

# FIRST (SCOTS) PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*53 Meeting Street, Charleston, South Carolina 29401*

Organized 1731

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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE

DECEMBER 24, 2024 AT 9 P.M.



THE REV. DR. L. HOLTON SIEGLING, JR.  
SENIOR PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF

THE REV. DR. JAMES T. ROGERS  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

THE REV. DR. PETER B. SUTTON  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

PASTOR MARY B. ROBINSON  
COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR

THE REV. DR. DANIEL W. MASSIE  
PASTOR EMERITUS

*Serving God in Charleston and the world*

# CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE

DECEMBER 24, 2024

## CHORAL PRELUDE, 8:30 P.M.

*Katherine Clarkson, Soprano; Timmi Winston, Mezzo-Soprano*

“Comfort You My People”  
“Creator of the Stars of Night”  
“Jesus Christ the Apple Tree”  
“I Wonder as I Wander”  
Organ Solo: “Noël huron”  
*Dr. Anthony Williams, Organist*  
“What Child is This”  
“Coventry Carol”  
“In The Bleak Midwinter”

Genevan Psalter  
arr. John Scott  
arr. Alan Bullard  
arr. John Rutter  
Denis Bédard  
  
arr. Lloyd Larson  
arr. Martin Shaw  
Harold Darke

## WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

The Rev. Dr. L. Holton Siegling, Jr.

## †PASSING OF THE PEACE

### THE LIGHT PRESENTED

## CHORAL INTROIT

“All My Heart Today Rejoices”

Johann Ebeling

## †CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. James T. Rogers

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**All: those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined.**

One: Come, let us worship the Living God

**All: whose light brings hope to a weary world.**

## †PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Hymn No. 41

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

### THE CONFESSION OF SIN

## CALL TO CONFESSION (A pause for silent confession follows.)

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Almighty and Everlasting God, forgive us, we pray, when throughout this season we are so caught up in the preparations for gatherings and gifting that we push aside the wonder of what you have accomplished in the coming of Christ. Forgive us when we so easily get entangled in the news of the day as well as our own plans, forgetting to pay attention to the true miracle of Christmas. On this night, Gracious God, may the songs of the angels, the surprise of the shepherds and the joy of Mary and Joseph become part of our lives. Open our ears, our eyes, our hearts, and our spirits to once again hear the glad and joyous news that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## †CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

“Away in a Manger”

Hymn No. 25 (Verse 1)

*Away in a manger, no crib for His bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.*

*The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.*

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE AND ADVENT WREATH

Bill and Laura Anne Moore & Family

† *Those who are able, please stand.*

## THE WORD OF GOD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pam Arnett

Old Testament: Micah 5:2-5

(pew Bible, page 756)

### ANTHEM

“See, Amid the Winter’s Snow”

John Goss/arr. Dan Forrest

New Testament: Luke 2:1-18

(pew Bible, page 832)

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

### THE WORD PROCLAIMED

“REDISCOVERING THE WONDER”

The Rev. Dr. L. Holton Siegling, Jr.

## THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

### †THE APOSTLES’ CREED (unison)

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.

### †HYMN OF REFLECTION

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Hymn No. 44

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Pastor Mary B. Robinson

(We celebrate that some choose to give electronically, by texting FIRSTSCOTS to 73256, or by scanning the QR code found on the bulletin insert.)

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“O Holy Night”

Adolphe Adam

*Katherine Clarkson, Soprano*

### †DOXOLOGY

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Hymn No. 23 (Verse 3)

*Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

### THE WORD ENACTED

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Invitation to the Lord’s Table

The Rev. Dr. L. Holton Siegling, Jr.

The Prayer of Consecration

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

The Communion of the People

(We are pleased to offer all gluten-free bread and grape juice for communion.)

Organ Voluntary

“Es Is Ein Ros Entsprungen”

Johannes Brahms

*Translation*

*O great mystery and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the new-born Lord lying in a manger!  
O blessed is the Virgin, whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor Mary B. Robinson

**THE LIGHT REFLECTED****CANDLE LIGHTING**

John 1:1-5

(pew Bible, page 862)

*The ministers will light their candles from the Christ candle and proceed to light the candles of those serving as ushers.*

*The ushers will then carry the light into the congregation.*

**†HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Hymn No. 60

**†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

The Rev. Dr. L. Holton Siegling, Jr.

**†BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

“Joy to the World!”

