

# First Presbyterian Church

Tullahoma, Tennessee

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22, 2024

Vision Statement:

Worshipping God, growing together, serving others, and welcoming all

Service for the Worship of God – 10:30 a.m.



## Welcome and Announcements

*If you are visiting with us and would like to leave your contact information, please, fill out the “Welcome” card (located in the pew rack) and place it in the offering plate later in the service.*

### Prelude

*Still your heart and prepare to worship God.*

*Water is poured into the baptismal font calling us to remember our baptism.*

*The acolytes symbolically bring the light of Christ into the service.*

### Call to Worship (responsively)

Led by Liturgist

A voice cries:

**“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”**

As we worship today, let us prepare to welcome God’s dramatic work in our midst, in our hearts, in our community, and in all of creation.

**Let us worship God.**

### Invocation

Liturgist

### Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Mary Grigsby and Diana Hamilton

*Please use the insert “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” – Week 4*

### \*\*Hymn No. 143

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

### \*\*Call to Confession

Liturgist

### \*\*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Led by Liturgist

**Gracious God, we have not always kept watch for you. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns. We have not waited to find your will for us. We have been slow to notice the needs of those around us. We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us. Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Help us to wait to know your will. Help us to look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for your coming. Amen.**

**\*\*Choral Response, No. 95 (2 times)**

*Prepare the Way of the Lord*

*Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,  
and all people will see the salvation of our God.*

**\*\*Assurance of Pardon**

Liturgist

**\*\*Choral Response, No. 586**

*Alleluia*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

**Story Time with Young Christians**

**Special Music**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Lesson: Micah 5:2-5a**

Found on page 865 in the Old Testament of the pew Bible  
Holy Word, Holy Wisdom

**Thanks be to God**

**Second Lesson: Luke 1:39-55**

Found on page 57 in the New Testament of the pew Bible  
Holy Word, Holy Wisdom

**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon: "A Bomb Shell"**

**\*\*Affirmation of Faith (unison)**

**We believe in the living God, the God of all people, who creates life, and who daily sustains the universe. We believe in Jesus, the Christ, the man of Nazareth, revealer of God and model of all humanity; the greatest gift of love and the guide for all our living. We believe in the Spirit of God, a spirit that inspires us to creative living, and empowers us to be persons of hospitality, compassion, joyfulness and love.**

**\*\*Hymn No. 121**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**Prayers of the People (Leader) and 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.**

**Presentation of Ourselves and of our Gifts**

Call to Offering

Liturgist

*Contributions can also be made online at [www.fpctullahoma.org](http://www.fpctullahoma.org)*

Offertory

**\*\*Doxology, No. 609**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures high and low.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**\*\*Prayer of Dedication**

Liturgist

**\*\*Hymn No. 151**

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*

*Acolytes take the light out of the service, symbolizing that worshippers  
are to take the light of Christ into the world where our service begins.*

**\*\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*\*Postlude**

**\*\*All who are able are invited to stand.**

Ministers – Our entire congregation  
Stephen G. Yates, Pastor  
David Hiebert, Organist  
Katie Prasser, Minister to Children  
Bethany Sterling, Minister to Youth  
Robert Wright, Choir Director  
Alan Harris, Liturgist

## **Announcements for December 22, 2024**

### **Sunday, December 22**

9:00 Sunday school for adults

10:30 Worship service

### **Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

**6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service in the sanctuary**

### **Wednesday, December 25 – Nativity of the Lord/Christmas Day**

**Church office is closed on December 25 and 26.**

### **Saturday, December 28**

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Girls Night Out quilters using Fellowship Hall

### **Next Sunday, December 29**

10:30 Worship service

11:30 Nominating Committee meeting in the parlor

**Thank you** to all the elves who helped with the Christmas decorations all around the church and the Anthony Annex: Bethany Sterling, Katie Prasser, Charlotte Broyles, Helen McClure, Stephen Yates, Yevonne Yoder, Alan Harris, Clay Bearden, and Debbie Brown.

Thanks, also, to those who purchased poinsettias and/or contributed to the Christmas decorating fund.

A very special thank-you goes to Thelma (Fuffy) Bearden for the meticulous planning, many shopping expeditions, and directing the elves in bringing the beautiful plan to fruition. Many hours have gone into making the magic happen!

