

**Second Presbyterian Church**

**214 Mountain Avenue, SW**

**Roanoke, VA 24016**

**540.343.3659 • www.spres.org • info@spres.org**

**SECOND  
PRESBYTERIAN**

*Finding direction by following Jesus.*

**CHILDREN/YOUTH MUSIC DIRECTOR AND ACCOMPANIST**

Alison Conte, Children's Choir Director

Marianne Sandborg, Accompanist

**NATIVITY CAST**

|                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>John the Baptist:</b> | Grayson Johnston  |
| <b>Gabriel:</b>          | Graelynn Connelly |
| <b>Shepherd:</b>         | Jack Flannagan    |
| <b>Angel:</b>            | Lila Pearson      |
| <b>Wise Man:</b>         | John Barnett      |
| <b>Joseph:</b>           | Fielding Barnett  |
| <b>Mary:</b>             | Lydia Bryan       |

**WELCOME TO SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

We are delighted to have you worship with us this Christmas Eve! If you are new to the area or new to Second, we would love to learn more about you. Please consider joining us again for worship or any of our Christian education or choir programs.

**Upcoming Dates:**

**Sunday, December 29**

8:45 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Worship with Children, Worship, & Wonder (Pre-K–1st grade), Sanctuary

*Please Note: No Sunday school on Dec 29.*

Please join us in the New Year for Sunday school and worship.

**Beginning again on Jan. 5:**

8:45 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages\*

11:00 a.m. Worship with Children, Worship, & Wonder (Pre-K–1st grade), Sanctuary

*\*Also on January 5, please join us for the annual Pancake Breakfast for all ages in Fellowship Hall (9:45-10:45 a.m.).*

Middle and High School Youth Group will resume on Sundays (5-6:30 p.m.) January 5.

Kids' Fellowship (4 years olds [by 9-1-24] through 5th grade) will resume on Sundays (5-6:30 p.m.) January 26.

**Thank you!** Our gratitude is expressed to all the children and youth readers, musicians, and their families for their participation and support of this program. Special thanks to Alison Conte and Marianne Sandborg (accompanist) for leading tonight's children's choir.

*If you would like to learn more about Second Presbyterian Church, please visit our website at [www.spres.org](http://www.spres.org).*



*Artwork by Macy Moore, age 8*

# *Christmas Eve Family Worship Service*

*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*

# Christmas Eve Family Worship Service

DECEMBER 24, 2024 · 5:00 P.M. · SANCTUARY

|                           |  |                          |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Gathering Music           | <i>O Come, Little Children</i>   | Dale Wood                |
| Prayer of Preparation     | <i>May we see with the eyes of a child the one who came as a child,<br/>and in seeing may we believe and be born anew. Amen.</i> |                          |
| Welcome and Announcements |  | Rev. Elizabeth N.H. Link |
| Prelude                   | <i>For Children At Christmas</i>   | James Southbridge        |
| Introit                   | <i>Silent Night</i><br>Garrett Waters, Soloist   |                          |

\*Call to Worship and Candle Lighting Stuart, Jessica, Campbell, Tucker, and Barrett Tims  
(Adapted from liturgies by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.)

On this holy night, we gather as many –  
**As strangers and friends, as the faithful and the wondering,**  
We gather as many and as one community.  
**We come to seek the light, the hope, the Good News.**  
On this holy night,  
**we wait for God to come to us again.**  
We light the Christ candle, for the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overwhelm it.  
**Let us sing and worship the God who comes to us even now.**

\*Hymn No. 133 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (v. 1)

\*Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer Ethan Connelly

## THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS

|  |  |                   |
|--|--|-------------------|
| <b>Isaiah Promises Peace</b><br>Isaiah 9:2, 6-7<br>Hymn No. 82 | <i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i> (v. 1) | Anna Bryan        |
| <b>An Angel Visits Mary</b><br>Luke 1:26-31                    | <i>For You</i><br>Children's Choir           | Camille Cocowitch |
| <b>Mary and Joseph Go to Bethlehem</b><br>Luke 2:1-5           | <i>Little Donkey</i><br>Children's Choir     | Breckan Connelly  |
| <b>The Baby is Born</b><br>Luke 2:6-7                          | <i>Silent Night</i><br>Children's Choir      | Grant Cocowitch   |

## Angels Announce the Good News to the Shepherds

Luke 2:8-14

Claire Cocowitch

*Have You Heard the Good News?*  
Children's Choir

## The Wise Men Follow a Star

Matthew 2:1-2, 9-12

Hymn No. 151

*We Three Kings of Orient Are* (v. 1)

Paige Baako

## We Offer Our Gifts to the Christ Child

The Manger Offering

Campbell Tims

*We dedicate our 16th annual Manger Offering today to benefit Family Promise of Greater Roanoke,  
which serves those who temporarily find no room at the inn. Family Promise helps families struggling  
to overcome homelessness by providing them temporary housing and skills development.*

Offertory

*What Child Is This?*

John A. Behnke

## THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

### The Sacrament of Infant Baptism for Howard James Revercomb

Presiding Elder: Stuart Revercomb

Prayer for Illumination

Carol of Preparation No. 145

*What Child Is This* (v. 1)

\*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.

Presentation of our Brother in the Faith

## THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

\*Hymn No. 134

*Joy to the World*

(Children are invited to lift their glowing stars high as we sing this last hymn.)

\*The Christmas Blessing

\*Postlude

*We Three Kings*

arr., Diane Bish

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING:** Advent is a season in the Christian year that lasts for about four weeks. During this season, Christians prepare for celebrating the birth of Jesus by remembering the longing of the Jews for a Messiah. The four outer candles are the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Tonight, on Christmas Eve, we also light the fifth and center candle, the Christ candle.

**BAPTISM:** During today's service, George and Abbey Revercomb bring their son, **Howard "Howie" James Revercomb**, for the Sacrament of Infant Baptism. The presiding elder is Stuart Revercomb, Howie's grandfather.

**USHERS:** Margaret Ashburn, Lucinda Hancock, Alice Holman, Chrissy Underwood.

Copies of the **2024 Poinsettia Memorials and Celebrations** list may be requested from an usher or found at the front desk. The red poinsettias will remain in the sanctuary through tonight's 10:00 p.m. service. Anyone wishing to take one home or to a friend may do so after the conclusion of the 10:00 p.m. service.