

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

10:00 AM

*<sup>4</sup>In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, <sup>6</sup>being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 1:4-6

**PRELUDE**

Debbe Picerno

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Advent is marked by a spirit of yearning for peace.

**P: May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.**

L: We long today for peace among nations.

**P: May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.**

L: We long today for peace among races.

**P: May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.**

L: We long today for peace in our hearts and in our lives.

**P: May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*HYMNS**

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

No. 244

“From Everlasting”

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Almighty God, in Jesus Christ You came among us as light shining in the darkness. We confess we have not welcomed Your light or trusted Your good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to Your presence. We have expected little and hoped for even less. Forgive our doubt and renew our faith, so we may receive the fullness of Your grace, live in the truth of Jesus Christ our Lord, and experience the power of the Holy Spirit. In Christ's name we pray. Amen. (Silent Confession)**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Believe the good news of the Gospel.

**P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**\*CONFESSION RESPONSE:**

“Gloria Patri”

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*OFFERING RESPONSE:**

“I Love You, Lord”

No. 78

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Isaiah 9:6-7

**ANTHEM**

“Start at the Manger”

By: Choir

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**

**SERMON**

“When Heaven Comes Down”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Franklin

**\*CONFESSION OF FAITH**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*HYMN**

“He Will Hold Me Fast”

**POSTLUDE**

Debbe Picerno

**\*Those who are able please stand.**

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**Ushers:** Trustees

**Welcome Desk:** Cora Murtha

**Liturgist:** Molly Tarr

**Greeters:** Sadie Tarr

**Fellowship Hour:** Autumn Moore

**Childcare:** Kristen & Lydia Kwiatkowski

<u><i>THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR</i></u>		
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Worship</b>
	<b>11 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School &amp; Concert Practice</b>
	<b>11 AM</b>	<b>Care Team- Facility Meeting</b>
	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Christmas Dinner</b>
	<b>6:15 PM</b>	<b>Christmas Concert</b>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>1 PM</b>	<b>Quilting</b>
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Session Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>9 AM</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Conversation</b>
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Choir</b>
	<b>9 AM</b>	<b>Men's Breakfast @ Mac's Cafe</b>

**CHRISTMAS DINNER-** Tonight at 5:30 PM followed by a Christmas Concert around 6:15 PM.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS-** Available on the table outside the sanctuary for pickup.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES-** Available for pickup today on the table outside the sanctuary. There are extra sets available for those who would like them, just write your name next to a number on the list please.

**NEW MEMBERS-** If you are planning on joining the church, new covenant partners will be recognized in worship on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Please let the office know if you plan on officially joining.

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES-** We will have Candlelight Christmas Eve Services at 4:30 & 7 PM this year. We hope you will join us!

**CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE-** Save the stamp! A Christmas Card Exchange is available in the library. Let us know if you would like your name added.

**CLUB 35-** Will be having their Christmas Party on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 12-2 PM. Please see Pastor Mike or Laura for more details.

**YOUTH GROUP-** Our Christmas party will be Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 6-8. Please see Pastor Mike for more details.

**FISHBONE DINNER-** We will be hosting a dinner at Fishbone Ministries on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>. There is a signup sheet for volunteers to serve and make desserts.

# Meridian Presbyterian Church

[www.meridianpres.org](http://www.meridianpres.org)

724-482-2630



**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**“When Heaven Comes Down”**  
**Rev. Dr. Stephen Franklin**