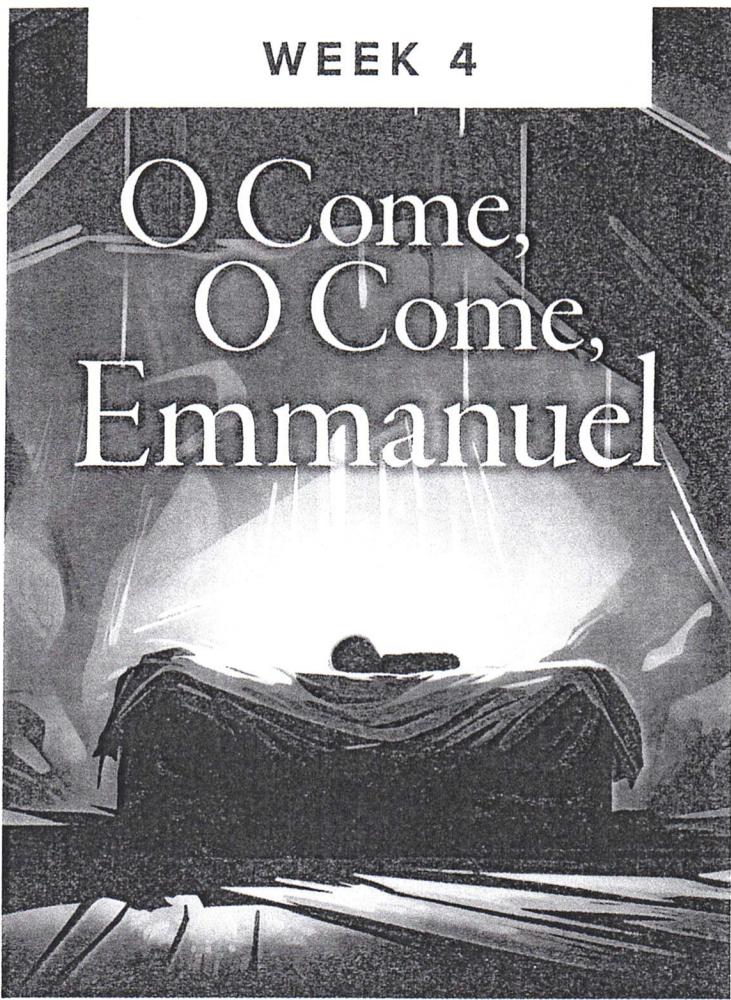


**Christmas JOY Offering is being received throughout December.**

**Stephen will be away from January 3 – 14.**

**Michael Bradley will be filling the pulpit on January 5 and January 12.**

# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
Who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times did give the law  
In cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel.

- L** *Though an infant small, Jesus is mighty to save all people on earth.*
- C** He is wrapped in glory for our deliverance.
- L** *There is glory in his life and in his death.*
- C** And we have seen his glory.
- L** *There is glory in his rising.*
- C** We will glory in his resurrection from the dead when we enter paradise with him.

O come, O Bright and Morning Star,  
And bring us comfort from afar!  
Dispel the shadows of the night  
And turn our darkness into light.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel.

*(Light four candles on the Advent wreath.)*

Melody.....Veni, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel.

- L** *Emmanuel came to the little town of Bethlehem on a seemingly silent night.*
- C** But the glory of the Lord shone around the shepherds when the angels arrived.
- L** *With many voices, the angels say, "Glory to God in the highest!"*
- C** With our voices this Christmas we say and we sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

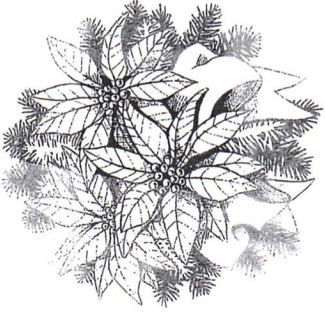
## HE COMES WITH GLORY

*(Daily Bible readings for the fourth week in Advent.)*

- Sunday.....Revelation 22:12-16
- Monday.....John 1:5-9
- Tuesday.....Luke 2:1-7
- Wednesday..... Luke 2:8-14
- Thursday.....Hebrews 1:1-4
- Friday.....Malachi 4:2-5
- Saturday..... Psalm 116:12-19

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2024



*Thank you to the following  
for providing poinsettias  
and decorations  
for this special season.*

Anonymous Donor  
*in memory of Linda Thomas*

Clay and Thelma Bearden  
*in memory of Josh and Eleanor Bearden  
in memory of Walter and Mary Vogelgesang*

Behrendorff Family  
*in memory of Betty and Al Henninger*

Elmo Birkhead  
*in honor of Michael and Martha Bradley*

Charlotte Broyles  
*in memory of Hal Broyles*

Claudine Coile  
*in memory of John Coile and Joanie Coile*

Alan and Susan Harris  
*in memory of Tom and Mayme Lee Harris  
in memory of Irby and Annie Lee Lightner  
in honor of grandchildren*

Karla Haws  
*in memory of Dr. and Mrs. Carl H. Haws*

David and Joyce Hiebert  
*in memory of their parents*

Bob and Elaine Huffines  
*in memory of Boyd and Vera Huffines; Warren and Dot Tyre;  
in memory of S.Sgt. Marc Golczynski and David Golczynski*

Hildegard and J. Ray Joellenbeck  
*in memory of Raymond H. Joellenbeck*

Clark Lawrence Family  
*in memory of Evelynne Lawrence*

George Lawrence  
*in memory of Evelynne Lawrence*

Jim and Helen McClure  
*in honor of Steve and Matt McClure*

Ron and Lana Parker  
*in memory of Charles Jacks*

*in memory of Horace and Beatrice Parker*

Ken and Ardeana Patterson  
*in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Crenshaw  
in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Patterson*

Sherry Ray

*in memory of her parents Sara C. Ray and William R. Ray  
and her brother Bill Ray*

Doug Thomas  
*in memory of Linda Thomas*

*in memory of Jimmy Dale Cartwright*

Jim and Linda Yates  
*in honor of Stephen, Audrey, Jonah, and Luke Yates*