Hymn No. 40

**†POSTLUDE**

Toccata on “Il est né, le divin Enfant”

Denis Bédard

*Extinguished candles should be placed on the boxes in the portico as you exit the sanctuary.*

**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**

This offering is a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. It is one of two special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) offered to members of our congregation and is received during the Christmas Eve services. For more than 90 years, Presbyterians have given generously at Christmas to support the unmet needs of families who have devoted their lives to the mission of the PC(USA). This year, the Christmas Joy Offering will provide assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need and will help to develop our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Offering envelopes are available in the pews. All donations should be made payable to First (Scots) and designated for the Christmas Joy Offering.

**Large print hymnals and assisted listening devices are available upon request.**

If you feel the Spirit of God moving you to affirm your faith in Jesus, please speak to a pastor following the service or contact them this week at the church.

**OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP EXTENDS BEYOND THE WALLS OF THE SANCTUARY** in the form of video recording and live streaming. Your presence with us today signifies consent to the possibility that your image may be included as part of our media broadcast.

**GREETERS:** Jane McNeill, Strait Fairey

**USHERS:** Amelia White (Captain), Greg Robinson (Captain), Harrison Siegling (Captain), Todd Plaxco (Captain)  
Jay White, Ann Dukes, Kent Owens, Paige Owens, Joe Thompson, Chris Hawk, Barb Plaxco

**BEADLE:** Matt Johnson

**LAY READER:** Pam Arnett

**DEACONS:** Anna Smith, Elizabeth Johnson

**MEDIA MINISTRY:** Chris Rucker



The Reverend Dr. L. Holton Siegling, Jr., Senior Pastor/Head of Staff  
The Reverend Dr. James T. Rogers, Associate Pastor  
The Reverend Dr. Peter B. Sutton, Associate Pastor  
Pastor Mary Robinson, Commissioned Lay Pastor  
The Reverend Dr. Daniel W. Massie, Pastor Emeritus



Ricard Bordas, Director of Choral Music  
Alison Beskin, Kirk Choristers Director  
Dakota Carte, Administrative Assistant  
Jack Crawford, Communications Coordinator  
Scarlett Crawford, Church Administrator  
Jennifer Cromwell, Kindergarten Director  
Karen Kuhn, Administrative Assistant

Trudy Marosok, Interim Christian Education Director  
Shelby Olinger, Church Accountant  
Meredith Sharma, Cherub and Alleluia Choir Director  
Martha Ann Siegling, Christian Education Assistant  
Brandon Snow, Day Porter  
Garry Stone, Facility Maintenance Coordinator  
Christina Wilhoit, Handbell Choir Director

Dr. Anthony Williams, Director of Music and Organist

# Welcome to First (Scots)

 @firstscots1731 & @firstscotsyouth  First Scots Presbyterian Church  www.first-scots.org

If you feel called, please prayerfully consider online giving, accessible using this QR code!



## Next Sunday, December 29, we will have only one worship service at 11:15 a.m.

### Calendar of Events

December 29 - January 5  
**Sunday, December 29**

One service, 11:15 a.m.  
Contact your Sunday School class leader to see if your class meets today.

**Tuesday, December 31**

Office Closes at 12:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 1**

Office Closed

**Sunday, January 5**

Dan Adams Class, 10 - 11 a.m.  
The Mere Christian Class, 10 - 11 a.m.

### Guest Preacher

Next Sunday, we have the pleasure of having Elizabeth Snyder as our guest preacher. Elizabeth is a long time member of First (Scots), having participated in many youth events growing up. She studies at the Princeton Theological Seminary and plans to become a Navy Chaplain.



### Presbytery Blessing Box

Tonight, there is a receptacle on the portico and in the sacristy where non-perishable food items may be dropped off for the Charleston Atlantic Presbytery's Blessing Box.

To learn more about how you can contribute, contact Hank Martin at (843) 670-3281

or

Shary Dillon at (843) 906-1074.

### New Members Class

Save the date for Saturday, February 1! Looking to join First (Scots)? You are invited to the new member class. More information to come in January.

### Joy Offering

This cherished is one of two offerings offered to members of our congregation and is received during the Christmas Eve services. This year, the Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families. Offering envelopes are available in pews. Donations can be made to First (Scots) and designated for Christmas Joy Offering.

### End of year giving

If you feel called to make a financial contribution to First (Scots), there's still time to donate during the 2024 fiscal year! In addition to the offering plate, pledges may be made with pledge cards, located in and around the sanctuary.

**To learn more about giving, contact Tom Johnson at (908) 295-3260.**

### Special Guest in 2025

We're starting off the new year with a great guest for Wednesday Night Supper: Rabbi Yosef Bart from the Brith Sholom Beth Israel Synagogue! He will join us on Wednesday, January 8 to speak about Israel, its history & events currently taking place therein. There will be time for questions after his presentation.



