

11:00 am Worship

December 14, 2025

WE GATHER IN THE LORD'S NAME

Call to Worship (Hymn #387)“The Lord is in His Holy Temple”

Greeting/Announcements/Scripture Reader:Robert Guthrie

Prelude: (arr: Craig Curry)Christmas Medley

Lighting of the Advent Calendar:

McCarthy Family

*Salutation and Call to Worship: Psalm 33:1-5

¹ Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous;
it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

² **Praise the LORD with the harp;**
Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings.

³ Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully, and shout for joy.

⁴ **For the word of the LORD is right and true;**
he is faithful in all he does.

⁵ The LORD loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of his unfailing love.

*Hymn:“We Light the Advent Candles” (v. 1, 4, 1)

Hymn# 175

*Let us pray a unison prayer of Confession:

Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Lord, You are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and abundant in mercy; there is always forgiveness with You! Restore to us the joy of Your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us, and let Your word abide with us until it has wrought in us Your holy will. Amen

*Silent Confession of Sin

*Assurance of Pardon: Romans 5:1, 8:1

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through Jesus Christ. There is therefore no condemnation for those who are in Christ.

In the name of the risen Christ, we are forgiven!

*The Gloria Patri

Hymnal # 734

Walks with Jesus

Rev. John McCarthy

First Scripture:

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Pew Bible #914

Prayers of the People (see list below)

Choral Call to Prayer“O How He Loves You and Me”

Choir

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal - Inside Front Cover

*Hymn:

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Hymn# 185

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology

Hymn #34

*Prayer

Anthem:

A Joy Sequence

Choir

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Reading:Luke 2:8-20

Pew Bible #992

Sermon:

“Great Joy”

Rev. John McCarthy

Prayer

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Apostles’ Creed

Hymnal – Inside Front Cover

*Hymn:

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Hymn #182

*Charge and Blessing

* Postlude

*Congregation Standing

Directives for Prayer

Matthew & Teresa Lee, Wycliffe Bible Translators

Prayers continue: Leon Plaster

- Full Prayer list listed in monthly newsletter – copies available at each entrance

***We welcome our visitors** and ask them to fill out a blue visitor card located in the pew rack. We invite you to commit your life to the Lord Jesus Christ in Christian discipleship and become a member of this fellowship. You may do this by meeting with the Session to express your faith in Christ in one of the following ways: Profession of Faith, Transfer of Membership or Reaffirmation of Faith.*

Listening devices

are available from the audio support person at the rear of the sanctuary.

Prayer Cards

are available in each pew. If you would like a card sent to someone we pray for during the service, please fill out the card and place it in the offering plate. Our prayer card ministry team will send a card the following week.

Flowers

– Virtual Poinsettia orders are now available. Enjoy the beauty of the Season.

Ushers

– Serving today Eric Roberts at the North Door and Sterling Byrd-Roberts at the South Door. Acolyte today is Liam McCarthy. Audio is Robin Hall.

This Week’s Announcements

Diaconate and Session

– today after worship. All new and current officers are invited to attend this time of fellowship.

Virtual Poinsettias

– see insert to order your virtual poinsettia to honor and remember those special loved ones. Price remains \$25 each. Get your poinsettia today.

Women’s Bible Study

– Wednesday, December 17 at 10:30 am in the Philathea Room. This will be the last class until January 7th.

Good Samaritan

– December Collection is: Christmas meal items

Donations Needed

– South Boston Health and Rehab (formerly Woodview) needs donations for their residents to help them have a joyous Holiday Season. Items needed: Body wash, Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant, Large Print word finds, Coloring book, Color pencils, Crayons, Ink pens, and Snack items. Drop off at the facility at 103 Rose Hill Dr. South Boston. Please have items there by Dec. 22nd.

5 Cents a meal Collection

– Next collection - Sunday, December 21.

Annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

– December 24 at 5pm. Mark your calendar for our Annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. This is always a special way to bring in the holiday, and remember Christ is the reason for the season! Without Christ there is no Christmas.

Stewardship

– Stewardship season is here! Please pray and ask for God’s help to know how best to help support the church for the 2026 year and forward. Please return pledge envelopes by December 15th.

Communion

– Next observance will be Sunday, January 11, 2026.

2026 Offering Envelopes

- Now available. Get your favorite number early, while they are still available.

2026 Flower Calendar

– the new 2026 Flower Calendar is up and available to sign up for your favorite dates.

