc and Cathy Swanson
- James R. Swanson and Jeanette G. Swanson, *given by* Marc and Cathy Swanson
- Ed Dunbar, Al Kreger, and Doris Kreger, *given by* Brandon, Margaret, and Whit Ashburn and Lee, Sarah, Wells, and Eliza Kreger
- Warren and Doris Moorman, *given by* Bill and Susan Durham
- Richard and Ramona Durham, *given by* Bill and Susan Durham
- Judy Durham, *given by* Bill and Susan Durham
- Aidan McCool, *given by* Bill and Susan Durham
- Marjorie Burry, *given by* Sally, Lawrence, and Ryan I'Anson
- Maxwell Burry, *given by* Sally, Lawrence, and Ryan I'Anson
- Ted Burry, *given by* Sally, Lawrence, and Ryan I'Anson
- Harold and Mary Schmidt, John and Dorothy Arbogast, Debbie Cortez, John Arbogast, and Dan Arbogast, *given by* Marilyn, Brian, Nicole, Maria, Scott, Erin, Elijah, and Olivia Arbogast
- Nonna, Papa, and Uncle Dan, *given by* Maria, Elijah, and Olivia Arbogast
- Our parents, William C. and Nancy Smith; Betty Anderson, *given by* Brady and Martha Anderson
- Lee Lazarus, *given by* Jim and Susan Bailey
- Chip Lazarus, *given by* Jim and Susan Bailey
- Nancy Bailey, *given by* Jim and Susan Bailey
- Dick Bailey, *given by* Jim and Susan Bailey
- Patty Bailey, *given by* Jim and Susan Bailey
- Our parents, *given by* Terry and Cathy Lauver
- Floyd Firing, *given by* Terry and Cathy Lauver
- Bob and Jeanette Williams, *given by* Suzanne Fischer
- Charlie Loftin, *given by* Catherine Loftin Odum, Rob, Alice, and Cassie Odum
- Roberta and Charles "Bud" Fichtenger, *given by* Sue Stanley and Laura McKaskel
- Mary Betty and Connie Sellers, *given by* Sue Stanley and Laura McKaskel
- Our grandmothers, *given by* John and Mary Emily Thomas
- Robert S. Bersch, *given by* Martha Bersch
- Phyllis and Walter Dickey, *given by* Phyllis and Randy Norbo and family
- Harriette and Pegram Johnson, Jr., *given by* Pegram and Bonnie Johnson
- Gail and Marvin Greer, *given by* Pegram and Bonnie Johnson
- George A. Barrows, *given by* the Barrows family
- Paul and Virginia Dalton, *given by* Dave, Lisa, and Quinn Miller
- George and Edith Miller, *given by* Dave, Lisa, and Quinn Miller
- Arnold and Betty Johnson, *given by* Dave, Lisa, and Quinn Miller

