

The Evening Service, six o'clock

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

- The Piano Prelude – Once in Royal David's City..... Gauntlett, arr. Wyrzten
Mrs. Catharine McClure, *piano*

The Opening Scripture The Rev. J. Josiah Jones, *Pastor*

- † The Hymn No. 100 (*Trinity Hymnal*) – Holy, Holy, Holy!..... NICAEA

† The Invocation

The Hymn No. 53 (*Family Songs*) – O Breath of GodBREATH OF GOD
(vv. 1 & 2)

Children's Choir Anthems (*see insert*)

The Hymn No. 53 (*Family Songs*) – O Breath of GodBREATH OF GOD
(vv. 3 & 4)

The Evening PrayerThe Rev. Jones

The Offering and the Prayer of Dedication
(Please record your attendance in the green Friendship Register.)

The Piano Offertory – Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming arr. Bock

- † The Hymn No. 86 (*Family Songs*) – Search Me, O GodMAORI
On the final verse, children in K4 through Grade 5 may exit for the Children's Program.

The New Testament Lesson Hebrews 12:12–17 (*page 1009*)

The Response

Minister: This is the Word of God. People: Thanks be to Thee, O God.

The Prayer for Illumination

The Sermon – AN ABSOLUTELY CRITICAL PURSUIT The Rev. Jones

- † The Hymn No. 585 (*Trinity Hymnal*) – Take My Life, and Let It Be.... HENDON

† The Benediction

The Piano Postlude – O Come, All Ye FaithfulWade, arr. Lopez

This Week at Christ Church

Week of December 7 – December 13

SUNDAY, December 7

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

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 1-2 Children's House

Grades 3-4 Children's House

Grades 5-6 Youth House

Grades 7-8 Youth House

Grades 9-12 Youth House

Special Education.....Deacons' Room

Young Adults.....Upper Room

Young Families Church Office

Adult..... Covenant Hall

11:00 a.m.Morning Worship Sanctuary

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

4:30 p.m. Augusta Youth Chorale RehearsalSanctuary

5:00 p.m. Sunday Prayer Meeting.....Covenant Hall

6:00 p.m. Evening Worship Sanctuary

On the fourth hymn, children in K4 through Grade 5 may exit for the Children's Program.

7:30 p.m.Youth Gathering..... Russell Home

MONDAY, December 8

7:00 p.m. Trail Life..... Covenant Hall

TUESDAY, December 9

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting Church Office

WEDNESDAY, December 10

6:30 p.m.Youth Gathering..... Covenant Hall

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

8:30 p.m.Brass Ensemble Rehearsal..... Sanctuary

THURSDAY, December 11

6:45 p.m. Women's Evening Bible Study.....Folley Home

FRIDAY, December 12

7:00 a.m.....Men's Prayer Breakfast Covenant Hall

SATURDAY, December 13

2:30 p.m.Christmas Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Assisting in the Services

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

Ushers are Will Boyd, Wade Caldwell, Jonathan Kimbrell, Hamilton McDaniel & Ed Russell.

The Deacon on Duty is Wade Caldwell.

Elders greeting at the doors next Lord's Day will be George Bowen & McDonald Law.

Ushers next Lord's Day will be Lanier Adams, Richard Deal, Mark Goodell, Charles Kimbrell & Mark Walters.

The Deacon on Duty will be Ed Russell.

Staff

The Rev. J. Josiah Jones, *Pastor*

Dr. Mark Nabholz, *Director of Music*; Mr. Mark Dickens, *Organist*

Mrs. Shirley McBride, *Secretary/Bookkeeper*

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

Christ Church, Presbyterian

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Christ Church, Presbyterian The Lord's Day, December 7, 2014

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Christmas Message of Hope

The Christmas message is that there is hope for ruined humanity—hope of pardon, hope of peace with God, hope of glory—because at the Father's will Jesus became poor, and was born in a stable so that thirty years later He might hang on a cross.

—J. I. Packer

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

To avoid distractions during worship, please silence all cell phones and pagers.

- The Organ Prelude – Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming Brahms

The Choral Call to Worship VENI EMMANUEL

O come, Thou Dayspring come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Scriptural Call to WorshipPsalm 107:1-2, 9

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

People: For His steadfast love endures forever!

Pastor: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
whom He has redeemed from trouble,

People: For He satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul He fills with good things.

- † The Hymn of Praise – (*Trinity Hymnal*, No. 193).....PICARDY
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

† The Invocation & Prayer of Adoration..... The Rev. J. Josiah Jones, *Pastor*

† **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 Old Testament LessonPsalm 51:1–19(*page 474*)

The ResponseIsaiah 40:8

Pastor: The grass withers, and the flower fades,

People: But the word of our God stands forever.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, to real to hide, and too deep to

undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer

bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free

from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be

changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in Your likeness and

image, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

The Individual Confession of Sin (*silently*)

The Scriptural Assurance of Pardon1 Peter 2:24

“He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and

live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed.”

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord’s Prayer (*using debts and debtors*)

The Prayer Response (*sung by all*)GREEN

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son,

Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One,

Thank you oh my Father, for giving us Your Son,

And leaving Your Spirit, 'til the work on earth is done.

The Offering and the Prayer of Dedication

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

The Offertory Anthem.....GOTTES SOHN IST KOMMEN, arr. Sedio

Once He came in blessing, all our sins redressing;

Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;

Bore the cross to save us; hope and freedom gave us.

