

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. If you are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, please speak to the pastor or elder standing at the left of the pulpit, or you may call the church office during the week.

**SYMPATHY** — The First Presbyterian Church family extends sympathy to:

- Gayle and Hugh Welch, on the death of Hugh's sister, Sadie Jean Holmes, who died recently. Sympathy also to Kathy and Bobby Rolfe, and Robert, Carly and Leslie Rolfe.
- Berni and George Lemon, on the death of George's brother, Joseph F. Lemon, who died on December 17.

*If any member of the church desires the Christian support of a Stephen Minister, call Sandra Randleman (298-9502). Stephen Ministers are trained lay ministers of the church.*

**MISSION TRIP COMMISSIONING** — The participants in the Jamaica Mission Trip 2012 will be commissioned this morning at the 11:00 worship service: Nathan Brandon, Craig Buffkin, Danny Dotson, John Hollins, Jr., JT Martin, Matt Simpson, Darryl Thompson, and Jim Wall. The team will be in Jamaica from January 7-13, 2012 with several members going ahead as an advance team on January 5.

**YOUNG CHILDREN & WORSHIP** is a ministry of worship preparation for young children and their parents. Parents and their children who are age 4 or 5 by September 1, 2011 are invited to participate (this includes children in the Faith, Hope, Love, and Grace Sunday School classes). This ministry is offered during both 8:30 and 11:00 worship services and meets in Room CW-110, which is located in the Children's Ministry wing. Please reference the worship bulletin to know when to exit the sanctuary. We ask that children who are attending for the first time be accompanied by a parent. Please visit the church web site to enroll your child in YC&W. Contact Deb O'Brien (dobrien@fpcnashville.org) with questions.

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AND NURSERY** — Sunday School meets from 9:45 to 10:45 every Sunday. Guests can find assistance in locating a class for your child at the Welcome Desk in the Children's Ministry Wing (Ages 3-6) and at the Welcome Cart at the top of C-Wing in Oak Hill School (children entering 1st-6th grades). Nursery care for children 6 weeks to age 3 is available during both worship services and Sunday School. Check-in at the Welcome Desk in the Children's Ministry Wing.

**MOTHER AND INFANT QUIET ROOM** — Mothers of infants who need a quiet place for nursing or calming babies are welcome to use the Quiet Room. An audio feed of the worship service is provided. Check in with Karen Fitts in the Nursery to see if the Quiet Room is available for your use.

**JOIN US FOR COFFEE & DONUTS** — As is our Sunday morning custom, the First Presbyterian Church family gathers for a time of informal fellowship each Sunday between worship services in Courtenay Hall. Please join us downstairs this morning for coffee and doughnuts.

**HOLY COMMUNION** — A pastor offers communion each Sunday immediately following the 11:00 am worship service in the Session Room, except for those Sundays when communion is offered during the 8:30 and 11:00 am worship services.

**ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES** — Hearing devices, large-print hymnals, large-print bulletins, and large-print Bibles are available for worship and are located in the narthex on the table on the right side as you enter the front doors. If anyone has a need or disability requiring assistance or accommodation for any church activity, please contact the church office (383-1815).

**A/V OF WORSHIP AVAILABLE** — The audio-video transfer of Sunday morning worship services is available in Courtenay Hall for your convenience.

**OFFICER PRAYER TIME** — Prayer requests for our congregation can be submitted to the church officers by filling out prayer request cards and depositing them in the Prayer Request Boxes, located in the narthex on the southeast wall and at the Welcome Center. Prayer request cards can be found in a rack attached to the Prayer Request Box. Officers meet each Wednesday at 5:00 pm in the Memorial Library to lift up prayer requests to God.

**ADDRESS CHANGE?** — Change of address cards are available in the pew rack. Please inform the church of any change in your address and/or telephone number by completing a form and placing it in the collection plate.

**RADIO BROADCAST** — First Presbyterian's 11:00 am worship service is broadcast each Sunday afternoon at 4:00 pm on WAMB 1200 AM.

**SERMONS** preached at First Presbyterian Church are published weekly. You can log onto the church website ([www.fpcnashville.org](http://www.fpcnashville.org)) to listen to an audio version or read a printed version of the sermon (under "Quick Links" click on "Sermons"). Printed copies of the sermon can also be found in literature areas of the church (in the narthex and Welcome Center).

**CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE** – For the Christmas holiday, the church offices will be closed on Monday, January 2.