### Stephen Ministers

A Stephen Minister provides one-to-one care for people facing life challenges. They are a child of God who walks beside a person who is hurting, has received 50 hours of training in providing personal care, and will "be there" for their care receiver for as long as is needed. Join us Wednesday nights for Stephen Minister training.

Current Stephen Minister team leaders are:

Tom Slabaugh (859) 221-5069,  
Anne Smith (843) 817-1337, & Matt Spath (843) 324-5990



## Youth Ministry Sunday, January 5, 5-7 p.m.



The High School Youth are having an Epiphany Party in the Kirk House. Epiphany, which occurs each year on January 6, is the day we celebrate the Wise Men visiting Jesus and presenting their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Join us as we catch up after Christmas break, enjoy dinner, and play some games. Please bring a wrapped gift for our gift exchange game (re-gifting items is encouraged; if you choose to purchase something, please don't spend more than \$10). As always, friends are welcome. If you have any questions about this event, please contact James Rogers.



Youth Group Linktree

The Middle School Youth are participating in an escape room event at Escape in 60 in downtown Charleston. Please meet at Escape in 60 (45 S Market St, Charleston, SC 29401) at 4:45 p.m., in preparation for our 5 p.m. game time. Participants will experience one of two games: After Hours or Roulette Me Out. Afterwards the group will enjoy a free ice cream treat from Kilwins Ice Cream (59 S Market Street), where youth can be picked up at 7 p.m. Reserve your spot by using our Escape Room SignUpGenius and paying your \$25 fee through Youth Ministry E-Giving, designating the payment to "Youth Group Activity." If you have any questions, please contact James Rogers (jrogers@first-scots.org).



**Summer Plans?** Registration for the following summer youth trips opens January 6.  
Montreat High School Youth Conference: June 7-14, 2025 (current 8th-12th graders)  
Charlotte, NC Middle School Youth Mission Trip: June 22-28, 2025 (current 6th-8th graders)  
Paradise, California High School Youth Mission Trip: July 13-20, 2025 (current 9th-12th graders)  
Middle School Youth Conference at Maryville College: July 16-20, 2025 (current 5th-8th graders)

## Presbyterian Women's Circles

**The Betty Noble Circle** meets Tuesday, January 14 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Margaret McCormack. Trudy Marosok will be the speaker. For more information, please contact Teresa Tarrant at (843) 509-8937 or teresatarrant@aol.com.

**The Unbroken Circle** meets Tuesday, January 14 at 10 a.m. at the home of Mayrelle Semken. They will continue their study of Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts. For more information, please contact Julie Cannell at (914) 671-0954 or jmcannell@aol.com.

**The Seekers Circle** will gather at the January 11 Presbyterian Women event, Saturday with Sisters. For more information, contact Christy Siegling, sieglingchristy@gmail.com or Betsy Middleton, epmiddleton230@gmail.com

**The Women at the Well Circle** meets Thursday, January 23 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Jan Key. Betts Gatewood will lead a discussion concerning parenting. For more information, please contact Jane Davis at birdgirl59@yahoo.com.

**The PW Board will meet on Tuesday, January 7 at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room in the Massie Building**

*Presbyterian Women  
Saturday with Sisters*



*"Walking with God: Through the Trials and Storms of Life"*

*Guest Speaker - Sherry Bradshaw of Back 9 Ministries*

*Saturday, January 11, 2025 in Molly Wier Hall*

*Attendance is \$40/person. Lunch and childcare is provided. Pay through cash or check, writing "Sat.*

*w/Sisters" in the memo line.*

Scan the QR code to sign up  
or visit [www.first-scots.org](http://www.first-scots.org)  
and Register on the home  
page by Jan. 5



**First Scots Preschool and Kindergarten Admissions -** The Admissions process for First (Scots) Kindergarten & Preschool for the 2025-2026 school year will be held in January. In accordance with our Admission policies, existing students are offered an opportunity to enroll first. We then offer active church members & siblings of existing students an opportunity to enroll (provided spaces are available) prior to opening it to families in the community. For church members to receive this priority status, they must have been active for the past 12 months, attended worship regularly & supported First (Scots) Presbyterian Church financially through a recorded pledge or contribution. Contact Jenn Cromwell, Kindergarten Director, at (843) 722-8882 or at [fspckindergarten@first-scots.org](mailto:fspckindergarten@first-scots.org) for more information. Tours are also available by appointment. Applications can be found in the reception area on the 2nd floor of the Massie Building.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be on January 6, 1:00-3:00. For more information, contact Pat Dietz at (843) 810-8679.

