

# The Evening Service, five o'clock

You also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. Ephesians 2:22



You are cordially invited to join us this evening at 5:00 to honor the birth of our Savior, Emmanuel — God with us, through congregational carols, an instrumental ensemble, a solo rendition of "O Holy Night" by Brianna Pylant, and a Homily by the Rev. Richard Hammond: "Pondering Christmas."

**Come early to enjoy the Festival Ensemble prelude.**

Be sure to invite your family and friends to join with us in worship of our Lord.

As this is a time of worship for the whole family, childcare will not be available.

## Thank You

The staff of Christ Church would like to thank each of you for the generous, thoughtful Christmas gifts. We are truly blessed with a loving, godly family here at Christ Church and count it a joy and a privilege to serve you and our heavenly Father in our respective areas of responsibility. It is our prayer that in return, God blesses each of you exponentially.

Rev. Richard Hammond    Stan Pylant, Dir. of Music    Scott Doss, Audio/Visual

Laura Doss, Organist    Charles Caruso, Sexton

Chris Nabholz, Interim Youth Dir.    Shirley McBride, Secretary/Bookkeeper

## This Week at Christ Church

Week of December 24 – December 30

### SUNDAY, December 24

8:00 a.m. ....WGAC, 580AM and 95.1FM Radio, and *wgac.com* Broadcasts

11:00 a.m. ....Morning Worship ..... Sanctuary

On the final verse of the second hymn, children in K4 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade may exit for Catechism.

5:00 p.m. ....Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship ..... Sanctuary

Please see the Home Bible Study Schedule following Other Announcements for upcoming opportunities to study God's Word.

The Church Office will be on Christmas break all week.

Please note that contributions will be deposited on January 2, but credited for 2017.

### Assisting in the Services

Elders greeting at the doors before this morning's service are John Dunsmore & Ora Parish.

Ushers are Jim Avery, Stephen Dyer, Andrew Norkus & John Norkus.

The Deacon on Duty is Charles Kimbrell.

Elders greeting at the doors next Lord's Day will be Gene Gojda & Mel Jewett.

Ushers next Lord's Day will be Will Boyd, Chris Lammie, Ed Russell & Derrick Smits.

The Deacon on Duty will be Wade Caldwell.

### Staff

Rev. Robert Hendrick, Pastor-Elect

Dr. Stan Pylant, Director of Music; Mrs. Laura Doss, Organist

Mr. Chris Nabholz, Interim Director of Student Ministries

Mrs. Shirley McBride, Secretary/Bookkeeper

Mr. Scott Doss, AV & Digital Media Director; Mr. Charles Caruso, Sexton

### Christ Church, Presbyterian

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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## Christ Church, Presbyterian The Lord's Day, December 24, 2017

### The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains.

— James 5:7

## The Morning Service, eleven o'clock

To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood. Revelation 1:5

† indicates the congregation standing; • indicates seating for those detained

The prelude is a time set aside for quieting our hearts before God in preparation for worship. Please silence cell phones and other electronic devices, and respectfully refrain from unnecessary conversation.

The Organ Prelude – What Child Is This?..... arr. Hobby

• The Welcome, Announcements & Invocation.....Mike Boyd, Ruling Elder

The Choral Call to Worship ..... French Carol, arr. Stan Pylant  
Light the Light, the Fire of Life

Light the Light, the Fire of Life, let the candle reveal His glory,  
Jesus Christ has come to earth and for us shall come again.

Light the candle of His birth, Advent's promise now fulfilling,  
Light the candle of His birth, light the light of Christmas Eve.

Light the Light, the Fire of Life, let the candle reveal His glory,  
Jesus Christ has come to earth and for us shall come again.

Sanctuary Choir

The Scriptural Call to Worship ..... Psalm 138:1-6

I give You thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing Your praise; I bow down toward Your holy temple and give thanks to Your name for Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness, for You have exalted above all things Your name and Your word. On the day I called, You answered me; my strength of soul You increased. All the kings of the earth shall give You thanks, O Lord, for they have heard the words of Your mouth, and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord. For though the Lord is high, He regards the lowly, but the haughty He knows from afar.

• † The Hymn of Adoration – (Trinity Hymnal, No. 214) ..... GLORIA  
Angels We Have Heard on High

† **The Confession of Faith** ..... The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord;

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell;

the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic\* Church;

the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen. (\*universal)

† **The Gloria Patri** (735 in the Trinity Hymnal)..... GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

• **The Gospel Lesson**..... Matthew 24:1-14 (page 829)

**The Response**

Pastor: This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**The Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession**

**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.

**The Offering and the Prayer of Dedication**

(Please record your attendance in the green Friendship Register.)

