

# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude *Dr. Mary Crowell, Dr. Jenny Maclay, Amy McNally*

Welcome and Announcements Dr. Karl Kling

\* Call to Worship Elder Jerry Witt

LEADER: Shepherds and angels announced good news for people everywhere!

**PEOPLE: Christ, our Savior is born. He is the Messiah, the Lord.**

LEADER: Glory to God in the highest heaven!

**PEOPLE: Christ's peace is for God's people of every nation.**

LEADER: Let us worship God!

## Lighting of the Christ Candle- Suzanne, Chris and Avery Paysinger

\*Carol of Praise O Come, All Ye Faithful #133

\*Christmas Eve Prayer of Praise and Adoration Jerry Witt

**Our Loving God , we praise you for the child who was born to be our Savior. With people throughout the world, we worship Him as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We praise you in Jesus' name, Amen.**

\*Call to Confession

Christ came to save us, not because of good things we have done, but because of God's never-failing love. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin to God and each other.

\*Prayer of Confession Unison

**Our Loving God, you send your Son into the world, but sometimes we do not make a place for Him in our lives. You give His Spirit to guide us, but too often we do not follow. At times, we are selfish and fail to share your good gifts with our neighbors. Forgive our sin. Fill our hearts and lives with your kindness and gifts for all people. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.**

\* Kyrie Eleison Unison

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!  
 You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!  
 You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

\*Assurance of Forgiveness Dr. Kling  
Friends, God has given you the gift of the Holy Spirit. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, you have a new family. You belong to God. Hear and receive the good news of God's never-ending love. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **PEOPLE: Thanks be to God!**

\* The Gloria Patri Unison  
**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; Amen.**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.  
**All: And also with you.** Dr. Kling

# WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

"This Little Light of Mine"

Time with Young Disciples Dr. Kling

Prayer for Illumination Jerry Witt

Our Gracious God, we pray that you will open our hearts to hear wonderful things as the Scriptures are read. Please shine the light of Christ in our hearts and lives. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen

First Reading Luke 2: 1-7 Jerry Witt  
p. 1,014

Anthem O Holy Night *Boyd Jackson Dr. Crowell*

Second Reading Luke 2: 8-16 Dr. Kling  
p. 1,014-15

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *REEL STORIES OF CHRISTMAS* Dr. Kling  
4: "A Real Christmas"

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

\*Carol of Celebration Angels We Have Heard on High #113

\* Affirmation of Faith Unison  
The Apostles' Creed

**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.**

Invitation to Worship God with Our Christmas Offering

Offertory *Dr. Mary Crowell, Dr. Jenny Maclay, Amy McNally*

\*Doxology  
**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 Dr. Kling

Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table Dr.Kling  
The Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

With fresh eyes and renewed hope, we join our voices with those around the world and with your heavenly choir in lifting up our thanks and prayers...  
(Dr. Kling continues with the Communion Prayer)

The Lord's Prayer Unison

**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.**

The Words of Institution Dr.Kling

Sharing the Bread and Cup  
**Please hold each element until all have been served.**

\*Christmas Eve Benediction & Passing of the Christ Light

Christmas Carol of Sending Silent Night, Holy Night #122

*Please remain seated while we are singing the Carol of Sending. The ushers will light the candles of the persons sitting near the pew aisles. Once your candle is lighted, please hold it upright while the person next to you dips their candle into the light of your candle. When all the candles are lighted, we will process out the front entrances of the church, carrying the Christ Light into the world.*

\* Postlude *Dr. Mary Crowell, Dr. Jenny Maclay, Amy McNally*

*\*Stand if you are able*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### CHURCH FAMILY

Marv & Elizabeth Price (Health)	Duane Counter (Health & Healing)
Larry and Cynthia Ugarte` (Healing)	Suzanne Weeks (Healing)
Doris Welch (Home)	Jac Catlett
Dean Steele	Diane Lynn (Health)
Susie Fogg (Home)	Gale Cottles (Healing)
Sharon Massey	Christy Arnett (Healing)
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health)	Ken (Healing) and Connie Brown
Debbi O'Neill (Healing)	

### THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Brandon Noel - Army	Sean Miller - Army
Adam Naves - Marines	Damien Williams - Army
Kevin O'Neill-Army Nat. Guard	Michael Ress - USAF -AZ
Joshua Hargrove - Deployed	Jay Tulley- Middle East
Justin Ruf- Army Air Guard	