- Mary Stuart and Larry Stanley, *given by* Ellen Stanley Booth
- Dot Hart, *given by* Ellen Stanley Booth
- Ned McElwaine, *given by* Joyce Harris
- Anton and Loretta Haas, *given by* Allison, Laura, Stephen, and Patty Lemon
- Aunt Jean, *given by* Allison, Laura, Stephen, and Patty Lemon
- Barbara Lemon, *given by* Allison, Laura, Stephen, and Patty Lemon
- Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Lemon, *given by* Allison, Laura, Stephen, and Patty Lemon
- Mr. and Mrs. John W. Boyle, *given by* Allison, Laura, Stephen, and Patty Lemon
- Our parents, Joyce and Bill Kirk, *given by* Bill and Shireen Kirk
- Our parents, Cambrai and Desmond Hayes, *given by* Bill and Shireen Kirk
- Our beloved niece, Alexa Cannon, *given by* Bill and Shireen Kirk
- My parents, *given by* David Harrison
- Martha and John Wesley Hardt; Clara, Michael, and Jimmy Lesko, *given by* Betty and Ed Lesko
- Fred and Bobbie Richardson, *given by* Rick and Pam Murray
- Richard and Evelyn Murray, *given by* Rick and Pam Murray
- John R. Francis, Jr., *given by* Rosemary Francis, Neil Francis, and Beckett Francis
- H.R. and Ada Peterman, *given by* Ann, Nancy, and Peter
- Kari's mother, Carol Rodning, *given by* Kari and Devon Munro
- Fred and Ferrel Phillips, *given by* Corey, Kimberley, Melissa, Houghton, and their families
- Peter Frentz, *given by* the Underwood family
- Barbara Wilson, *given by* the Underwood family
- Ted Powers, *given by* the Underwood family
- Elizabeth and Oakey Hansbarger, *given by* Alice Hansbarger Rivas
- Gordon and Lucille Pullon, *given by* Jim and Angie Pittendrigh
- Cloyd and Christine Pittendrigh, *given by* Jim and Angie Pittendrigh
- John W. and Sadie R. Boyle, Barbara Boyle Lemon, John W. Boyle, Jr., *given by* Kirk and Sarah Ludwig
- James G. and Elizabeth W. Lemon, *given by* Kirk and Sarah Ludwig
- Dr. William R. Klein and Dorothy M. Klein, *given by* Kirk and Sarah Ludwig
- Barbara Boyle Lemon, *given by* Kirk and Sarah Ludwig, Catherine Villada, and Caroline Welchman
- Elizabeth Ann Welchman, *given by* Kirk and Sarah Ludwig, Catherine Villada and Stephen Joseph, and Caroline and Evan Welchman
- Leonardo Ospina Villada, *given by* Kirk and Sarah Ludwig, Catherine Villada and Stephen Joseph, and Caroline and Evan Welchman
- Our mothers, Martha Powell Dillon and Ellen Hawks Lawrence, *given by* Cynthia and Mark Lawrence
- Cullen Dillard Lawrence, *given by* Cynthia and Mark Lawrence
- Our dear neighbor, Helen Fitzpatrick, *given by* Cynthia and Mark Lawrence

In Celebration and in Honor of . . .

- My children, *given by* Gloria Burleigh
- Our family, *given by* Chris and Ann Bickley
- Our children and grandchildren, Mac McLean, Rob, Lindsley, June, Elin, and Lucas McLean, *given by* Al and Anna McLean

- Juanita Shumate, *given by* Andy Shumate
- Bill and Susan Lancaster, *given by* Pierce and Emily Lancaster
- Connor, Robert, Parker, Lawson, Heys, and Grove Fralin, *given by* Pierce and Emily Lancaster
- Our children and grandchildren, *given by* Carl and Mary T. Bivens
- Carole Mayberry, *given by* Elizabeth Vacher and Bill Blaylock
- Dr. George Anderson, *given by* Robert and Carol White
- Rev. Elizabeth Link, *given by* Robert and Carol White
- Rev. Ben Brannan, *given by* Robert and Carol White
- Jeff and Marianne Sandborg, *given by* Robert and Carol White
- Our daughters, *given by* Robert and Carol White
- Gloria Burleigh, *given by* her children and grandchildren
- Pam and Trip Kreger, and Dorothy Dunbar, *given by* Brandon, Margaret, and Whit Ashburn and Lee, Sarah, Wells, and Eliza Kreger
- Alice Light, Lori Privott, and the 2PC Preschool teachers and staff, *given by* the 2PC Preschool Committee: Megan Moore, Margaret Ashburn, Emily Roseman, James Moneymaker, Rebekah Gunn, and Laura Delgado
- John Brady, Julia, and Wyatt and Meg Anderson, *given by* Brady and Martha Anderson
- Alice Loftin, *given by* Catherine Loftin Odum, Rob, Alice, and Cassie Odum
- Ben Harris, *given by* Joyce Harris
- Our amazing mother, Sara Airheart, *given by* Becky, Mike, and Mary Airheart
- Our wonderful children and grandchildren: Catherine and Charles, John Michael, Anne and Richard, Ann Ashley, Lauren, Chase, Hardt, Crawford, Jimmy, Henry and Ginny, *given by* Betty and Ed Lesko
- Our children, Dane and Gracie, *given by* Kari and Devon Munro
- Lori Privott, *given by* Alice Light
- Second Presbyterian Chancel Choir, *given by* Jeffrey and Marianne Sandborg
- Our ministers and staff, *given by* Kirk and Sarah Ludwig
- Our Chancel Choir, *given by* Kirk and Sarah Ludwig
- Our grandchildren: Oliver, Eleanor, and Hannah, *given by* Kirk and Sarah Ludwig
- James Michael Dillon, *given by* Cynthia and Mark Lawrence
- Our wonderful goddaughter, Anne Tillison Avis, *given by* Cynthia and Mark Lawrence



**SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN**

Finding direction by following Jesus.

214 Mountain Avenue, SW
Roanoke, VA 24016

*We welcome your notes of correction to this listing.
(540-343-3659)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE | WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18 | 6:00 P.M. | SANCTUARY: For those who have experienced loss, the holidays can be a particularly painful time, stirring up grief in acute ways. A Longest Night service is designed to provide space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance amidst the holiday hustle and bustle. Therefore, we hope this offering may provide a space of calm, quiet, and healing for many. Join the Rev. Elizabeth Link at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18 in the Sanctuary for this meaningful time of worship.

PRESCHOOL NATIVITY | THURSDAY, DEC. 19 | 9:30 A.M. | SANCTUARY: Come and experience the Christmas story shared through the Preschool Nativity program on Thursday, December 19 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Preschool children and their families are joyfully invited, and church members are also welcome to attend.

CHRISTMAS CARD COLLECTION: Just before Thanksgiving, the last of the Bankers Boxes filled with Christmas cards and envelopes, as well as several rolls of stamps, were delivered to the chaplains of the Roanoke Area correctional institutions. Thanks to your generosity with your leftover unused Christmas cards and envelopes left in the Jail Ministry Box after Christmas last year, together with the addition of new boxes of cards provided by the Service and Outreach Committee's Jail Ministry funds, each chaplain received approximately 400 cards and envelopes as well as two rolls of stamps that will be distributed to the inmates of each institution. As Rev. Dan Netting, pastor of the First Christian Church in Salem and Roanoke County Jail and the Western Virginia Regional Jail chaplain, said: "...these cards mean a lot to the men and women who are isolated from their families. Not just having a card to send to someone, but also the images on the cards help them to remember better days and to imagine the hope that God is still with them now." We will begin collecting cards for next year's Jail Ministry donation beginning the week of December 9th. If you have leftover unused cards sitting around from this year's Christmas mailing, look out for the Jail Ministry box in the coat closet. Thank you again for helping to make this gift possible. – Service and Outreach Committee

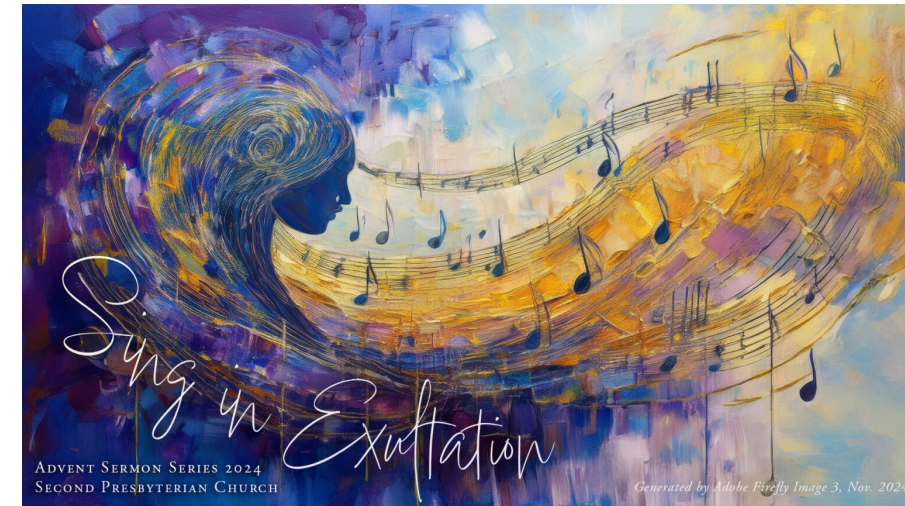
KNITTED HATS FOR HIGHLAND PARK ELEMENTARY STUDENTS | RETURN FINISHED ITEMS ASAP: Thanks to all those who have been knitting this season! Reminder to return your finished hats and scarfs to the Hospitality Room closet by early December. This program was started by our beloved Margaret Foss. Contact Emily Mallory with questions (540-344-1780).

