

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

— Sending —

*CANDLE LIGHTING

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.

*HYMN #122

Silent Night, Holy Night

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

The loving kindness of the Lord our God, the grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Alleluia!**
Go and tell this good news of great joy: to us a Savior is born. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

Jack Brooks

You may sit after the light passes you in the aisle.



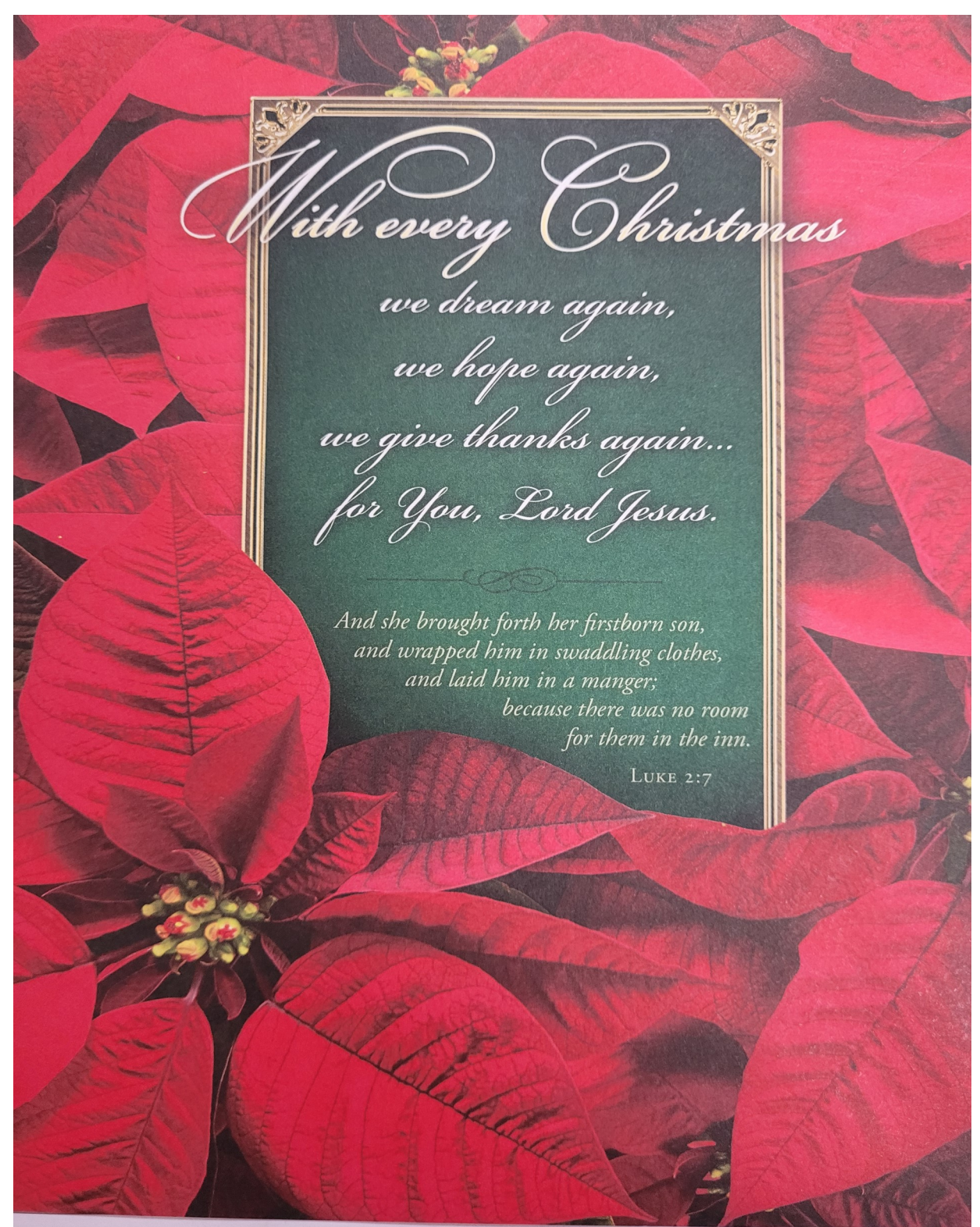
*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



Debbi Ricci.....Admin. Assist.
Jack Brooks.....Guest Musician

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HENDERSON, TX

Nativity of the Lord / Christmas Eve
December 24, 2024

—Gathering—
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Jack Brooks
Liturgist: Jan Pennal

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (Luke 2:10-11)

Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:
to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

CANDLE LIGHTING

*HYMN #133 O Come All Ye Faithful

CONFESSION

Gracious God, you call us to celebrate, yet we struggle to find hope in the suffering and despair of our world. What reason is there to rejoice? We turn from each other and from you, questioning the power of love in the face of the world's cruelty and hate. Comfort your people, sovereign God. Return us to the faith born this night. Save us from hopelessness. May the promise and possibility of every newborn child remind us of the salvation we have in Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA #113 (Chorus)

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

— Word —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

Bible p. 600, LG p. 780-781

Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart.

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Titus 2:11-14

Bible p. 202-203, Lg p. 262

Hear God's word for us.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us. ***Thanks be to God.***

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

Bible p. 54-55, Lg p. 71

Hear God's wisdom for us.

The wisdom of God for the people of God. ***Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

This Day

Jimmy Chapman

— Response —

*HYMN #121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God prays with us, for God in Christ is God in flesh, whose human heart knows our utter helplessness. Christ is quick to listen and lift up our prayers, so we pray to the Prince of Peace.

For *shalom* in the church, that the hands of Christ would work for reconciliation in our society through our hands of service...

For *shalom* in our congregation, that we would not cower into our divisions, but trust in our unity enough to celebrate our differences...

For *shalom* in the world, that hunger for peace might be stronger than the impulse for war...

For *shalom* in our city, that those who hunger and thirst or shudder in the cold without home or family would be invited into our homes as people of great honor...

God-with-us in Christ, as you listen and lift up our prayers, help us to live in a way that serves your holy purpose, so all may know your *shalom*; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who taught us to pray...

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.

HYMN #119

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing