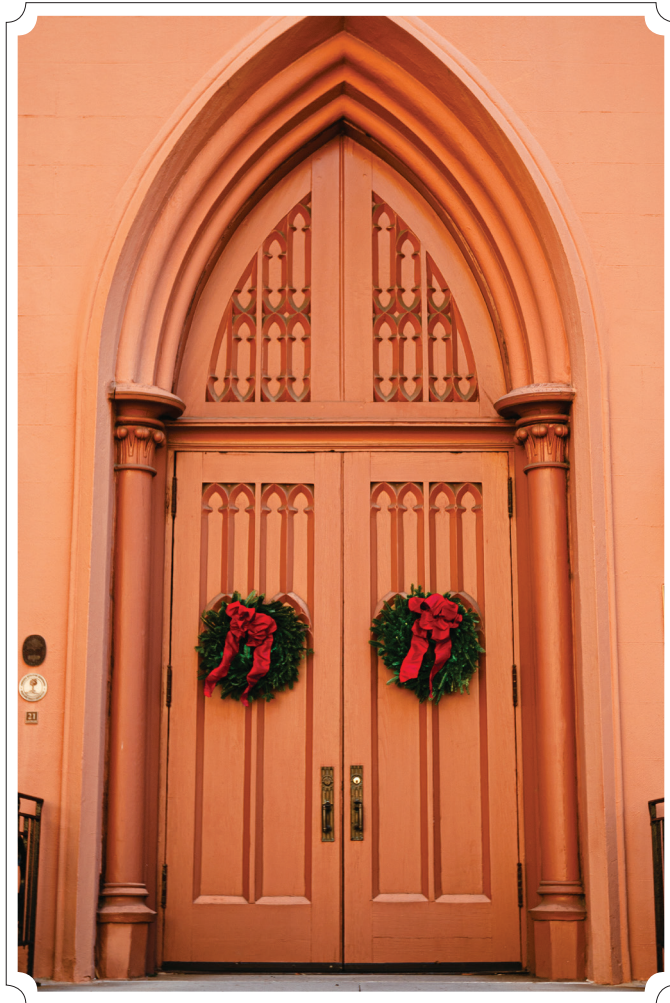


ESTABLISHED 1795

# First Presbyterian Church



*Lord's Day, December 21, 2025*

6:00 P.M.

1324 Marion Street, Columbia, SC

# EVENING WORSHIP

6:00 P.M.

*We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also  
the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.*

JOHN 1:45b, ESV

(+ Congregation, please stand if able.)

**VOLUNTARY** *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

J. S. Bach

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**INTROIT** *Still, Still, Still*

Arranged by Daniel Cole

*Still, still, still, weils Kindlein schlafen will!  
Maria tut es niedersingen,  
Ihre keusche Brust darbringen.  
Still, still, still, weils Kindlein schlafen will*

*Schlaf, schlaf, schlaf, mein liebes Kindlein schlaf?  
Die Engel tun schön musizieren,  
Vor dem Kindlein jubilieren.  
Schlaf, schlaf, schlaf, mein liebes Kindlein schlaf?*

*Gross, gross, gross, die Lieb ist übergross!  
Gott hat den Himmelsthron verlassen  
Und muss reisen auf der Strassen,  
Gross, gross, gross, die Lieb ist übergross.*

Still, still, still, the child wants to sleep!  
Mary gently sings him to rest,  
And offers him her chaste breast.  
Still, still, still, the child wants to sleep!

Sleep, sleep, sleep, my dear little child, sleep!  
The angels are making beautiful music,  
Rejoicing before the little child,  
Sleep, sleep, sleep, my dear little child, sleep!

Great, great, great, the love is ever great!  
God has left his heavenly throne  
And must wander through the streets,  
Great, great, great, the love is ever great!

Holly Cole, soprano; Nathanael Cole, baritone  
Dr. Ann Wilson, piano

## CALL TO WORSHIP

+ **HYMN 199** *See, Amid the Winter's Snow*

SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW

+ **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

+ **HYMN 229** *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

## EVENING PRAYER

Rev. Sean Henderson

## PRESENTATION OF EVENING OFFERINGS

**OFFERTORY** *He Shall Feed His Flock from Messiah*

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 labour, come unto Him 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.

Isaiah 40:11, Matthew 11:28–29

### + DOXOLOGY

TALLIS' CANON

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:19–23  
(Pew Bible page 808, Children's Bible page 1021)

**SERMON** “He Shall Be Called a Nazarene”

Dr. Mark Ross

### PRAYER

+ **HYMN 230** *Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor*

QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

### + BENEDICTION

+ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Joy Has Dawned*

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation:  
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for ev'ry nation.  
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,  
But a humble gift of love, Jesus born of Mary.

CCLI No. 4408246

**POSTLUDE** *Andante from Carol Symphony*

Victor Hely-Hutchinson  
Arranged by Robert Gower

Mr. Thomas Russell, organist

## WORSHIP AT FIRST

Thank you for turning off cell phones during the worship service.

The Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask a deacon for a receiver.

Nurseries for children to the age of four are provided in the Education Building. A quiet room with a live video feed of the service is available in the Education Building, Room 113. There, mothers may attend to the needs of their children.