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Bob Defour (Doyle & Suzanne Weeks son-in-law)  
Brent Harris (Friend of Chris Hilgeman)  
Larry Harris, ( Healing, friend of Chris Hilgeman  
Sue Guyer (Health & Healing, Bonny Noel's sister)  
Gerry Smith(loss of Spouse cousin of Jan Ruth)  
Alex Noel (Nephew of John & Bonny Noel)  
Bill Grisham (Health, Pam Gregg's dad)  
Hazel Ruf (Mason Ruf's mother, home)  
Gary Kilgo (Health, Kay Baugher & Carol Quillen's family member)  
Karen Ferguson (Potter's Hand)  
Sherry Thompson (Healing, sister of Christy Arnett)  
Keith Clem (Healing, cousin of Chris Paysinger)  
Silvana Smith (Loss of Spouse cousins of Jan Ruth)  
Amy Cotten (Potter's Hand)  
John Cotten (Healing, Potter's Hand)  
Telula Thornton (Healing and Comfort, mother of Karan Baker)  
Phyllis Ramshur (Health, mother- in - law of Sean Harbin)  
Mike Frehner (Support, friend of David Lyle)  
Dawn (Healing, mother of Brittney Hicks)  
Cindy Newman (Healing, cousin of Chris Hilgeman)  
Jesse Saunders (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)  
Rick Monroe (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)  
Candee & Blair Berger (Loss of a spouse & father damage from  
the hurricanes, friend of Jan Ruth)  
Martha Taylor(Healing, mother of John Cagle)  
Shane Cramer (Healing, neighbor of Jan Ruth)

## Silent Night



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light  
4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and  
glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -  
ra - dian beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing  
with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"  
grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.  
King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

### Worship Leaders

#### Sermon:

Dr. Karl Kling

#### Liturgist:

Elder Jerry Witt

#### Musicians:

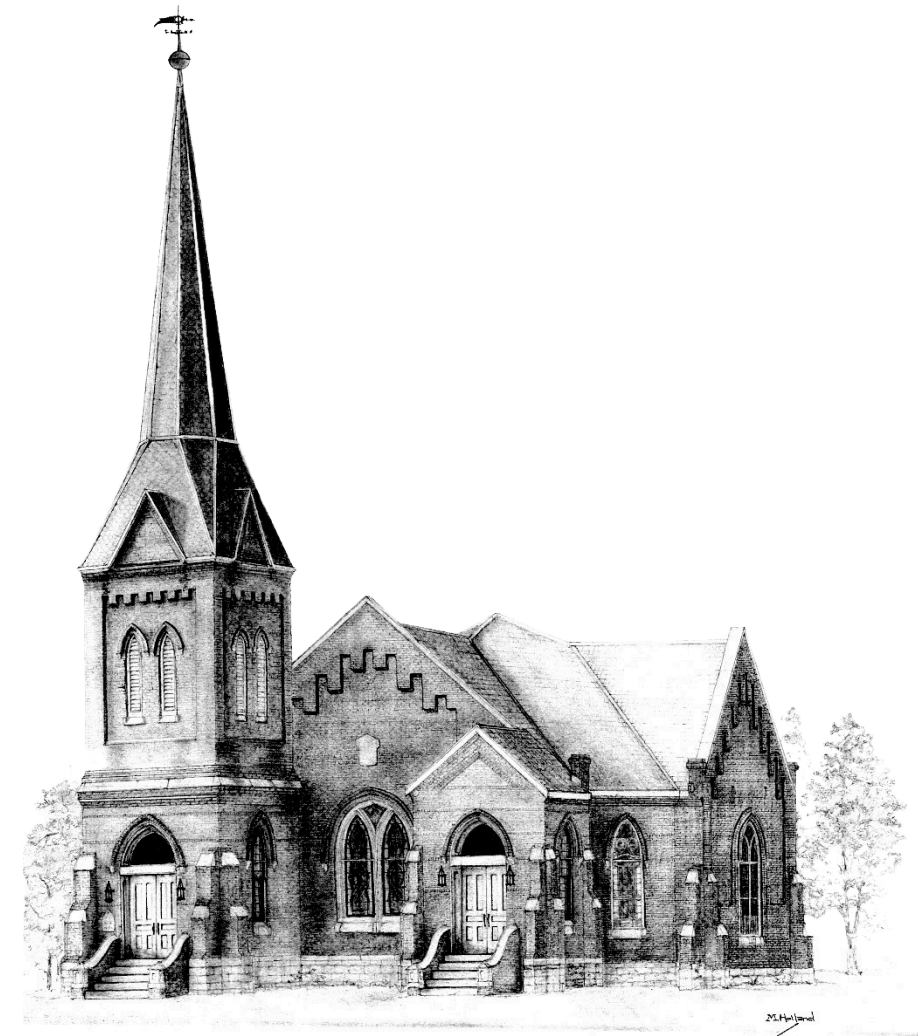
Erica Hand  
Emily Clem  
Dr. Mary Crowell  
Dr. Jenny Maclay  
Amy McNally  
Boyd Jackson

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December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve



First Presbyterian Church  
112 South Jefferson Street  
Athens, Alabama 35611

(256) 232-0122  
[www.fpcathens.org](http://www.fpcathens.org)

*We serve each other, the Athens community, and the world on the square in downtown Athens. Our church family is a community of believers who come seeking the grace and peace of God.*

*If you are looking for a place where you will be accepted, nurtured, and nourished in your journey of faith, or if you are still examining the claims of Christianity, then you are welcome at First Presbyterian Church.*