

(to Deacon) Will you be a faithful **Deacon**, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need, and in your ministry try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ.

Candidate: I will.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE PEOPLE

Elder: Do we, the members of the church, accept these people as Elders and Deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

People: **We do.**

Elder: Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the church?

People: **We do.**

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

RECOGNITION OF NEW CHURCH OFFICERS

RECOGNITION OF NEW TRUSTEE

PRESENTATION OF THE TRUSTEES

Elder: Mr. Moderator, Ann Kyle has been elected to serve as a Trustee of the church for the class of 2028. We wish to recognize the responsibility she has accepted.

ADDRESS TO THE TRUSTEE

Moderator: God has given you special gifts to serve Him, and we have chosen you for special work. Under the law of the state, you will conduct business for the church, as authorized by the Session. By your energy, honesty and fairness you will demonstrate Christian faith to those you deal with on our behalf.

QUESTION TO THE TRUSTEE

Moderator: Do you promise to give the business affairs of this congregation your devoted attention, to encourage generosity and, in all your dealings, work to further our service of Christ in the world?

Trustee: I do.

QUESTION TO THE PEOPLE

Moderator: Do you receive this person as your Trustee, and do you promise to support her in his work for the church?

People: **We do.**

THE PRAYER

Holy God: You made the world and called it good, and appointed us to manage things as agents of your love. Guide all Your servants who represent us to be wise children of light, who show Your trust by being trustworthy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*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.**

(continued)

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 136

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

VOLUNTARY

Following the Response we will have our Postlude. Please be seated.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elder # Dr. Ron Smith

Deacon/Ushers - Rodney VanSickle,
David Hammons, Harriet Jones, and Paul Luce

FLOWERS

If you provided a **poinsettia** for the sanctuary,
please feel free to take it home after this service.

NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

Sunday, January 4

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service w/Church Officer Ordination/Installation

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

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

Monday, January 5

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers Rehearsal

Tuesday, January 6

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

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

Wednesday, January 7

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

7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 11

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

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

Monday, January 12

7:00 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers Rehearsal

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

GUIDE TO WORSHIP

January 4, 2026

10:00 a.m.

About the Cover Picture

Look up to the Star. We will acknowledge the Wise Men and the Star they followed on January 4, 2026. Based on the text in Matthew we know it took some time. In a sense, this Sunday, the second Sunday of Christmas, acknowledges that journey. It is a process of discovery. This Sunday we will Ordain and Install new officers. Let us pray for our officers as they give leadership to First Presbyterian for the year ahead.



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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

STRIKING OF THE HOUR FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

INTROIT 151(vs.1) *We Three Kings of Orient Are* John Hopkins, Jr.

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

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

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 # *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 # *John 3:27-30*

John answered, "No one can receive anything except what has
been given from heaven. You yourselves are my witnesses that I
said, "I am not the Messiah, but I have been sent ahead of him."
He who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the
bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the
bridegroom's voice. For this reason my joy has been fulfilled. He
must increase, but I must decrease."

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of
Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking,
"Where is the Child Who has been born king of the Jews? For we
observed His star at its rising, and have come to pay Him
homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and
all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests
and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah
was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it
has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the
land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people
Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned
from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he
sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the
Child; and when you have found Him, bring me word so that I
may also go and pay Him homage." When they had heard the
king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that
they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where
the Child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they
were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the
Child with Mary His mother; and they knelt down and paid Him
homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered Him
gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned
in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country
by another road.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

SERMON *Take the Light to the World* Rev. Doughton

*ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

THE SENTENCES

There are different gifts,

But it is the same spirit Who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,

But it is the same Lord Who is served.

God works through different people in different ways,

**But it is the same God Who achieves His purpose through
them all.**

Each one is given a gift by the Spirit,

To use it for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,

Individually we are members of Him.

Though we have different gifts, together we are a ministry of recon-
ciliation led by the risen Christ. We work and pray to make the
church useful in the world, and we call men and women to faith, so
that in the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord, in the glory of God the Father. Within our
common ministry, some members are chosen for particular work as
ministers of the word, Ruling Elders or Deacons. In ordination, we
recognize these special ministries, remembering that our Lord
Jesus said: "Whoever among you wants to be great must become

(continued)

the servant of all, and if he wants to be first among you, he must be
the slave of all!"

**Just as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve and
give His life to set others free.**

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Elder: Mr. Moderator, speaking for the people of the church, I bring
Terry Lynn White, and Mary St. Claire Doughton to be ordained
and installed as Elders, Rodney Leon Graham, Roger Benton Foltz,
Robert Paul Luce, Evelyn Hedwig Gertrude Parker, and Sheryl D.
Miller to be installed to duty on the Session. And, speaking for the
people of the church, I bring MacKenzie Lou Aynes to be ordained
and installed as to duty on the Board of Deacons.

(Officers-elect will present themselves - please come forward.)

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

Moderator: Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge
Him Lord of all and Head of the church, and through Him believe in
one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Candidate: I do.

Moderator: Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New
Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative
witness to Jesus Christ in the church universal, and God's Word to
you?

Candidate: I do.

Moderator: Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets
of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church
as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to
believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those
confessions as you lead the people of God?

Candidate: I do and I will.

Moderator: Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ,
under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our
confessions?

Candidate: I will.

Moderator: Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will
you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your
colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of
God's Word and Spirit?

Candidate: I will.

Moderator: Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus
Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the
world?

Candidate: I will.

Moderator: Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of
the church?

Candidate: I do.

Moderator: Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelli-
gence, imagination and love?

Candidate: I will.

Moderator: *(to Elders)* Will you be a faithful **Elder**, watching over the
people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you
share in government and discipline, serving in the governing bodies
of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and
justice of Jesus Christ?

(continued)