

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

*Our Father which 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.*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY Some Children See Him Jack Brooks

*DOXOLOGY #607

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

—Sending—

*HYMN #147 The First Nowell

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Go Tell It on The Mountain Jack Brooks

You may be seated after the light passes you in the aisle.



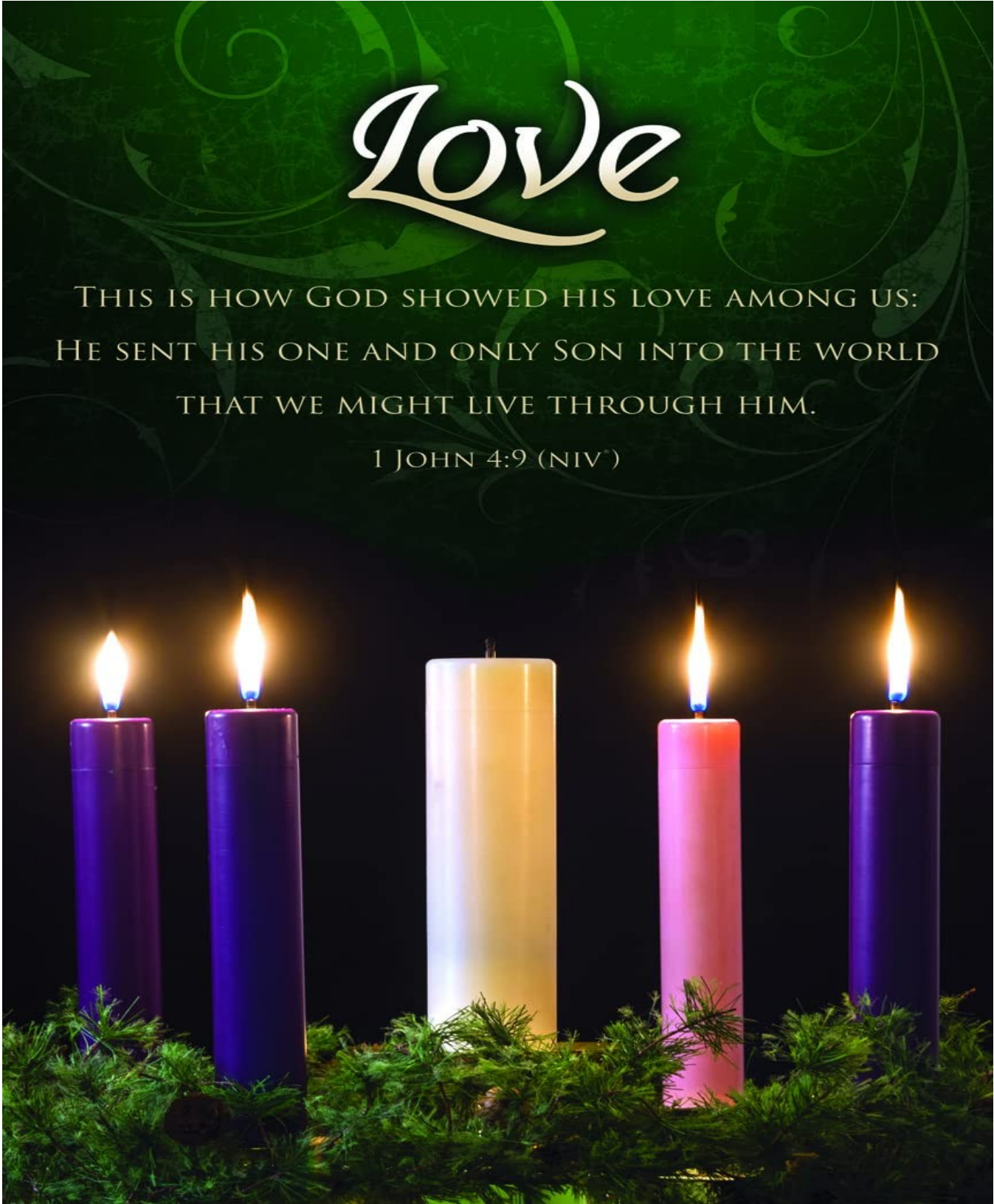
Debbi Ricci.....Administrative Assistant
Jack BrooksGuest Organist



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



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(*) Please rise in body or in spirit
Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HENDERSON, TX

4th Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2025

PRELUDE
WELCOME

—*Gathering*—
O Come, O Come Emanuel

Jack Brooks
Liturgist: Steve Lowe

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Prepare the way of the Lord!
Lift every valley, lift every voice.
Prepare the way of the Lord!
And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE—Jan Pennal

*HYMN# 136 Go Tell It on the Mountain

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Great God, as we behold the birth of Jesus again, we are mindful of how we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story points us to your glory. Yet, we struggle to join in the song of praise and thanksgiving. We are distracted and confused, so focused on things that matter little that we overlook the good news of great joy that you have prepared.
Tell us again that the Savior is born. Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell us again that our lives can be abundant in faith, hope and love because of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...This is good news!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*GLORIA PATRI #581
*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.*

—*Word*—

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Romans 1:1-7 Bible p. 142, LG p. 184
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 1:18-25 Bible p.1, LG p. 1

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Virgin Birth? Rev. Kris Crawford

—*Response*—

*HYMN # 145 What Child is This?

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Confession of 1967)
Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus.
His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God.

*He was the fulfillment of God’s promise to Israel,
the beginning of the new creation,
and the pioneer of the new humanity.*

*He gave history its meaning and direction
and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.*