



PINE SHORES CHURCH, PC(U.S.A.)

14 DECEMBER, 2025 | 9:45 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

The mission of Pine Shores Presbyterian Church is to encourage, equip, and empower each other to serve the needs of a hurting and broken world by sharing the hope and joy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed.



WHERE EVERY STORY FINDS A HOME

Here at Pine Shores we follow Jesus with open hearts. We're an intergenerational, fully inclusive church, welcoming all ages and identities into full participation and leadership. We pray honestly, make space to explore faith, and serve Sarasota and beyond. We value grace, acceptance, and the journey toward Christ-like living. Whether you're seeking hope, belonging, or deeper spiritual growth, you belong here!

Notes about our worship service:

- An asterisk* welcomes all to rise – in body or spirit.
- **Bold text** means the congregation is invited to speak aloud together.
- Pine Shores Presbyterian Church celebrates an open table; all who desire to know the love of Jesus Christ are welcome to partake in the sacrament of communion.
- Children are fully welcome in worship! Please do not worry if your child makes noise or gets the wiggles. They are an important part of our church community! If you prefer, nursery is provided in rooms 109 & 111.
- Additional Family bathrooms are available inside the Sanctuary on each far side.
- Our congregation is committed to using inclusive and expansive language for God and God's people. While an element of worship may use language that assigns a particular gender to God, we strive to maintain a balance so that God's fullness might be honored.
- Large print bulletins and hearing aid devices are available inside the sanctuary. Induction Loop Hearing System is available in the Sanctuary (switch hearing aid to T-coil).

941-922-1597

WWW.PINESHORESPRES.ORG



6116 CRESTWOOD AVENUE,
SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34231

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

14 December 2025 | Third Sunday of Advent

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Meditation on The Rocking Carol
by John S. Dixon

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeremiah said, "I am only a boy."
Moses said, "Who am I to do this work?"
Mary said, "How can this be?"
We often say, "But God, I am afraid."
Even when we are afraid,
God invites us closer.
So may we trust the Inviter.
May we heed God's invitation.
May we summon our courage and
sing God's praise.
Let us worship our courageous, inviting,
calling God. Amen!

*CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

In a world full of fear, where do you see
glimmers of joy?

We see glimmers of joy in birthday
candles and homemade cards. We see
joy in the laughter of children and the
delight of grandparents. We see joy in
meals around the table and in the
singing of Christmas songs.

... May this flicker of light help us
remember that even in a fearful world,
joy is here. Joy is real.
We only have to look for it.

Lighting of the Candle

Thanks be to God for that good news!
Amen.

*HYMN

O Come, Take Heart (see insert)
Words by Anna Strickland

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Courageous God,
you invite us to live into our call.
You invite us to act, to serve, and to trust.
Instead of responding with a
resounding "yes,"
we often hide our face.
We dig our heels in.
We look for someone else to volunteer.
Spark courage in us.
Remind us that every person is capable
of making a difference.
Remind us that even when we're scared,
we are not alone.
You invite us forward.
With baby steps we hope, we pray,
amen.

- silence for personal confession -

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...So join me in declaring this good news:
We are known. We are forgiven!
We are sent to serve.
May we step forward in faith,
always moving closer to God's call. Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE

While We Are Waiting (verse 3) #92

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ
be with you. **And also with you.**

*RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT

WE LISTEN

TIME WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:26-39

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Threshold Fear

WE RESPOND

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We have seen the valley.

We have seen a sky without stars.

**We have seen the longest night,
and still we believe.**

We believe in a with-us God.

We believe in the hope of tomorrow.

**We believe that good news
is louder than fear.**

**We believe this good news
is for all people.**

**So even when our knees shake,
even when our voice trembles,
even when fear is all around us,
we will hold onto that good news.**

We will reach for each other.

We will look for God in our midst.

We will sing songs of joy.

We will proclaim:

Unto us, love is born.

**We have seen the longest night,
and we have seen unimaginable love.
So still, we believe.
Amen.**

ANTHEM

Ding Dong, Merrily On High
arr. Wayne Fisher

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

The First Noel by Billy Stewart

THE 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**

*DOXOLOGY

WE ARE SENT

*HYMN

My Soul Cries Out With A Joyful Shout #100

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sing We Now of Christmas arr. Mark Hayes

*At this time please feel free to depart,
or remain to enjoy the music.*



You can give online by
scanning the QR Code,
or texting 941-888-3118

*RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT



WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

CLERGY Rev. Alex Evangelista

LITURGIST Abbie Robinson

CANDLE LIGHTERS

Thomas & Trudi Mueller, Mia Gemesi

MUSICIAN Wayne Fisher

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Dec 15: Tripp Lorenz III

Dec 17: Russ Natherson,

Jeannette Ruggiano

Dec 19: Alison Haskins

THIS WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES

Dec 16: Sherry & John Sholtis

WORSHIP NOTES

The liturgy is adapted from "Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion," a resource by Westminster John Knox Press, the Book of Common Worship, and Call to Worship, Vol. 58.1 by the Office of Theology and Worship of the PCUSA. Music license: One License with License #A-711 467. Streaming permission obtained from CCLI with Streaming Plus License # 20649150. Church Copyright License # 29963. ASCAP License #500638198.

The image on the bulletin comes from @Sanctified Art, by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, *Mary's Yes*. For more information, see the bulletin insert.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Scan the QR Code for our weekly e-gram

or Visit our Social Media:

www.pineshorespres.org

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STAFF

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Wayne Fisher, Director of Music

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Debby Wendell, Day Camp Coordinator

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