

A vertical photograph of a night sky. A bright star with a four-pointed diffraction pattern is in the upper left. A thin vertical line of light extends from the star down the left side of the frame. The sky is a deep blue with many faint stars. At the bottom, the dark silhouettes of evergreen trees are visible against the horizon.

Hope

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Jackson, Tennessee

December 1, 2019

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:30 AM

THE CHURCH GATHERS

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *O Lord: keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom. Make us strong in faith, so we may greet your Son when he comes, and joyfully give him praise, with you, and with the Holy Spirit. In the name of Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE *Intrada* Young

CHORAL INTROIT *Rejoice and Sing* Page
Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP/

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Will, Miranda, Lana and Addie Harbin

RESPONSE *(all singing, refrain only Hymn: 88)*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

TO PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

##PROCESSIONAL HYMN: 81 *(Please stand at the introduction to the hymns)*

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

AUSTRIAN HYMN

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Bob Redding

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Bob Redding

One: God of light and life, you set before us today the challenges of laying aside the works of darkness; of putting on the light of Christ; of being watchful and prepared for your coming in our midst in the person of Jesus Christ. As the people of God in this place we know that a crucial part of our witness is in revealing Christ to the world through the way we love and care for one another.

All: *Forgive us if we do not reveal evidence in us of the One who is to come.*

One: So many people, young and old, grope in the gloom of despair and suffering, yearning for the light of hope to dawn in their lives.

All: *Remind us that the light of Christ shines through people like us – people who claim to follow him.*

One: Merciful God, cleanse our hearts and minds of all that hinders us from loving you and loving our neighbor.

All: *May our lives radiate faith active in love, as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more in the person of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Bob Redding

One: Salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers: the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the Light of the World, Jesus Christ, in whom and through whom we are forgiven.
(based on Romans 13:11b, 12,14a)

All: *Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!*

##CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn: 468, stanzas 3&4)

LORD, BE GLORIFIED

In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In your church, Lord, be glorified today.

In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

TO GIVE THANKS, PETITION AND INTERCESSION

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM

O Little Town of Bethlehem
Chancel Choir

arr. Wilberg

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Rev. John White

(After the Time with Children, our young friends ages 4-2ND grade are invited to the Children's Church in the Education Building. An adult will escort the children. After church the children will be escorted to their appropriate Sunday School rooms. Grades 3-5 are invited to remain in the Sanctuary for worship.)

*HYMN: 392

Jesus, We are Here

JESUS, TAWA PANO

MINUTE FOR MISSION

"Stewardship"

Elder Carol Sue Keathley

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (p. 35 in front of hymnal)

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bob Redding

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 2:1-5 (page 631-632)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 24:36-44 (page 27-28)

One: This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

"What Time Is It?"

Rev. John H. White

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (in unison)

The Apostles' Creed (Traditional), p. 35

*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.*

*(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew,
sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)*

OFFERING

ORGAN

Voluntary and Fughetta on STUTTGART

Callahan

OFFERTORY

Dr. Terry McRoberts, Organist

*Doxology (Tune: 607)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*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.*

*Dedicatory Prayer

Bob Redding

TO GO OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: 93**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION:**

Come, Lord Jesus
Chancel Choir

Page

***ORGAN POSTLUDE**

Hymn Improvisation on HYDRYDOL

Westenhuehler