**January 1, 2012**

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY  
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS  
8:30 and 11:00 AM**

**GATHERING**

OPENING SENTENCES Stuart Gordon

†VOLUNTARY Robert Below  
*Chorale Prelude on Kuortane with plainsong*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (8:30) Mark DeVries  
(11:00) Sam Cooper

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
**People: And all that is within me, bless His holy name.**  
Leader: For the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting  
to everlasting on those who fear Him,  
**People: And His righteousness to children’s children.**  
**All: Bless the Lord, O my soul!**

†\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 49 IRBY  
*Once in Royal David’s City*

†WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP Stuart Gordon

CALL TO CONFESSION (8:30) Mark DeVries  
(11:00) Sam Cooper

PRAYER OF CONFESSION  
**Almighty God, You alone are good and holy.  
We who remain sinners ask You to forgive us,  
and to perfect us for Your kingdom.  
Forgive us for nursing grudges,  
for hurting those who love us,  
for being content with unresolved conflicts in our lives.  
Forgive our contentment with a small circle of love,  
a narrow view of Your mercy,  
and a dim vision of Your kingdom.  
As the New Year dawns,  
renew us in the promise of what You accomplish  
in those who trust you.  
So transform us by Your Spirit  
that our lives may witness  
to the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.**

SILENT CONFESSION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ST. LOUIS  
HYMN 44 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE GLORIA  
**Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Blessed Lord,  
who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning:  
Grant us so to hear them,  
read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,  
that we may embrace and ever hold fast  
the blessed hope of everlasting life,  
which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS Old Testament: Genesis 15:1-6, *page 12*  
New Testament: Galatians 3:23-4:7, *page 189*

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

‡ Children ages 4 and 5 are invited to *Young Children and Worship*  
in Room CW-110.

‡HYMN OF PREPARATION 48 (seated) ES IST EIN’ ROS’  
*Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming*

SERMON Stuart Gordon  
*Faith Came Down at Christmas?*

**RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (8:30) Tom Walker  
(11:00) Sandra Randleman  
The Apostles’ Creed (Traditional) Hymnal Page 14

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER  
(8:30) (Traditional - debts) Hymnal Page 16

COMMISSIONING OF THE JAMAICA MISSION TEAM  
(11:00) AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERTORY Aaron David Miller  
(8:30) *I Offer My Heart*

To you, I offer my heart, O child, so sweet and dear;  
I rely upon Your love. Jesus, be Thou ever near.  
My heart is glowing within. Your peace is pure and mild.  
O Lord, great is Your love that gave to us a child.  
What brought You to the manger? Your love for me, a stranger?  
O Lord, how deep is Your love that reaches down from above,  
I lay my heart inside Your bed and kneel amid Thy Trinity.  
Hold me close, that I may be with You eternally.

(11:00) *Come, Let Us Anew* arr. Mack Wilberg  
Come, let us anew our journey pursue,  
roll ‘round with the year  
and never stand still till the Master appear.  
His adorable will let us gladly fulfill,  
and our talents improve  
by the patience of hope and the labor of love.  
Our life is a dream;  
our time, as a stream, glides swiftly away,  
and the fugitive moment refuses to stay,  
for the arrow is flown, and the moment is gone.  
The millennial year rushes on to our view, and eternity’s here.  
O, that each in the day of His coming may say,  
“I have fought my way through;  
I have finished the work Thou didst give me to do!”  
O, that each from his Lord, may receive the glad word:  
“Well and faithfully done!  
Enter into My joy, and sit down on My throne!”

\*PRESENTATION AND RESPONSE *Doxology* OLD HUNDREDTH

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**SENDING FORTH**

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 308 KINGSFOLD  
*O Sing a Song of Bethlehem*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Stuart Gordon

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ST. LOUIS  
HYMN 44 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive Him,  
still the dear Christ enters in.**

*The congregation will be seated for a moment of silent prayer after the Benediction.*

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY Robert Cockcroft  
*A Good King*

\* — Those who are able, please stand † — Latecomers may be seated

Please silence your cell phone as you enter the sanctuary.

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**PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE**  
Sam Cooper, Executive Pastor  
Mark DeVries, Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families  
Stuart Gordon, Associate Pastor for Discipleship  
Sandra Randleman, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Mission  
Tom Walker, Parish Associate  
Viera Efflerova, Organ Scholar  
Rhonda Swanson, Assistant Organist  
(8:30) Sanctuary Chorale: Keith Moore, conductor  
(11:00) Sanctuary Choir: Raphael Bundage, conductor