

FIRST (SCOTS) PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

53 Meeting Street, Charleston, South Carolina 29401

Organized 1731

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 29, 2024 AT 11:15 A.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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

11:15 A.M. SERVICE

THE VISION OF GOD

PRELUDE

“Noël Grand Jeu et Duo”

Louis Claude Daquin

(May the beginning of the prelude serve as a call to silent meditation and prayer.)

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

Pastor Mary B. Robinson

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHORAL INTROIT

“Come, Let us Join”
Iris Salvador, Soprano

K. Lee Scott

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Trudy Marosok

One: Praise the Lord! Let all that has breath praise the Lord.

All: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, shining stars; praise him, highest heavens.

One: Let all people praise the name of the Lord!

All: God commanded and created the universe and fixed it in place forever.

One: Praise God, Kings of the earth and all people; for his name alone is to be praised.

All: Let us all praise the name of the Lord, and worship the Prince of Peace.

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Go Tell it on the Mountain”

Hymn No. 29

PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

We come before you with hearts heavy from the weight of our failures, confusion, and doubts. You call us to trust in your grace, yet we still try to earn what you have freely given. You offer us peace, but we cling to worry. We hear your invitation to love one another, but we choose selfishness and indifference. You speak of hope and joy, but we remain entrenched in despair. We, like Mary and Joseph, sometimes feel lost and disconnected from you. Forgive us, O God, for our waywardness, our doubts, and our reluctance to seek you earnestly. Strengthen us to live as those redeemed by your mercy, and help us to find you in our daily lives - through prayer, service, and love. Create in us a heart that embraces your love and reflects your glory in the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†GLORIA PATRI

*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. Amen.*

† Those who are able, please stand.

†CHILDREN’S HYMN

Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

Hymn No. 31 (Verse 3)

*Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!**Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in his wings.**Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!”***THE WORD OF GOD****THE TIME WITH CHILDREN**

Trudy Marosok

THE TIME FOR TEENS

(Children through 5 years old may be dismissed to the Massie Building for Children’s Church.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gary Gildersleeve

THE WORD READ

Old Testament: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

(pew Bible, page 214)

New Testament: Luke 2:41-52

(pew Bible, page 833)

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED “LOST AND FOUND: THE SEARCH FOR JESUS”

Elizabeth Snyder

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**†THE APOSTLES’ CREED** (unison)

Pastor Mary B. Robinson

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

“Lord When I Came Into This Life”

Hymn No. 522

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(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

“Gesù Bambino”

Pietro Yon/arr. Mark Hayes

*Iris Salvador, Soprano***†DOXOLOGY**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Hymn No. 592

*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

†HYMN OF COMMITMENT

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

Hymn No. 455

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Elizabeth Snyder

†BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Amen”

McNeill Robinson II

†POSTLUDE

“Joy To The World”

Robin Dinda

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.

FIRST (SCOTS) HISTORY TOURS

Please join us for a guided tour and brief history of First (Scots) following the conclusion of worship. Please come and meet your docent at the harpsichord following the service for a 10-15 minute tour.

Today's docent is Karen Prewitt

ASSISTING WITH THE SERVICE TODAY

GREETERS:

Jack Callahan, Harvey Mason

USHERS:

Todd Plaxco (Captain), Barb Plaxco, Ben King, Daniel McClam, Harold Davis

DEACONS:

Mayrelle Semken (Lead Deacon), Elizabeth Bernat

BEADLE: Greg Robinson

LAY READER: Gary Gildersleeve

MEDIA MINISTRY: Matt Bucknam

ELDER ON CALL (December 30 - January 5) - Byron Frick (843) 543-7144

DEACON ON CALL (December 30 - January 5) - John White, Sr. (843) 514-2486

PASTOR ON CALL: (December 30 - January 5) - The Rev. Dr. James T. Rogers (843) 513-3717



The Reverend Dr. L. Holton Siegling, Jr., Senior Pastor
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!



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

Elizabeth Snyder is a Master of Divinity student at Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey. She will complete the three-year Master of Divinity degree program upon graduation in May of 2025. She is also currently a Candidate in the PC (USA) ordination process and is under the supervision and authority of the Charleston Atlantic Presbytery. Elizabeth obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Christian Leadership with a minor in Communication Studies from Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee, in May of 2022. Elizabeth is pursuing a call as a Chaplain in the United States Navy. In August of 2022, she was commissioned as an Ensign Chaplain Candidate. She currently holds the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade (LTJG) in the United States Navy Chaplaincy Program. Elizabeth was raised at First (Scots) where she was extensively involved in the congregation's mission work, youth programs, and educational ministries. She was also ordained and served as a Youth Deacon during 2015-2016. Elizabeth is still a member of the First (Scots) congregation and looks forward to her trips home to Charleston so she can attend worship services at her home church. She is honored to have the opportunity to lead worship services and to preach at First (Scots)! In addition to Seminary and Navy obligations, Elizabeth's hobbies include running, tennis, domestic and international travel, watching sports, spending time at the beach, visiting coffee shops, and cooking.



Special Guest in 2025

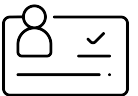
We're starting off the new year with a great guest for Wednesday Night Supper: Rabbi Yosef Bart from the Brith Sholom Beth Israel Synagogue! He will join us on Wednesday, January 8 to speak about Israel, its history & events currently taking place therein. There will be time for questions after his presentation. Rabbi Bart graduated summa cum laude with a B.A. in Accounting, from Yeshiva University's Sy Syms School of Business. He completed his Masters in Secondary Jewish Education from the David J. Azrieli Graduate Institute of Jewish Education and received his Rabbinic Ordination from the YU Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary in 1995. He also has completed Ohr Sameach's two-year Ohr Lagolah training program in Israel for Jewish Education, the Rabbinate, and Outreach.



New Members Class

Want to join First (Scots)?

Save the date for Saturday, February 1! You're invited to the new member class. More information to come in January.



Presbytery Blessing Box



There is a place on the portico and in the sacristy where non-perishable food items may be dropped off for the Presbytery's Blessing Box. To learn more, you can contact Hank Martin at (843) 670-3281 or Shary Dillon at (843) 906-1074.

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 around the sanctuary.

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

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 at 8:30 a.m.*

*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
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 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.