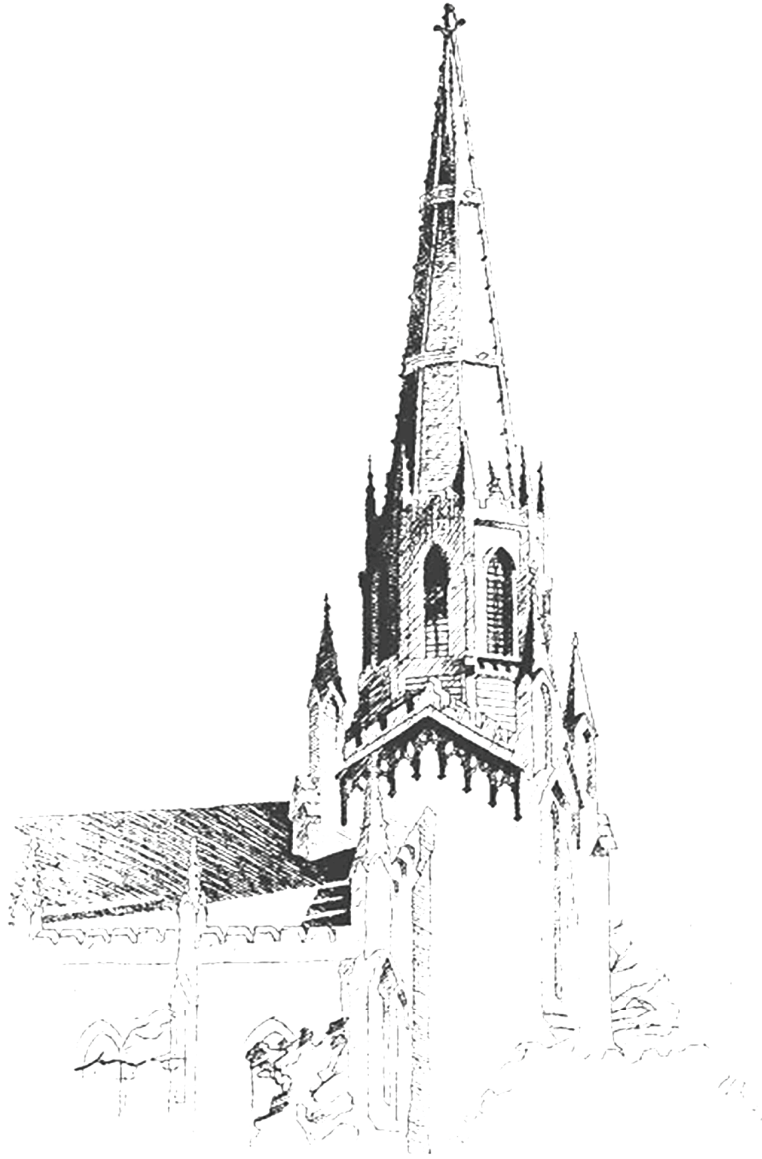
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Please join us for our **New Year’s Eve Worship Service** and the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper on Wednesday, December 31, at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Dr. David Lauten will preach on Psalm 145 on the topic, “A Psalm for the New Year.”

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

## + HYMN 199

*See, Amid the Winter's Snow*

SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW

See, amid the winter's snow,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See the tender Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Lo, within a manger lies  
He who built the starry skies:  
He who, throned in height sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim.

Say, ye holy shepherds, say—  
What's your joyful news today?  
Wherefore have ye left your sheep  
On the lonely mountain steep?

“As we watched at dead of night,  
Lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
Angels singing, ‘Peace on earth,’  
Told us of the Savior's birth.”

Sacred infant, all divine,  
What a tender love was thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss  
Down to such a world as this!

Teach, O teach us, holy child,  
By thy face so meek and mild,  
Teach us to resemble thee,  
In thy sweet humility.

# PRAYER OF INVOCATION

## + HYMN 229

*Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

Gentle Mary laid her child  
Lowly in a manger;  
There he lay, the Undefined,  
But no more a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place,  
Can he be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race  
Who have found his favor.

Angels sang about his birth,  
Wise men sought and found him;  
Heaven's star shone brightly forth,  
Glory all around him.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,  
Heard the angels singing;  
All the plains were lit that night,  
All the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child  
Lowly in a manger;  
He is still the Undefined,  
But no more a stranger.  
Son of God of humble birth,  
Beautiful the story;  
Praise his name in all the earth,  
Hail the King of glory!

## EVENING PRAYER

Rev. Sean Henderson

## PRESENTATION OF EVENING OFFERINGS



## **OFFERTORY** *He Shall Feed His Flock from Messiah* 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

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Come unto Him, all ye that labour, come unto Him that are heavy laden,

And He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him,

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Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Matthew 2:19–23

(Pew Bible page 808, Children's Bible page 1021)

<sup>19</sup> But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, <sup>20</sup> saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.” <sup>21</sup> And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup> But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup> And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

**“He Shall Be Called a Nazarene”**

**PRAYER**

**+ HYMN 230**

QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

*Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor*

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,  
All for love's sake becamest poor;  
Thrones for a manger didst surrender,  
Sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.  
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,  
All for love's sake becamest poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising,  
All for love's sake becamest man;  
Stooping so low, but sinners raising,  
Heaven-ward by thine eternal plan.  
Thou who art God beyond all praising,  
All for love's sake becamest man

Thou who art love beyond all telling,  
Savior and King, we worship thee.  
Emmanuel, within us dwelling,  
Make us what thou wouldst have us be.  
Thou who art love beyond all telling,  
Savior and King, we worship thee.

## + **BENEDICTION**

## + **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

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