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES: If you're seeking ways to give back and support the community this holiday season, be sure to check the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall for details. Numerous mission partners are in need of volunteers, and we believe that the gift of your time can truly transform lives. Opportunities are diverse, ranging from tutoring children and youth to assisting with food preparation and pantry stocking, as well as bell ringing for the Red Kettle program, gleaning apples, and more! Questions? Contact Service & Outreach Chair Alice Holman (aliceholman08@gmail.com).

NOTICES ON YEAR-END GIVING: *Important Notice:* To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, please do not file your 2024 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church. You may lose a deduction for some contributions if you file your tax return before receiving this written acknowledgment.

Timing of Contributions: In order for your contributions to the church to be deductible in 2024, they must be brought to the church by Tuesday, December 31 or postmarked by December 31, 2024. If the office is closed, please put your contributions in the administrator's mailbox in the staff workroom.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST | JANUARY 5, 2025 | 9:45 A.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL: On Sunday, January 5, members and visitors of all ages are invited to attend a pancake breakfast during the Sunday school hour in Fellowship Hall. This breakfast is sponsored in partnership by the Christian Education Committee and the Congregational Life Committee. Let us take time to share a meal together, get to know recent members and confirmands from the 2024 year, and give thanks to those Sunday school teachers who work tirelessly all year long. Regularly scheduled Sunday school classes for all ages will resume on January 12.



“SING IN EXULTATION” ADVENT SERMON SERIES SUNDAY MORNINGS DECEMBER 1-29, 2024

Jesus was born into a weary world, bringing good news of great joy for all people. In a season of lament, his birth sparked joy and song from angels and elders, a new mother and an old priest. At Second Presbyterian, our Advent sermon series, “Sing in Exultation,” celebrates the good news of Jesus when and where we least expect it.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP THIS ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON

Regular Sunday Morning Worship:

- 8:45 a.m. Early Service, Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 a.m. Late Service, Sanctuary/Live Stream

Christmas Eve Dec. 24:

- 12:00 p.m. Noon Service, Sanctuary/Live Stream
- 5:00 p.m. Family Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service, Sanctuary

Sunday school will not meet on December 29, though Children, Worship, & Wonder (for children in Pre-K through first grade) will meet on December 29 during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Sunday school will resume for all ages on January 12.

Learn more at www.spres.org.

ADVENT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES: CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL December 1, 8, 15 & 22 | 9:45 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

Join Carter Brothers and the 2PC Victorian Repertory Theatre Troupe (with George Anderson cast as Scrooge!) each Sunday during Advent where they will be raising “the Ghost of an Idea” that Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol in Prose, Being a Ghost Story of Christmas* can help you experience deeper and more meaningful Advent and Christmas seasons. Each Sunday, Carter will lead us through the Advent themes presented in that week’s Stave (Dickens preferred that archaic music term, being a carol after all, to our more familiar “chapter”) while the Troupe recreates one or two memorable scenes to “set the stage” for our discussion. The church will have some copies of the Dickens’ classic available on a first-come, first-to-enjoy status, but you may wish to procure your own copy for the study. Until then, God bless us, everyone!

Image source: Wallpapers.com