**The Offertory Anthem** – Silent Night .....arr. Eric Nelson

Silent night, holy night!

All is calm, all is bright

Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.

Holy infant so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace,

Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!

Son of God love’s pure light

Radiant beams from Thy holy face,

With dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus Lord, at Thy birth,

Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.

Sanctuary Choir

† **The Hymn of Preparation** – (Trinity Hymnal, No. 213).....GREENSLEEVES

What Child Is This

On the final verse, children in K4 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade may exit for Catechism.

**The New Testament Lesson** ..... James 5:7-9 (page 1013)

**The Response**

Pastor: This is the Word of God.

People: Thanks be to Thee, O God.

**The Prayer for Illumination**

**The Sermon**..... The Rev. Richard Hammond, *guest*

FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD

Expositions of the Book of James

"When He Shall Come"

† **The Hymn of Response** – (Trinity Hymnal, No. 156).....ST. THEODULPH

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

† **The Benediction**

† **The Organ Postlude** – Hark! the Herald Angels Sing.....arr. Hobby

**Welcome**

We are delighted that you have joined us in worship today. It is our desire that, as prayers are raised, hymns and anthems are sung, and God’s Word is proclaimed, our worship will bring glory to God and gladness to His people. Indeed, we pray that you will personally be blessed by the corporate worship of the Triune God and return to worship with us next Lord’s Day. If you would like to know more about Christ Church, how to become a member, or, most importantly, how to have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, please talk with an elder standing in the narthex after the service.

**Evening Worship**

You are invited to join us this evening for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship beginning at 5:00 to honor the birth of our Savior through Scripture, congregational carols, an instrumental ensemble, and Homily by the Rev. Richard Hammond; "Pondering Christmas," from Luke 1:26-34. We encourage you to invite your family and friends for this special time of worship, adoration, and celebration.

**Advent Wreath**

The third purple candle, the last to be lit in the outer circle of the wreath, is known as “The Angels’ Candle.” It represents the message of peace with God through Christ that the heavenly host delivered on the night of the Messiah’s birth. “And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!’” (Luke 2:13-14).

**Christian Sympathy**

Christian sympathy is extended to Rev. Robbie Hendrick and family on the passing of his believing father, Robert "Bob" Lawrence Hendrick, Sr., on Sunday, December 17.

*I am the resurrection and the life. – John 11:25*

**Other Announcements**

**Christmas Missionary Love-Gifts** – Christ Church members celebrate the Christmas season each year with donations toward a monetary Christmas gift to our missionaries who are serving in the field, as an extra remembrance of their work for the Gospel. If you were unable to attend our recent dinner and would like to make a contribution, please mark your donation "Missionary Love-Gift" and place it in the offering plate by the end of the year.

**Jews for Jesus Gifts** – Special donations are being accepted to express love and appreciation for the Jews for Jesus evangelism ministry. Please contribute as God directs by placing your donation in the offering plate by the end of December, marked "Jews for Jesus."

**Sunday School Break** – There will be no Sunday school sessions on New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31. All classes will resume normal schedules on January 7, 2018.

**Children's Program Break** – The children will remain in the Sanctuary during evening worship as the Children's Program will be on break until Sunday, January 7, 2018.

**Stewardship Pledge Cards** – Recently, we had the opportunity to lay before the Lord our financial commitments to the work of Christ Church for 2018. If you were unable to participate, please prayerfully consider what the Lord would have you give in support of His work through Christ Church and either place your card in the offering plate or mail it to the Church Office by the end of December. Our Deacons have additional pledge cards for your use.

**Home Bible Studies Schedule**

**TUESDAY**

7:00 p.m. .... Adult Bible Study, Augusta..... Moncrief Home  
January 2 .....706-737-5953, 2910 Mayfair Road in Augusta

7:00 p.m. .... Adult Bible Study, Evans..... Jones Home  
January 9 .....706-231-3758, 503 Thompkins Lane in Evans

**THURSDAY**

6:45 p.m. .... Women's Evening Bible Study..... Boyd Home  
January 11.....706-736-4373, 9 Summerville Lane in Augusta

**Missionary Prayer**

Please remember these missionaries designated for special prayer in our worship services today and in your daily prayers this week:

Oliver Bible and Mission Foundation, *Matthews, NC*

Please be in prayer for the Lord to continue His work of using this ministry to assist those in world missions to live, and teach, that the Christian life should be lived by the strength of the indwelling risen Christ.