PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY In the Bleak Midwinter 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 # 134 Joy to the World

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

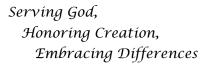
POSTLUDE Sing a Song of Christmas Jack Brooks

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





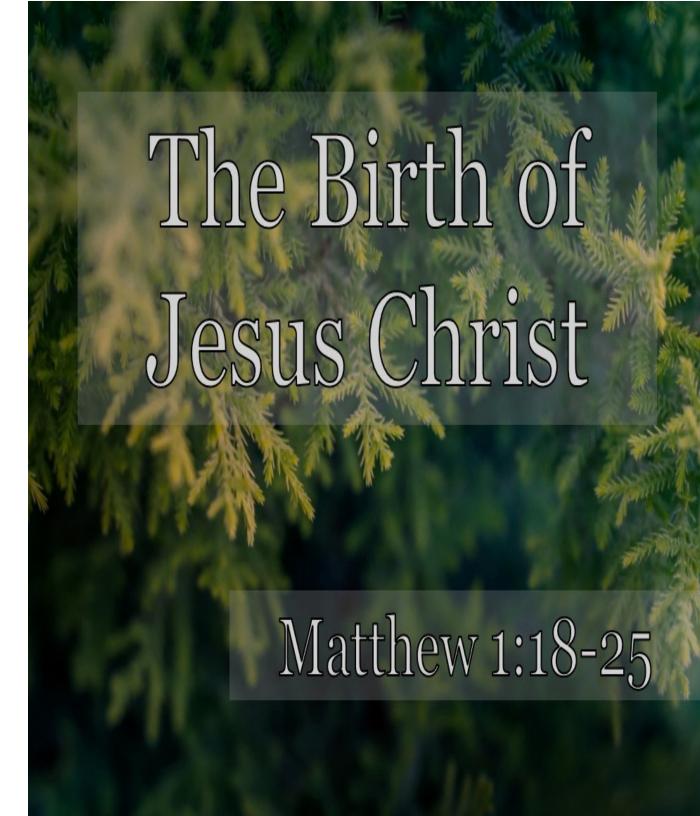
Debbi Ricci......Administrative Assistant
Guest OrganistJack Brooks





Church
Henderson, Texas

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HENDERSON, TX

December 28, 2025

—Gathering —

PRELUDE Infant Holy, Infant Holy Jack Brooks

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist: Liz Cross

Wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

On this first Sunday of Christmas, we, too, have come to worship Jesus the Messiah: the son of David, the son of Abraham.

When the wise men saw the child with Mary his mother, they knelt down, paid him homage, and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

On this first Sunday of Christmas, we offer ourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you, O God.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

Glory to God in the highest heaven!

HYMN # 113 Angels We Have Heard on High CONFESSION

God of Christmas, we would never have thought to find your Savior in an innocent baby. We confess we would have expected a warrior with a great army. We would not have thought to find your kingdom to be one of service, obedience and humility. We confess we would have expected, maybe even wanted, a kingdom that reflected our own values and self-interests.

Lord, forgive us when we quickly leave Christmas behind and neglect to live lives worthy of our calling as followers of our Lord, the Prince of Peace. By your Holy Spirit, help us turn to you and live according to the values of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*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 TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 63:7-9 Bible p. 652, Lq p. 848

This is the word of the Lord.

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

The wisdom of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON Christmas Reflections Rev. Evan Dolive

— Response —

HYMN #143 Angels, From the Realms of Glory

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Confession of 1967)
In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all.
Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people
and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows.
He expressed the love of God in word and deed
and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women.
But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people.

His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes.

Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which everyone stands convicted.

God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord.
The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.