

— Response —

INVITATION TO OFFERING

A child is born for us; a Savior, given to us. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

OFFERTORY

Still, Still, Still

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

God-with-us on this long, dark night, like visitors to a newborn baby, we bring our gifts to our faith community this evening. We know new birth gives us a glimpse of heaven, of eternity, and we participate in that eternity when we release our treasures for works of love and justice. Bless the gifts that your people have brought today. Amen.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

Beginning with the Christ Candle, Jimmy will pass the light from candle to candle along the aisle, moving from the front of the sanctuary to the back. The light will grow outward as we all share the light of Christ, just as Christ's love is shared in the world. Please keep your candles lit for the remainder of worship.

On this most holy night, long ago in the city of Bethlehem, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, was born. Jesus brought his own life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

*HYMN #122

Silent Night, Holy Night!

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

May the blessing of this holy light be upon you tonight and always. Go in peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

Jack Brooks



**First
Presbyterian
Church**
Henderson, Texas



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HENDERSON, TX

Christmas Eve ~ December 24, 2025

—Gathering—

PRELUDE Good Christian Friends, Rejoice Jack Brooks

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist: Jan Pennal

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Candle Lighters: Liz & Chris Cross

*Now is the time to light the Advent Candles. This past Sunday was the final Sunday of Advent, and we lit four candles: the candle of Hope (purple), the candle of Love (purple), the candle of Joy (pink), and the candle of Peace (purple). Tonight, Christmas Eve, we now light the white candle, the Christ candle, which symbolizes **the Light**—along with the hope, love, joy, and peace—that Christ brought into the world.*

OPENING PRAYER

Please pray with me as we open our time together.

Almighty God, we thank you for the birth of the Christ child in Bethlehem, as announced by the angels on this holy night. May the mystery of the Word made flesh fill our souls with wonder and yearning. Change our hearts from a busy inn to a quiet chamber for your glory. May we who are gathered here join in song with the angels, and share the delight of the shepherds, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*HYMN #133 O Come All Ye Faithful

CONFESSION

*God of Grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness.
We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good.
We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less.
Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that having been justified by his grace, we might have the hope of eternal life.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

*GLORIA #113 (Refrain) Jack Brooks
*Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

— Word —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, by the gift of your Holy Spirit, show us the Word made flesh—good news of great joy for all—so that we may sing with the angels: glory in the highest and peace on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 9:2-7 Bible p. 600, LG p. 780-781
This is the word of the Lord.

HYMN #121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

SECOND TESTAMENT READING Titus 2:11-14 Bible . 202-203, LG p. 262
Hear the word of the Lord.

Heaven and earth will pass away but the word of the Lord stands forever.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN #123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

GOSPEL Luke 2:1-7 Bible p. 54, LG p. 71
The wisdom of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN #115 Away in a Manger

GOSPEL Luke 2:8-20 Bible p. 54-55, LG p. 71

*HYMN #119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

... O Christ, our light,
hear our prayer.

LORD’S PRAYER

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as 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.*