



# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Sunday of Christmas

---

December 29, 2024

10:50 a.m.

---

## ✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

*Rev. Bill Pollack*

Prelude

*Max Jackson*

### Low How a Rose is Blooming

## † Call to Worship

*Kim Whitman*

Leader: Come, people of God. Let us give thanks for these holy days of Christmas.

**People: Here we have come to worship the God of new beginnings and new opportunities.**

Leader: Come, people of God. Let us celebrate and rejoice for the wondrous gifts given to us.

**People: Here in our worship, we look to the future as we are filled with the gifts of Christmas: love, hope, peace, joy!**

**All: Here we are together as people of faith and hope to celebrate the good news of Jesus Christ. O come, O come, Emmanuel!**

## † Hymn of Christmas

#133

### O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;

O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

Refrain: *O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him;*

*O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!*

True God from true God, Light from light eternal,

born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;

very God, begotten, not created! [Refrain]

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;

sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest! [Refrain]

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! [Refrain]

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God, in Your great compassion, save us from being exhausted now that Christmas Day has passed. Spare us from a let down because we have bought into cultural expectations of a materialistic Christmas. Free us to adore the wonder of Jesus' birth, to cherish the simplicity of offering the gift of ourselves, to bow in grateful praise at the splendor of Your love. Let Christ be born in us, again and again. We ask these things in His name. Amen.**

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response**

#113 (Refrain 2x)

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

**Children's Message**

*Pastor Bill*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**The Epistle Lesson**

Galatians 4:4–7 (NRSV)

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup>And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God**

All People That on Earth do Dwell

All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell.  
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;  
without our aid He did us make;  
we are His folk; He doth us feed,  
and for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise;  
approach with joy His courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless His name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good;  
His mercy is forever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.

† **The Gospel Lesson**

John 1:1–5, 10 – 14 (NRSV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in Him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him, yet the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was His own, and His own people did not accept Him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory as of a father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ!

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**“Because He Has Come”**

**✠ We Respond to God’s Word ✠**

**† Hymn of Response**

#145

What Child is This?

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet

while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,

whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear; for sinners here, the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through;

the cross be borne for me, for you.

Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

So, bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;

come, one and all, to own Him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.

Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

**† Affirmation of Faith**

*Apostles’ Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

## **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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## **Offering Acknowledgement**

*Special Offering: Pastor's Discretionary Fund*

### **† Doxology #143 (4)**

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!

### **† Prayer of Dedication**

**✠ We Are Sent in God's Name ✠**

### **† Hymn of Sending #134**

#### Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven,  
and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills,  
and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love,  
and wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

## Postlude

### Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Paul Manz

## † Charge & Benediction

† *Standing if you are able.*

### LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 102

General Offering: \$6,267.80

CARes: \$125.00

Joy Offering: \$156.00

Poinsettias: \$90.00

Online Offering: \$270.05

**Total Offering: \$6,908.85**

### IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

#### ⇒ Sunday, December 29

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m. (on break until January 5)

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

Harmony of the Gospels, 9:30 a.m. (on break until January 5)

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

#### ⇒ Thursday, January 2

Paper Angels, 1 p.m.



## READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

“Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.” This scripture from the Psalms relates two of many reasons why we should read and study the Scriptures. Please join us as we read through the Bible in 2025. You will find the reading plan in your mailbox. Let’s make 2025 a year of the Bible. If you have any questions, see Pastor Bill.

# Genesis

## BIBLE STUDY RESUMES

We are glad to announce that our Bible study in Genesis, led by Pastor Bill, will start back up on **Sunday, January 5, 2025 beginning at 5:30 p.m.** We will gather in the Bethesda Community Hall for this study. We will also live stream the study on Facebook. Let's come together in the new year and study in His word.

Amy Crookes' mother's oil paintings will be temporarily displayed in the ACTC College Drive Campus Library following the Christmas break. Beginning January 6, 2025 these paintings will be on display for a limited time. See Bettie George with questions.





## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Week ending December 26, 2024

Debbie Barnhart (Kelly Hanni)

### Week ending December 19, 2024

Allyson Garnes (Pastor Bill & Nanette's great niece)

John Justice, Jr. (Jane Justice's stepson)

Wilma Montgomery (Nanette's mother)

Greg Sanders (Pastor Bill's brother-in-law)

### Week ending December 12, 2024

Kathleen Filkins

Jimmy Hall

Trish Hall

The family of Brenda Presley (David Murphy's aunt)

Adrianna Riggs (traveling to India)

College Students/Finals

***Prayer requests will rotate off after three weeks. If you have an ongoing concern, please contact the church office.***

**Ongoing:** Pastor Bill; Bill Gesling; Charlie Holbrook; Dr. Matthew Lewis; Kenny McGill; Derek Payne; Nancy Payne; Bonnie Pettijohn; Tim Shephard; Kim Whitman; Jan Winans; Ann Wiseman

**Kingsbrook Care Center:** Barry Barbour

**The Lantern:** Carolyn Graber

**Woodland Oaks:** Bob Miller

**Military:** Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, son of Kris Adkins); Cadet Katie Brown (West Point, granddaughter of Kim & Mike Whitman); Greg Weston (Kuwait); Major Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lilly)



# HAPPY NEW YOU!

Changing the calendar each January is a reminder that God makes all things new.

*Directions: Use the clues and the calendar code to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV.*

JANUARY 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	God	night	word	in	love	Jesus
7	glory	therefore	speak	give	light	Christ
14	saw	beginning	anyone	waters	help	is
21	he	again	through	earth	made	while
28	new	if	and	creation		



- The second Monday \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- The last Monday \_ \_
- The 16th \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- One day before the 20th \_ \_
- The day before the first Friday \_ \_
- The last weekday of the second week \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- The day after the 20th \_ \_
- The day after 18th \_ \_
- The first day of the second weekend \_
- The last Sunday \_ \_ \_
- The last day of the month \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

O Lord, let my  
New Year's resolution  
be to   
**follow you**  
**more** closely  
and to  
**trust in your**  
loving guidance.

### Predictions for the New Year

Author Ronald Wilson, in *Stretching the Soul*, describes being certain that four things will occur in the days ahead.

- Trouble will come. Life is difficult.  
I must mourn as well as dance.
- In this long journey [of life], I'm not in control.  
God has reminded us of this.
  - Many times I will fail.
- I will find forgiveness and get up and go on. God will wipe up the mess I've made of things, take me by the hand and set me back on the right path.

Praise God for His sure presence during the joys and challenges the new year brings!

## STAFF

Minister: *Rev. William Pollack*  
Choirmaster/Organist: *Max Jackson*  
Administrative Assistant: *Nanette Pollack*  
Facilities Manager: *Glen Thomas*  
Nursery Attendant: *Kara Adkins*

## SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Mitch Hall*  
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*  
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2025	2026	2027
<i>Kelly Hanni</i>	<i>Mitch Hall*</i>	<i>Jimmy Hall</i>
<i>Kim Whitman</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee McCloud *</i>
<i>Geri Willis</i>	<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>	<i>J.T. Norris *</i>
	*2nd term of service	

## MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>Glen Thomas</i>	Membership: <i>Kim Whitman</i>
Christian Education: <i>Lee McCloud</i>	Mission: <i>Geri Willis</i>
Congregational Life: <i>Cathy Wilson</i>	Personnel: <i>Janet Holbrook</i>
Finance: <i>Trish Hall</i>	Worship: <i>Ryan Whitman</i>

To visit the church website, scan the code below.



P.O. Box 1 | 1600 Winchester Avenue | Ashland, Kentucky 41101  
office@fpcaky.org | www.fpcaky.org | 606.324.4122  
Contact Pastor Bill: 606.547.1802 or pastor@fpcaky.org