

## NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

### Sunday, January 7 - Epiphany - Communion at both services

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service  
 9:45 a.m. - Youth handbell rehearsal  
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages  
 4:00 p.m. - Take down the Christmas Decorations

### Monday, January 8

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringer Rehearsal

### Wednesday, January 10

6:00 p.m. - WNL Meal (Taco Bar)  
 7:00 p.m. - Service of Healing and Wholeness in the sanctuary  
 7:30 p.m. - Board of Deacons  
 7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, January 14

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service  
 9:45 a.m. - Youth handbell rehearsal  
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

### Monday, January 15

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringer Rehearsal

### Wednesday, January 17

5:45 p.m. - WNL Meal (Baked Potatoes with Chicken)  
 6:30 p.m. - Adult Bible Study led by Dr. Carol Stephenson (Psalms)  
 6:30 p.m. - Art Class by Pete Allen (Oil painting)  
 7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 7:30 p.m. - Session Meeting

### Sunday, January 21

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service  
 9:45 a.m. - Youth handbell rehearsal  
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

### Monday, January 22

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringer Rehearsal

### Wednesday, January 24

5:45 p.m. - WNL Meal (Salisbury Steak)  
 6:30 p.m. - Adult Bible Study led by Dr. Carol Stephenson (Psalms)  
 6:30 p.m. - Pete Allen will lead an oil painting class  
 7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 7:30 p.m. - Christian Education Committee in Crossroads classroom

### Sunday, January 28

7:30 a.m. - Men's Council Breakfast  
 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service  
 9:45 a.m. - Youth handbell rehearsal  
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages  
 6:00 p.m. - Annual Congregational Dinner and Meeting



### THE CHALLENGE

The 100 Can Challenge continues as we collect can goods and other non-perishable items. The donated items will be given to Sharing Life, as they feed those in need in our community. The total collected in December was **243 items. Thank You!**

### THOSE WHO SERVE

Rev. Dr. E. Jones Doughton, Pastor  
 Ryoji Shimo, Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist  
 Renee Stormer, Administrative Assistant  
 Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Wilbanks, Pastor Emeritus



## \* Wednesday Night Live \*

Join us for Winter 2024

Come experience the new format of our Wednesday Night Live. Don't miss out on an always delicious dinner prepared by Chef Rod beginning at 5:45 p.m. All adult classes begin at 6:30 p.m.

**January 10 - Dinner at 6:00 p.m. followed by Worship Service - Service of Healing and Wholeness.**

**Session 1 - January 17 through February 7**

Adult Classes: Bible Study on the book of Psalms led by Dr. Carol Stephenson. Oil Painting with Pete Allen.

**February 7 - Dinner at 6:00 p.m. followed by Worship Service - Ash Wednesday.**

**Session 2 - February 14 through March 20**

Adult Classes: A Lenten Bible Study led by Rev. Doughton, or Oil Painting with Pete Allen.

## Annual Congregational Dinner and Meeting



**Sunday, January 28 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Please bring a covered dish to share.**  
**We suggest a Meat, Side Dish, Salad, or Dessert.**

*If you chair a committee, please send your annual report for 2023 to Renee by Monday, January 15.*

## Budget and Stewardship

Our 2023 budget is \$350,000

Your contributions to the church are so important. Please don't forget your pledge.

### DECEMBER 2023

	BUDGET Y-T-D	ACTUAL Y-T-D
Income	350,000.00	341,296.62
Expenses	350,000.00	356,193.69

As of DECEMBER 31, 2023, our expenses exceed our income by \$14,897.07 Also remember that your pledge to the church includes your time and talents, as well as, your treasures.

# GUIDE TO WORSHIP

January 7, 2024

8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

## About the Cover Picture

This road is on the northern edge of Galilee. Jesus met a Leper along a road in our Gospel story today. Neither was the same after the exchange.



*Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! We hope you find a welcome here worthy of the gracious God we serve. Conventions in this bulletin include: an asterisk (\*) invites you to stand, as health allows, material printed in **bold** is for the congregation to sing or say, and material printed in italics may provide some helpful information. Let us worship God!*

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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MESQUITE, TEXAS 75149

972-285-5602

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## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

### STRIKING OF THE HOUR FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *In the Bleak Midwinter* arr. Hugh S. Livingston, Jr

INTROIT 136 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* arr. John W. Work, II

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!  
While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.  
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

CALL TO WORSHIP *Philippians 1:2*  
Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### And also to you.

Arise, shine: for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. The grace of God has dawned upon the world and healing for all humankind.

\*HYMN 134 *Joy to the World*

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of grace, You have given us Jesus, the Light of the world. However, we choose darkness and cling to sins that hide the brightness of Your love. Immersed in ourselves, we have not risen to the new life. Baptize us with Your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may preach Your word to the nations and tell of Your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Light forever. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

\*RESPONSE (*Hymn 581*)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. A—men. A—men.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS #

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #

Almighty and All-Knowing God-as we seek Your light at this time, open our minds that we may find Your Hope, open our spirit that we may find Your peace, open our hearts that we might find Your love, open our wills that we might find Your joy as Your Word is read and preached in Jesus Name, Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON #

*Malachi 4:5-6*

Lo, I will send you the prophet Elijah before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. He will turn the hearts of parents to their children and the hearts of children to their parents, so that I will not come and strike the land with a curse.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON #

*Mark 1:40-45*

A leper came to Him begging Him, and kneeling the leper said to Him, 'If You choose, You can make me clean.' Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' Immediately the leprosy left Him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him Jesus sent him away at once, saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to Him from every quarter.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*HYMN 127 *Jesus, the Light of the World*

SERMON *I do Choose* Rev. Doughton

\*HYMN 152 *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Good King Wenceslas* arr. Noreen Lienhard  
Ryoji Shimpo, Pianist

\*DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

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.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION †

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Reception of the Sacrament

Prayer after Communion

\*HYMN 151 (*vs. 1-4*)

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE 151 (*vs. 5*) *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Sounds through the earth and skies.

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

POSTLUDE *We Three Kings* arr. Chip Davis

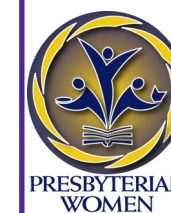
*Following the Response we will have our Postlude. Please be seated as the Postlude begins. You are encouraged to use all of the Postlude as part of the worship service. If you wish to pause and then leave during the music, please do so in a worshipful way. Rev. Doughton will be at the door to shake hands.*

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

**Elder #** - Dr. Carol Stephenson (8:45); Meg GarverHamilton (11:00)

**Deacon/Ushers †** - Nick Scholl, John Futrell and David Howard (8:45);

Nick Scholl, John Futrell, Linda Fricke, and Sharon Condarco (11:00)



The Presbyterian Women are collecting gift cards for women who are escaping "Trafficking." An organization, *New Friends, New Life*, assist them with counseling and financial help. Thru them the gift cards can be distributed. Please purchase them redeemable to Wal-Mart, Target, Amazon and/or Dollar Store.

There will be a basket for them in the Welcome Center. The amount should not exceed \$25. Please write the amount on the back of the card.

The last day to contribute will be Sunday, January 14, 2024.