



Message: Living Creatively in the In Between

Scripture: Luke 3:1-18

Sermon: Rev. Mark Flynn

Worship Leader: Jeff Kile

Musicians: Naomi Asher, Shelby Fowler, Tom Holler, Jason Tate,  
Jake Byrd

Opening

“Come Lord Jesus (Even So Come)”

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Welcome

Lighting the Advent Candle

Prayer

Scripture

Sermon

Communion

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Benediction

*We embrace Jesus' message that God loves and accepts every person.  
Therefore, we welcome all to share in the life and ministry of this community of  
faith. Our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender  
identity, sexual orientation, marital status, economic condition, physical ability or  
mental ability.*

# Welcome to First Church

## Holy Communion

We believe that Christ invites all people to dine at His table, anyone who is seeking to respond to God's gracious offer of love. Therefore, you do not need to be a member of this church or any church to participate in this meal; all are invited! When you come forward, a piece of bread will be placed in your cupped hands, you will dip the bread in the cup and consume the bread and juice together. A gluten-free option is available directly to the right of the altar. The baskets located beside the Communion stations are for donations to our Community Assistance Fund, which allows us to responsibly assist our neighbors in their time of need.

## Connect & Respond

### Helping Children Who Are Homeless, Year-Round (12-3)

A few Sunday afternoons ago, a small group of people heard Greg Chadwick, Executive Director of Family Promise of Roane County, discuss recent changes to that group's ministry.

- No longer are homeless families with children being housed in the building of participating churches. Now those families are staying at Bethel Presbyterian Church in Kingston.
- No longer do participating churches need to find volunteers to spend the night on cots in their building. Now volunteers only need to drop off food for the families for one week each quarter.
- No longer is our congregation lacking someone to coordinate our efforts in this ministry. Now we have two persons who have stepped forward to organize our volunteers who want to make a difference in the lives of homeless children and their families! Our thanks to Terry Pfeiffer and Jan Melcher for agreeing to be co-chairs!

One thing that has not changed is the great need for this ministry in our area. Families without a home have to be turned away each week for lack of participation by local churches. If you would like to join our congregation's efforts to prepare and/or deliver food to homeless children and their families, one day each quarter, please contact the church office. Your name will be passed on to Terry and Jan to be included in our communications and efforts.

### Read the Bible In A Year

Bishop Wallace-Padgett invites everyone in the Holston Annual Conference to join her [Read Together initiative](#) and read through the Bible in one year. This program will begin on January 2, 2022.

Each day of the week will include chapters from different writing genres in scripture: Sunday—Gospel; Monday—Law; Tuesday—History; Wednesday—Psalms; Thursday—Poetry; Friday—Prophets; Saturday—Epistles. For more information, to download the entire [2022 Reading Plan](#), or to subscribe to receive a Daily Devotional email, go to [click here and subscribe](#).



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