Still He comes within us; still His voice would win us

From the sins that hurt us; would to truth convert us

From our foolish error ere He comes in terror.

Thus, if we have known Him, not ashamed to own Him,

Nor have spurned Him coldly, but will trust Him boldly,

He will then receive you, heal you, and forgive you.

Those who then are loyal find a welcome royal.

Come, then, O Lord Jesus, from our sins release us;

Let us here confess You, till in heav'n we bless You.

Michelle Britton, flute

† **The Hymn of Preparation** (*Trinity Hymnal, No. 498*)..... HYFRYDOL

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

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

The Gospel Lesson John 21:1–14 (*page 907*)

The Response

Pastor: This is the Gospel of Christ. People: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Prayer for Illumination

The SermonRev. Jones

A RESTORING REVELATION OF THE RISEN CHRIST, PT. 1

† **The Hymn of Response** (*Family Songs, No. 7*)THRONE ROOM

Before the Throne of God Above

† **The Benediction**

The Organ Postlude – Toccata on *Veni Emmanuel*.....Carter

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 by the piano following the service.

Officer Elections

Today following Morning Worship there will be a congregational meeting for the purpose

of electing officers to the Session class of 2017. A letter was mailed to member homes

providing information about the two Elder candidates, Billy Hatcher and Ora Parish. It is

both a privilege and responsibility of communing members, upon prayerful consideration

of the officer candidates, to participate in the election process, trusting in God’s sovereign

hand to continue to put godly officers in place. The election results will be announced

during Evening Worship.

Christmas Festival Service

Make plans to attend – and invite friends to join you – for this year’s Christmas Festival

Service next Sunday, December 14, at 6:00 p.m. The Christ Church Choir accompanied

by a chamber ensemble will present Dietrich Buxtehude’s “The Infant Jesus,” along with

music by Ola Gjeilo, John Rutter, and Dan Forrest. Pastor Jones will bring the sermon

about “The Heart of Christmas” from 1 John 4:7–12.

Scripture Memory

In addition to spending time daily in personal devotion and study, one of the best ways to go deeper into God’s Word is by committing it to memory and meditating upon it throughout the day. Let us together go deeper in God’s Word, memorizing this week Matthew 4:19, “And He said to them, ‘Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men’” (Series A: Live the New Life; Topic: Witnessing).

Evening Service

The God Who has drawn near to us in Christ is holy. He has drawn near to us, not

only to commune with us, but also to conform us more into the likeness of His dear

Son—the Holy One of Israel. This Evening Pastor Jones will take us to Hebrews 12:12–17

to impress upon us the simple but sober truth: Holiness is not only God’s *purpose* for our

lives; it must also be the *pursuit* of our lives. “An Absolutely Critical Pursuit.” Tonight

we also look forward to hearing the Christ Church Children’s Choir, directed by Kay

Lovingood. Let us gather this evening to worship in the beauty of holiness!

Other Announcements

Advent Wreath – The second purple candle, known as the “Bethlehem Candle,” reminds

us that God in Christ appeared to men in the most humble manner. Bethlehem was a

small town in the territory of the least powerful of all the tribes of Israel. “*But you, Bethlehem*

Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to

Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting” (Micah 5:2).

Youth Gatherings – Tonight following Evening Worship the Youth of Christ Church

will gather for a time of fellowship at the home of Maria and Ed Russell located at 704

Whittington’s Ridge in Evans. The Youth will also meet this Wednesday from 6:30 until

8:30 p.m. Snack supper and fellowship will begin at 6:30, followed by a time of singing,

praying and teaching. Come fellowship and grow with us this Wednesday night.

Women’s Evening Bible Study – Ladies, you are invited the join us for a special time of

fellowship and study of God’s Word this Thursday, December 11, at 6:45 p.m. We will

meet this week at the home of Martha Folley located at 2703 Downing Street in Augusta.

Men’s Prayer Breakfast – “Personal discipline,” says R. Kent Hughes, “is the indispens-

able key for accomplishing anything in this life.” What is true in every area of life is

especially true when it comes to growing in godliness. Yet, discipline in godliness is the ex-

ception rather than the rule among Evangelicals today—especially among men. Our desire

at Christ Church is that it would be the rule rather than the exception. That is why the

men of Christ Church are discussing Hughes’ powerful book, *Disciplines of a Godly Man*, at

each Men’s Prayer Breakfast before engaging in the discipline of prayer. Men, join us this

Friday at 7:00 a.m. in Covenant Hall for food, fellowship, discussion of the “Discipline of

Fatherhood” and a time of prayer. “God is looking for a few good men!”

Stewardship Report – The Session and Diaconate would like to thank all in the congrega-

tion who have given pledges toward the kingdom work of Christ Church, Presbyterian

for the fiscal year 2015. If you were unable to attend on Stewardship Sunday, please

place your pledge card in the offering plate today, as this is last day for pledge cards to

be received. Additional pledge cards are available on the Deacon’s tables at the back of

the sanctuary. In response to God’s infinite grace, let us sow generously, cheerfully and

expectantly.

Church Decorations – Every year during Advent we are blessed by the work of a gifted

group of ladies who take the time to decorate Christ Church and our campus beautifully.

On behalf of the congregation, we would like to express our great thanks to Martha Folley

and to all those who worked with her to “dress up” Christ Church as we celebrate the

coming of our Savior.

Pray for Our Missionaries

Please remember these missionaries and organizations designated for special prayer in

our worship services today and in your daily prayers this week:

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*

Oliver Bible and Mission Foundation, *Matthews, NC*