

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 – What Child is This?..... English Melody, arr. Ham
Felix Pei, *piano*

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

- † The Hymn No. 218 (*Trinity Hymnal*) REGENT SQUARE
Angels, from the Realms of Glory

† The Invocation

The Hymns & Carols Chosen by the Congregation

The Evening Prayer The Rev. Jones

The Offering and the Prayer of Dedication

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

The Piano Offertory – It Came Upon a Midnight Clear..... Willis, arr. Ham
Toku Shi, *piano*

- † The Hymns & Carols Chosen by the Congregation
On the final verse, children in K4 through Grade 5 may exit for the Children's Program.

The New Testament LessonsHebrews 1:1-3 (page 1001)
Colossians 1:15-20 (page 983)

The Response

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

The Prayer for Illumination

The Sermon – WHERE DID THE GLOW GO? The Rev. Hammond

- † The Hymn No. 310 (*Trinity Hymnal*)DARWALL
Rejoice, the Lord Is King

† The Benediction

The Piano Postlude – Joy to the World Handel, arr. Forrest
Toku Shi & Felix Pei, *piano*

This Week at Christ Church

Week of December 21 – December 27

SUNDAY, December 21

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.

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

6:00 p.m. Evening Worship Sanctuary

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

WEDNESDAY, December 24

5:30 p.m.Christmas Eve Service Sanctuary

Assisting in the Services

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

Ushers are Will Boyd, Will Crews, Mark Goodell, William Jewett & Barry Smith.

The Deacon on Duty is Barry Smith.

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

Ushers next Lord's Day will be Lanier Adams, William Jewett, Andrew Norkaus, John Norkaus, & Mark Walters.

The Deacon on Duty will be Charles Kimbrell.

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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The Lord's Day, December 21, 2014

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Most Profound Miracle and Mystery

It is by far the most amazing miracle in the whole Bible—far more amazing than the resurrection and more amazing than the creation of the universe. The fact that the infinite, omnipotent, eternal Son of God could become man and join Himself to a human nature forever, so that infinite God became one person with finite man, will remain for eternity the most profound miracle and the most profound mystery in all the universe.

– Wayne Grudem

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 Brass Prelude – O Come All Ye Faithful..... arr. Marvin
Brian Moore, Fabio Mann, Mel Jewett, *trumpet*;
Mike Boyd, Mark Goodell, *trombone*; Kay Lovingood, *tuba*

The Choral Call to Worship VENI EMMANUEL

O come, Thou Key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home;

Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Scriptural Call to WorshipPsalm 100

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into His presence with singing!

People: **Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He Who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**

Pastor: Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!

Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

People: **For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.**

- † The Hymn of Praise – (*Trinity Hymnal*, No. 225).....IRBY
Once in Royal David's City

† 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.

The Old Testament LessonMicah 5:1-5

The Response.....Isaiah 40:8

Pastor: The grass withers, and the flower fades,
People: But the word of our God stands forever.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

Eternal God, in Whom we live and move and have our being, Whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and Whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to You, confessing our faults, confiding in Your grace, and finding in You our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ Your Son.

The Individual Confession of Sin (*silently*)

The Scriptural Assurance of Pardon John 3:17; 1 John 1:9

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.... If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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

The Response to God’s Grace (*sung by all*).....ST. LOUIS

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

The Offering and the Prayer of Dedication

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

The Brass Offertory – Away in a Mangerarr. Marvin

† **The Hymn of Preparation** (*Trinity Hymnal, No. 214*).....GLORIA

Angels We Have Heard on High

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

The New Testament LessonRevelation 5:1-14 (*page 1030*)

The Response

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

The Prayer for Illumination

The SermonRev. Jones

THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS: HOW CHRISTMAS TURNS
WEEPING INTO WORSHIP

† **The Hymn of Response** (*Trinity Hymnal, No. 195*).....ANTIOCH

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

† **The Benediction**

The Brass Postlude – Flourish on Joy to the Worldarr. 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 by the piano following the service.

Evening Worship

Return tonight for a heart-warming, joyful time of worship, singing your favorite Christmas hymns on this final Lord’s Day before Christmas. We look forward to the Rev. Rick Hammond preaching God’s Word, delivering the message, “Where Did the Glow Go?”

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).

Christmas Eve Service

Celebrate the history-changing Incarnation of our Lord and Savior at the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Wednesday evening. Come at 5:30 and enjoy the brief recital of Christmas favorites provided by our organist, Mark Dickens, and friends, followed by the Service at 6:00. that will include singing of familiar carols, a Christmas message for the children, and a devotional homily by Pastor Jones. An offering will be received to benefit the worldwide ministry of Jews for Jesus. Bring the entire family and invited friends to celebrate the birth of Christ!

Christian Sympathy

Christian sympathy is extended to the following families:

Cathie and Charles McClure on the death of his believing mother, Martha Gettys McClure, on December 16.

Nancy Parks, George and Charles Bowen on the death of their cousin, Susanne Bowen, on December 16.

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

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 Romans 3:23, “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Series B: Proclaim Christ; Topic: All Have Sinned).

Officer Ordination and Installation

We rejoice in and give thanks for the Lord’s provision of two officers to serve at Christ Church in the class of 2017. Our congregation elected Billy Hatcher and Ora Parish to serve as elders. The ordination and installation of these men will be on January 4 in the Sunday morning service. Please begin praying even now that the Lord will prepare them to serve His church with great joy, energy and effectiveness for His glory.

Other Announcements

Staff Love Gift Offering – As we look back over the past year, we see that the Lord has showered blessings upon us individually and corporately. He has provided for Christ Church a wonderful staff. We give Him great thanks for them and for their families. Our prayer is that God will protect them and bless them during the new year. As a tangible expression of our love and appreciation for them and what they do for the church, we would like to give them a Christmas love gift. If you would like to participate in this gift, please do so today so that the gifts can be presented before Christmas. You may place your gift in the offering plate, designated “Staff Appreciation Gift.”

Christmas Festival Service CDs – Compact disc recordings of this year’s Christmas Festival Service will be available in the next few weeks at a cost of \$12 each. *Orders may be placed using the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table.*

Year-end Giving – Please remember that, in order for gifts to be credited to fiscal year 2014, contributions must be received in the office or postmarked by December 31, 2014.

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:

Missionaries in harm’s way are not listed.

AGAPE Ministry, *Augusta, Georgia*

Alliance Defending Freedom, *Scottsdale, Arizona*

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