

NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

Sunday, January 5

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed at both worship services

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

4:00 p.m. - Take Down Decorations from Advent and Christmas

Tuesday, January 7

9:15 a.m. - Presbyterian Women Morning Circle

7:00 p.m. - Presbyterian Women Evening Circle

Wednesday, January 8

7:00 p.m. - Service of Healing and Wholeness

7:30 p.m. - Board of Deacon's Meeting

7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 12

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Tuesday, January 14

7:00 p.m. - Christian Education Committee (*2nd Tuesday)

Wednesday, January 15

5:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Live Begins - Dinner

6:30 p.m. - Classes

7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 19

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Tuesday, January 21

7:15 p.m. - Session Meeting (*3rd Tuesday)

Wednesday, January 22

5:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Live Begins - Dinner

6:30 p.m. - Classes

7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 26

7:30 a.m. - Men's Council Breakfast

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

6:00 p.m. - Annual Congregational Dinner and Meeting

Wednesday, January 29

5:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Live Dinner

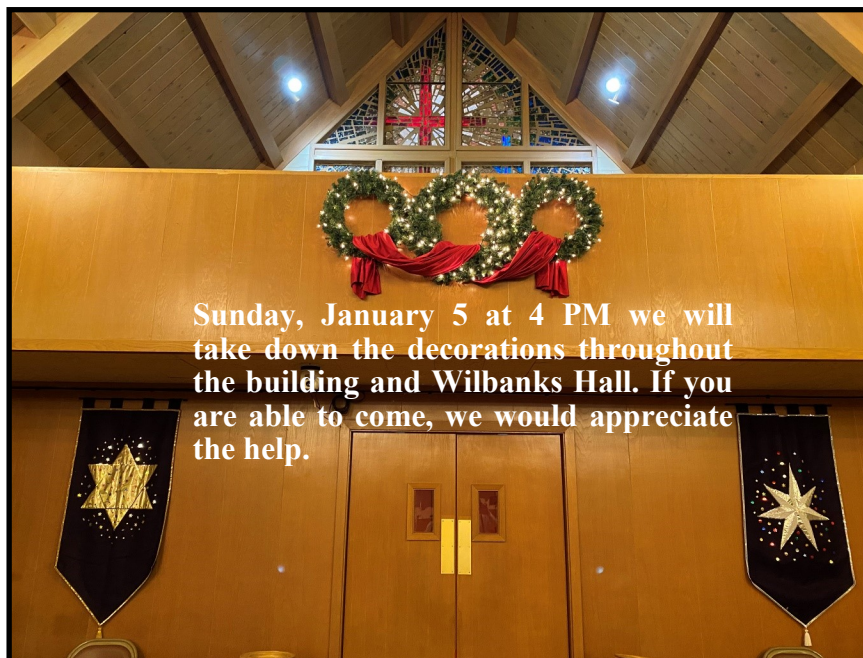
6:30 p.m. - Wednesday Night Live Classes

7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL DINNER AND MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 @ 6:00 P.M.

Please join us for a potluck supper and annual meeting on Sunday, January 26 at 6:00 p.m.

If you are a committee chair, please submit your annual report for 2024 to Renee Stormer by January 15.



Sunday, January 5 at 4 PM we will take down the decorations throughout the building and Wilbanks Hall. If you are able to come, we would appreciate the help.

The Presbyterian Women, along with the Ladies Who Love the Lord, will be participating in Sharing Life's "Warm Campaign" through **January 17th**. We will be collecting **coats, hats, scarves, gloves, long underwear, and blankets**. These can be gently used. If you would like to donate to our mission, you may place your items in the basket in the front hall. Many people need assistance at this time of year. We can make a difference in someone's life. Thank you for your involvement in our community. ~ Susan Farmer, Moderator

THOSE WHO SERVE

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

GUIDE TO WORSHIP

January 5, 2025

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

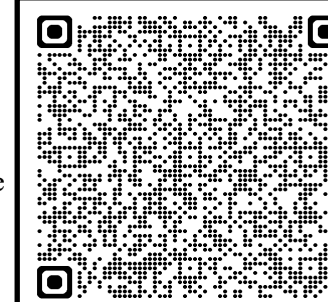
About the Cover Picture

The Star on the bulletin cover is from The Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. This star is above the site where Mary placed Jesus after giving birth. One can see that this Star is fully lighted, unlike the Christmas Eve Star. Christ has now brought the light to the world. As the Christmas Eve Star from the Church led us to look down, may this Star lead us to look upwards. May it serve as a reminder to look up and out to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. May this Star lead us to wonder, imagination, and mission.



ONLINE GIVING OPTION

Have you ever thought of giving online? If you would like to give online you may scan the QR Code, this will take you to the giving button on our website.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1028 SOUTH BELT LINE RD

MESQUITE, TEXAS 75149

972-285-5602

www.fpcmesquite.org



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. In December we collected **149 items**. **Thank You!**

Feeding the Community

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

STRIKING OF THE HOUR FOR WORSHIP

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

INTROIT 136 (vs.1) *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* American Spiritual
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 watchin o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, through-out the heavens there shone a holy light.

CALL TO WORSHIP *Philippians 1:2; Isaiah 60:1, Titus 2:11*
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 82 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

*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.

*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

Thy Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. As Your Word is read and preached may it guide us in the right path, may it direct our steps, and may it lead us to our hearts true desire in Jesus Name. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON # *Isaiah 52:13-53:12*

See, My servant shall prosper; He shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at Him—so marred was His appearance, beyond human semblance, and His form beyond that of mortals—so He shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of Him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For He grew up before Him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him. He was despised and rejected by others; a Man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as

(continued)

One from whom others hide their faces He was despised, and we held Him of no account. Surely He has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted Him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the punishment that made us whole, and by His bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so He did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice He was taken away. Who could have imagined His future? For He was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made His grave with the wicked and His tomb with the rich, although He had done no violence, and there was no deceit in His mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush Him with pain. When you make His life an offering for sin, He shall see His offspring, and shall prolong His days; through Him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of His anguish He shall see light; He shall find satisfaction through His knowledge. The righteous One, My Servant, shall make many righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong; because He poured out Himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON # *Luke 2:29-32*

"Master, now You are dismissing Your servant in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 134 *Joy to the World*

SERMON *Song of Simeon and Anna* 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 Shimpō, 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 bring,
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.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder # - Dr. Carol Stephenson (8:45); Ann Smith (11:00)

Deacon/Ushers † - Madison Marin, Schyler Marin,
Taylor Hammer, and Sheila Hammer