<u>Calendar</u>	
Sunday, December 14	9:45 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Fellowship 11:00 am – Worship ~ 12:30 pm – Officers meet
Wednesday, December 17	10:30 am – Women’s Bible Study 12:00 noon - AA 6:00 pm - Choir 6:00 pm - NA
Friday, December 19	Office Closed 12 noon – AA

Church Staff
 Rev. John McCarthy - Pastor
 Sherolyn Barnett, Office Manager
 Jim Luedtke, Church Musician
 Sue Wilkins, Church Treasurer

Session
 Rev. John McCarthy – Moderator
 Don Cherry – Clerk of Session

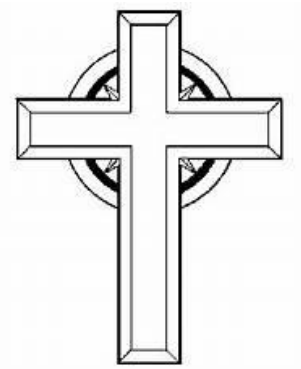
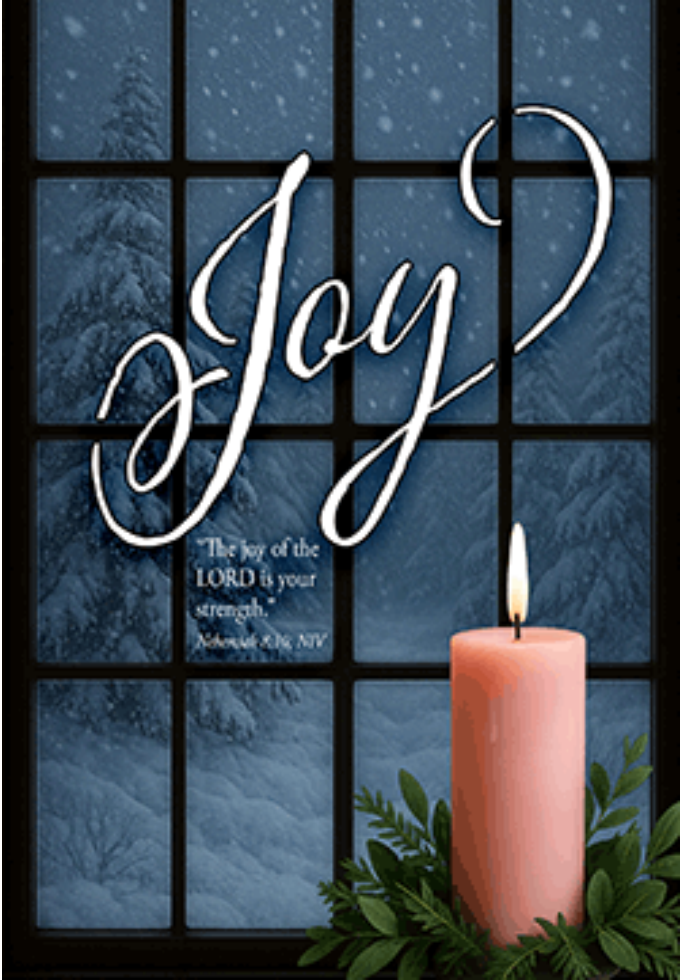
Class of 2025 Robert Guthrie Mike Rand	Class of 2026 Kim Albert Les Powell	Class of 2027 Don Cherry Joni Owens Colter Wickemeyer
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Diaconate
 Sterling Roberts – Chair

Class of 2025 Sterling Byrd-Roberts Carol Foster Robin Hall	Class of 2026 Sandi Hughes Kim Wickemeyer Joanna Hughes	Class of 2027 Sallie Adams Melissa Fraser Terri Smith
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	Trustees	
(2025) Eric Roberts	(2026) David McCollum	(2027) Rick Harrell

The W.W. Glass Scholarship Fund Trustees		
(2025) Melissa Fraser	(2026) Terri Smith	(2027) Ann Crabtree



Our Missionaries
 Matthew & Teresa Lee, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Cameroon
 Persecution Project Foundation, Sudan

First Presbyterian Church
800 North Main Street
South Boston, Virginia



Mission Statement
"Growing God's Presence"
Foundational Principles
Christ Centered~Biblically Based~
Spirit Led~Grounded in Faith and Love
Values
Committed~Servant Heart~
Nurturing~Welcoming~Visioning

No nursery will be provided at this time.
 Children's Church (Jesus Squad) meets during Sunday School time
 5 cents-a-meal Offering collected the third Sunday of each month.
 Worship every Sunday at 11:00 am; Sunday School is at 9:30 am.
 Fellowship at 10:15 am. **Internet: 1stPres: Romans3:24**

Contact us for more information about
 First Presbyterian Church
 Office: 434-572-3581 or 434-572-3588 (fax)
 Office hours: Mon – Thur. 9 am – 2 pm
 Closed Fridays

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