

The Lord's Day Evening

6:00 p.m.

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

- **The Piano Prelude** – Still, Still, Still Austrian Carol, arr. Ham
Mrs. Cathie McClure, pianist

The Words of Welcome & Prayer of Invocation Rev. J. Josiah Jones, *Pastor*

- † **The Hymn No. 223** – While Shepherd Watched Their Flocks CHRISTMAS

The Evening Prayer

The Hymn No. 211 – God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen GOD REST YOU MERRY

The Offering & Prayer of Dedication

The Piano Offertory Old English Carol, arr. Gesare
While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

The Hymn No. 199 SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW
See, amid the Winter's Snow

On the final verse, children in K-4 through Grade 4 may exit for the Children's program.

The New Testament Reading Luke 1:39-56 (page 856)

The Response
Pastor: This is the Word of God.
People: **Thanks be to Thee, O God.**

The Prayer for Illumination

The Sermon – THE BLESSINGS OF CHRISTMAS FAITH Rev. Jones

- † **The Hymn No. 210** – Silent Night! Holy Night! STILLE NACHT

- † **The Benediction**

The Piano Postlude French Carol, arr. Wyrzten
Sing We Now of Christmas

This Week at Christ Church

Week of December 23 – December 29, 2012

SUNDAY, December 23

8:00 a.m. WGAC, 580AM and 95.1FM Radio Broadcast

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

Nursery (Birth-23 mos.) Nursery 1

Preschool (24-48 mos.) Nursery 2

K-4 - K-5 Children's House

Grades 1-3 Children's House

Grades 4-5 Children's House

Middle & High School Youth Youth House

Special Education Deacons' Room

Adult Covenant Hall

11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Sanctuary

On the second hymn, children in K4 through Grade 3 may exit for Catechism.

5:15 p.m. Prayer Meeting Fellowship Hall

6:00 p.m. Evening Worship Sanctuary

On the third hymn, children in K4 through Grade 4 may exit for the Children's Program.

MONDAY, December 24

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service Sanctuary

TUESDAY, December 25

Christmas Day Church Office Closed

WEDNESDAY, December 26

7:00 p.m. No Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Assisting in the Services

Elders greeting at the doors before this morning's service are McDonald Law & Mike Boyd.

Ushers are Lanier Adams, William Jewett, Charles Kimbrell, John Norkus & Mark Walters.

The Deacon on Duty is Charles Kimbrell.

Elders greeting at the doors next Lord's Day will be Glynn Dyer & Billy Hatcher.

Ushers next Lord's Day will be Will Boyd, Wade Caldwell, Jonathan Kimbrell, John Norkus & Ed Russell.

The Deacon on Duty will be John Norkus.

Staff

Rev. J. Josiah Jones, *Pastor*

Dr. Mark Nabholz, *Director of Music*; Mr. Scott Doss, *Interim Office Manager & A/V Director*;

Mrs. Laura Lowe, *Morning Organist*;

Mrs. Shirley Taylor, *Bookkeeper*; Mr. Charles Caruso, *Custodian*

Christ Church, Presbyterian

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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The Lord's Day Morning Christ Church, Presbyterian

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2012 – 11:00 a.m.

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

The Greater Truth of Christmas

"If we could condense all the truths of Christmas into only three words, these would be the words: 'God with us.' We tend to focus our attention at Christmas on the infancy of Christ. The greater truth of the holiday is His deity. More astonishing than a baby in the manger is the truth that this promised baby is the omnipotent Creator of the heavens and the earth!"

John MacArthur (b. 1939)

The Order of Worship

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

Please silence all cell phones and pagers.

- **The Trumpet & Organ Prelude** – What Child Is This arr. Bulla
Todd Jenkins, trumpet

The Prelude is a time set aside for quieting our hearts before God in preparation for worship.

The Choral Call to Worship Vivaldi
Gloria in excelsis Deo. (Glory to God in the highest.)

- **The Words of Welcome and Announcements** Rev. J. Josiah Jones, *Pastor*

The Scriptural Call to Worship Isaiah 9:2,6
Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People: Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

Pastor: For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given;

And the government shall be upon His shoulder,

**People: And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

The Prayer of Invocation

- † **The Hymn No. 208** – O Come, All Ye Faithful ADESTE FIDELES

† **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** (*Trinity Hymnal No. 734*) MEINEKE

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, amen.

The Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession.....Rev. Jones

The Private Confession of Sin

The Scriptural Assurance of Pardon (Psalm 103:1-3)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord,

O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, Who forgives all your iniquity, Who heals all

your diseases.

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 Old Testament Reading..... Isaiah 9:2-7 (*page 573*)

The Response.....Isaiah 40:8

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

People: But the word of our God stands forever.

The Offering and the Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory Anthem..... Bach

Jesu, Joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright,

Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring, soar to uncreated light.

Word of God in flesh now fashioned, clothed with love and holy passion;

Through His sacrifice forgiven, wine of truth and Bread of heaven.

† **The Hymn No. 213** - What Child Is This GREENSLEEVES

On the final verse, children in K4 through Grade 3 may exit for Catechism.

The New Testament Reading.....John 1:1-14 (*page 886*)

The Response..... Revelation 2:29

Pastor: He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says.

People: Grant us ears, O Lord, to hear Your word.

The Prayer for Illumination

The Sermon - WHO IS THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS?Rev. Jones

† **The Hymn No. 221**.....ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

† **The Benediction**

† **The Benediction Response** (*sung by all*).....ANTIOCH

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love;

And wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

The Trumpet & Organ Postlude..... arr. Head

Angels We Have Heard on High

Welcome

Thank you for joining us in worship today! Our hope is that as the Word is preached, as prayers are lifted up, and as hymns and anthems are sung, you will be blessed by the corporate worship of the triune God and will return to worship with us again soon. One of our Elders will be stationed near the piano following the service should you desire to know more about Christ Church, how to become a member here, or how to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

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.

Evening Worship

Is there someplace you would rather be this evening than gathered with God's people to worship Him? Be sure to return for Evening Worship at 6:00 when Pastor Jones will bring a sermon from Luke 1:39-56 entitled "The Blessings of Christmas Faith."

Christmas Eve Family Service

You are warmly welcomed to join us tomorrow evening at at 5:00 p.m. for our Christmas Eve Family Service. Music will be provided by the organ and choir, and Pastor Jones will preach a sermon entitled "Responding to the Glorious News of Messiah's Birth" from Luke 2:8-21. A special offering will be received for the ministry of Jews for Jesus, International.

Other Announcements

Year-End Giving - As we approach the end of the year, please remember that, in order for year-end giving to be credited to fiscal year 2012, contributions must be received in the office or postmarked by December 31, 2012.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper - Next month's observance of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will take place on Sunday, January 13. All communing members of Christ Church are urged to be present for this important part of our Christian life together.

Christmas Festival Service CD's - Compact Disc recordings of this year's Christmas Festival Service will be available in the next few weeks at a cost of \$12.00 each. *Orders may be placed using the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table.*

Pray for Our Missionaries

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

Bruce and Barbara Wannemacher, *Mission to the World (PCA), South Africa*

Missionaries in harm's way

AGAPE Ministry, *Augusta, Georgia*

Alliance Defense Fund, *Scottsdale, Arizona*

Missionaries and Agencies Receiving Support from Christ Church, Presbyterian

Missionaries in harm's way are not listed.

AGAPE Ministry, *Augusta, Georgia*

Alliance Defense Fund, *Scottsdale, Arizona*

Rick and Betty Aschmann, *Mission to the World (PCA), Ecuador*

Dick and Nancy Baggé, *Wycliffe Bible Translators, Kenya*

Bob and Andrea Burnham, *Mission to the World (PCA), Ukraine*

Louis and Anne Carter, *SIM, Kenya and Papua New Guinea*

Child Evangelism Fellowship, *Augusta, Georgia*

Paul and Laura Chinchon, *African Bible Colleges, Malawi, Uganda, and Liberia*

Cheryl Crocker, *Mission to the World (PCA)*

Karl and Debbie Dortzbach, *Mission to the World (PCA), Kenya*

Evangelical Reformed Seminary of Ukraine, *Mission to the World (PCA)*

Glenn and Sharlene Grubb, *Wycliffe Bible Translators/Mission to the World (PCA)*

Eliseo and Paula Guadagno, *Operation Mobilization, Italy*

Heritage Academy, *Augusta, Georgia*

Tim and Lana Higginbotham, *NAIM, Vancouver, Canada*

Institute for Creation Research (ICR)

Jay and Nancy Matsinger, *Mission to the World (PCA), France*

Kurt and Pat Nelson, *East-West Ministries Intl., Albania, Kazakhstan, Spain, Cuba*

Doug and Amy Nunziato, *World Team, Spain*

Clay and Darlene Quarterman, *Mission to the World (PCA), Ukraine*

Charles Rector, *Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship (PEF), Augusta, Georgia*

Twin Lakes Fellowship, *Jackson, Mississippi*

Paul Volpitto, *Augusta School of Biblical Studies (ASBS), Augusta, Georgia*

Bruce and Barbara Wannemacher, *Mission to the World (PCA), South Africa*