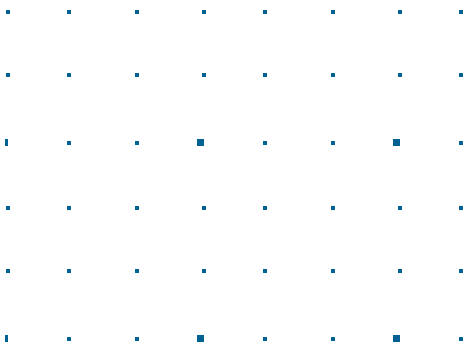




FIRST PRES  
COLORADO SPRINGS



# SERVICE OF WORSHIP

SANCTUARY 8:30 A.M.  
DECEMBER 14, 2025

Good morning, First Pres! It is so good to be together today.

Whether you've been here for years or you're joining us for the first time, this is a place where you are welcome—you've found a place where we see lives transformed in the power of Christ, shaping believers into Christian disciples who proclaim the light of the gospel and demonstrate the life of Jesus in our city and beyond.

**NEW HERE?** If today is your first time with us, we want to meet you! Please fill out a New Here card, which you can find in the seat pocket in front of you. Whether you're looking for community, a place to serve, or just have questions about what it means to follow Jesus, we're here to walk that journey with you. Stop by the Welcome Center in the Plaza to ask questions or take next steps to get connected.

# SERVICE OF WORSHIP

## PRELUDE

### **What Shall I Give to the Child?**

Jaron Klassen, piano; Dr. Adam Haas, organ

*Arranger: Douglas E. Wagner*

## INTROIT

### **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

Chris Owenby, director

*Arranger: Dan Forrest*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. John Goodale

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### **Once in Royal David's City**

No. 183

## DECLARATION OF GOOD NEWS & PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Dr. Tim McConnell

## HYMN OF ADORATION

### **What Child is This | No. 184**

Jason Crowe, bass; Scott Barbier, percussion;

Wayne Wilkinson, guitar

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

### **Introduction of the Gulati Family**

Rev. Dr. Eunice McGarrahan

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Gracious God, we celebrate the coming of Jesus who is the light of the world. His light illumines our lives and exposes even our thoughts of sin. In His penetrating light we acknowledge our darkness; in His constant grace we confess our careless love; in His generous giving we recognize our selfishness. Lord God, forgive us, for in the light of Jesus we see our sin. Please, take it away and through your light rekindle in us a striving after righteousness and a greater desire for Your glory. Amen.

## RESPONSE

### **The First Noel | No. 229**

## MINISTRY OF MUSIC

### **Shine On Us**

*Composer: Michael W. Smith*

## SERMON

### **Exposure**

John 3:16-21

Rev. Dr. Tim McConnell

## HYMN OF RESPONSE

### **Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates**

No. 176

## OFFERING OUR GIFTS

### **Of the Father's Love Begotten**

Mark Epperson, soloist

*Arranger: Brooks Hoste*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE + THE LORD'S PRAYER

## CLOSING HYMN

### **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing | No. 185**

## CHARGE & BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

### **Tidings of Joy**

*Arranger: Mary McDonald*

**“This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.”**

John 3:19

## READ AHEAD!

Next week, Rev. Dr. Tim McConnell will preach a message titled *Walk in the Light*, from 1 John 1:1-10

## NEED PRAYER?

- Find a pastor or Prayer Team member with a large red lanyard
- Fill out a Prayer Request card located in a pew pocket or in the Narthex.
- Email [prayer@firstprescos.org](mailto:prayer@firstprescos.org)

Sign up for weekly emails to stay in the loop with everything happening at First Pres.



**FIRSTPRESCOS.ORG/SUBSCRIBE**

You can also connect with us on your favorite social media platform:



@firstprescos

## IN MEMORIAM:

**Don Halford**

December 8, 2025

**Christine Weems**

December 9, 2025

## PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE HOSPITAL:

**Linda Holsworth**

St. Francis Medical Center

**Rebecca Johnson**

St. Francis Medical Center

**Jim Kelley**

Memorial Central

## FLOWER FUND GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:

**James Davis & Robert Lohse**

by Jean Lohse, Cindy & Al Hanna & Scott Davis

**Al Rich & Alan Rich**

by Donna Rich

**Ray Frank**

by Linda Champlin-Frank

**Doris Bouton**

by Annie & Rob Foster

## SESSION

Our Session meets regularly to pray, seek God's direction for First Pres, and provide spiritual leadership and missional governance. These meetings are open for members to come and observe. While discussion and voting are reserved for active elders, your presence is welcome. If you'd like to attend, please email Elizabeth at [eroth@firstprescos.org](mailto:eroth@firstprescos.org) to reserve your seat.

# The Happenings

Find all upcoming events online.  
[FIRSTPRESCOS.ORG/CALENDAR](https://firstprescos.org/CALENDAR)

## CHRISTMAS INVITATION

Celebrate Christmas Eve with us at First Pres! From our interactive Kids Nativity service to Classic Candlelight worship in the Sanctuary throughout the afternoon, and our late evening Christmas at the Table services with Communion—there's a place for everyone to experience the hope and beauty of Christmas. Who will you be inviting this year?

[FIRSTPRESCOS.ORG/CHRISTMASEVE](https://firstprescos.org/CHRISTMASEVE)



## SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT FOR CHRISTMAS

Visit our page to browse this year's meaningful gift options. Each purchase blesses and supports our local and global partners! Visit our table in the plaza to learn more.

[FIRSTPRESCOS.ORG/SOMETHINGSIGNIFICANT](https://firstprescos.org/SOMETHINGSIGNIFICANT)



## SERVE ON CHRISTMAS EVE

By giving a little of your time on Christmas Eve, you help First Pres create a warm, joy-filled experience for everyone who walks through our doors. We look forward to serving with you this Christmas!

[FIRSTPRESCOS.ORG/SERVE](https://firstprescos.org/SERVE)



## CROWN THE YEAR

Keep an eye on your mailbox—our Crown the Year letter is on its way. This year-end tradition helps us reflect on how God has carried us through 2025 and invites us to step into 2026 with gratitude and generosity.

[FIRSTPRESCOS.ORG/GIVE-NOW](https://firstprescos.org/GIVE-NOW)



## CHRISTMAS EVE ACCESSIBLE ENTRY

There are two accessible entry points. The drive-through-drop-off on Bijou Street is best for anyone needing the ramp, and our team will be ready to assist you there; your family can join after parking. You can also park in the south lot and follow signs to the south entrance, where you'll be guided to a waiting area with available tickets.

