



December 31, 2023

**HODGES BOULEVARD
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

4140 Hodges Boulevard
Jacksonville, FL 32224
hbpcusa.org
904.223.6922

ENJOY + ENGAGE + EQUIP

Order of Worship

- *SONGS OF PRAISE** Faith + 1
- WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** JoAnne Sharp
- OPENING PRAYER** Bayler, 1996
- *HYMN OF PRAISE** *Once in Royal David's City* #140
- CHILDREN'S TIME** Diana Bradshaw
(Children through 5th grade may exit)
- CALL TO CONFESSION** Carolyn Wohlwend
Like Simeon and Anna, we recognize the One who saves us. Let us confess our need for the gift of his grace:
- PRAYER OF CONFESSION**
Loving God, our holidays seem to have so very little of the Holy in them. We have given and received presents but failed to be truly present for one another. We celebrate with friends, but neglect to welcome the stranger in our midst. We feast on rich food and drink, but do not make time to be fed by your Spirit. We make New Year's resolutions but fail to put you first on our list. In your mercy, forgive us. Refocus our priorities and remind us once more of the gift worth the wait - the gift of the Christ-child - in whose name we pray. . . (moments of silence)
- ASSURANCE OF PARDON**
This is the news that brings us gladness: God comes to us in Christ.
Emmanuel- God's gift of grace to the world!
He breaks the bonds of sin and shines the light of love into our hearts.
This is our joy – that we are redeemed and made whole.
Thanks be to God for this amazing gift.
- *RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS** *Gloria Patri*

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Family of God

(Please remain standing and pass the peace of Christ.)

OFFERING & MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Carolyn Wohlwend

As your word is read, Holy One, open our eyes to recognize your presence; open our ears to hear your truth, and open our hearts to receive your love. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 148

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 2:22-40

SERMON

Worth the Wait

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. What is the chief and highest purpose of humanity?

A. Humanity's chief and highest purpose is to glorify God, and to fully enjoy God forever.

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Who Would Think That What Was Needed

#138

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is 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.

***CLOSING PRAISE**

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

#545

***BLESSING**

Psalm 40:16

But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!"

***PARTING MUSIC**

**All who are able may stand*

Welcome Guests

We welcome all who are worshipping with us today. If you are our guest, we pray that your experience will nurture your faith and that you feel welcome in this community of faith.

Nursery: Available from 9:45 –11:15 am

Children's Worship: K-5th Grades

After the Children's Time during the service, volunteers will escort the children from worship to the Fellowship Hall for special stories and activities geared just for them. Parents may pick them up after worship.

Calendar

Sunday, December 31	9:00 am 10:00 am	Bible Year Study Group Worship
Monday, January 1		Church Office Closed
Tuesday, January 2	7:00 pm	Deacons
Wednesday, January 3	7:30 am 10:00 am 7:00 pm	Bibles and No Bagels Women's Bible Study Wednesday Night Program
Thursday, January 4	7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Outreach Property
Sunday, January 7	9:00 am 10:00 am 11:15 am	Adult Sunday School Worship Deacon & Elder Training

Remember in Prayer

Nancy Gonzalez (Crystal Phillips' mother)
Margo Grout
Judy Klein
Brant Newland

Betty Phillips
George Ross
Scott Welch

Please complete the welcome card located in your bulletin and place it the offering plate.