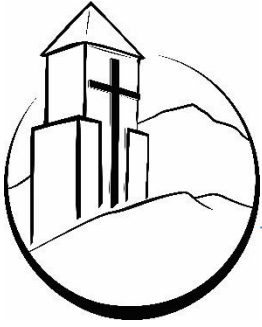


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*“Called to Grow, Share, Serve”*

131 Big Valley Street  
Boone, North Carolina 28607  
828-264-3906

**[www.firstpresboone.org](http://www.firstpresboone.org)**

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**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 7, 2025**

**10:30 AM Worship**

**The Prelude**

*Love Came Down at Christmas*  
*Exuberant Bells*

arr. Jason Kung

**Welcome & Announcements**

Dr. Jeff Smith

**Lighting of the Advent Candles**

John & Krissy Russell

## **Gathering to Worship God**

### **Responsive Call to Worship**

**Leader:** Beloved, we gather this Advent and every season to remember who we are,  
not who the world tells us to be.

**People:** **What, then, should we do?**

**Leader:** We recall the story of God’s people, how God has called us to live in peace and  
righteousness in a world full of conflict and chaos.

**People:** **We recount the story of our journey with God, the moments of God’s  
provision, God’s prophetic guidance, and God’s peace.**

**Leader:** We gather to repent and return anew to God’s story that guides our lives to  
work for peace and flourishing for all God’s creation.

**All:** **We gather to tell the story of the day of peace that all the earth awaits.  
Let us worship the Prince of Peace together!**

**\*\*Song of Praise**

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* (vs.1&2)

#82

## **Confessing Our Sin to God**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

Dr. Jeff Smith

**Holy God, in your goodness you call us to follow you and to be your servant. Rather than fully  
submitting to your will we hold onto you with one hand, and to the things of this world with the  
other. Lord, forgive our foolish ways. Give us the courage to let go of the things that prevent us  
from truly following you, so that we may faithfully walk in your ways and live in your will. For we  
offer our prayer to you in the strong name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, our Savior.  
Amen.**

**Declaration of Pardon**

**Leader:** Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

**All:** **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

\*Please stand if able

\*\*Please stand and sing if able

**\*\*Congregational Response**

*Joy to the World (v.2)*

#134

*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.*

**\*Passing The Peace**

Dr. Jeff Smith

*(We encourage you to pass the peace of Christ to those seated around you.)*

**Proclaiming God's Word**

**Sharing with our Children**

Erin Fowler

*(Our children are invited to join Mrs. Erin for children's church, room #149 following the message.)*

**Choral Anthem**

*See Amid the Winter's Snow*  
Chancel Choir

John Goss &  
Richard Kingsmore

**Listening to the Word of God**

Dr. Jeff Smith

First Reading: Romans 15:13 (Unison)

Second Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**Word of God Proclaimed**

Dr. Jeff Smith

Encountering the Ordinary: *Servant Mary*

**Responding to the Word of God  
Celebrating the Lord's Supper**

**Invitation to the Table**

Rev. Larke Blanton

**Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.*

**Words of Institution**

**Communion of the People**

*Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming*  
Exuberant Bells

Dr. Jeff Smith  
arr. Sandra Eithun

**Closing Prayer**

# Responding as Faithful Stewards of God's Good Gifts

## Our Tithes and Offerings

### Offertory

*Mary Did You Know?*  
Praise Team

Mark Lowry

*We encourage you to give:*

You may place your gift in the offering plates as they are passed down your pew.  
Or you may go to the church website ([www.firstpresboone.org](http://www.firstpresboone.org))  
and click on the "Giving" button, to give online.

### \*\*Doxology

To the tune of *The First Noel*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.*

### \*Prayer of Dedication

Elder, David Kesler

*If you or someone you know needs special prayer today or if you would like to speak personally  
with someone about making a first-time commitment to Christ Jesus, or growing in the Christian faith  
and discipleship, a church officer is available to speak with you following the worship service at the  
communion table in the front of the church.*

## Going to Love and Serve the Lord

### \*\*Going to Serve

*Glory*  
Praise Team

Matt Maher

### \*Being Blessed to Be a Blessing

Dr. Jeff Smith

### \*\*The Sending

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing (v. 1)*

#547

*"Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river, I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."*

### \*The Postlude

Praise Team