

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

DECEMBER 10, 2017

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:45 a.m.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

God's peace to you this morning. The Faith family welcomes you! Please fill out the information on the welcome book so we can include you in the life of Faith Presbyterian Church. May God grant us a glimpse of His splendor as we worship Him together.

A fully staffed nursery and special needs ministry is available during all services.

Please remember to turn off or silence any electronic devices.

+Please stand if able

USHERS

*J.D. Hewitt, Peter Kinsey, Rob McCreary, Tim Slay,
Mike Powell, Roy Buckels, and **Will Allen

*Head Usher, **Assistant Usher

GREETERS

David Fearn and Clint Gardner

Preparation for Worship

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. ...and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

Matthew 1:1,16

“I believe like a child that suffering will be healed and made up for, that all the humiliating absurdity of human contradictions will vanish like a pitiful mirage, like the despicable fabrication of the impotent and infinitely small Euclidean mind of man, that in the world's finale, at the moment of eternal harmony, something so precious will come to pass that it will suffice for all hearts, for the comforting of all resentments, for the atonement of all the crimes of humanity, for all the blood that they've shed; that it will make it not only possible to forgive but to justify all that has happened.”

— *Fyodor Dostoyevsky, The Brothers Karamazov*

The other gods were strong, but Thou was weak.

They rode, but Thou didst stumble to a throne.

But to our wounds only God's wounds can speak,

And not a god has wounds but Thou alone. -Edward Shillito

THE ADVENT WREATH

Over the centuries many traditions and observances have developed throughout the Church to help us celebrate the nativity of Christ. The lighting of the candles in the Advent Wreath on the four Sundays before Christmas in anticipation of the coming of Christ can add renewed joy and meaning to our worship.

The circle of the wreath represents God's eternity- Who was, and is, and ever will be.

The evergreen symbolizes God's gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The pink candle represents joy.

The three purple candles represent hope, faith, and peace.

The center white candle represents Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Prelude **Matters of Church Life**

The Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

The Carl Aycock family

+The Call to Worship

John 1:1,14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

+The Hymn of Praise

Hymn No. 145

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come, ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels!
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

New Testament Reading

Luke 2:41-50

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.

Corporate Prayer

+The Hymn of Thanksgiving

(stanzas 1, 2 & 3) **Hymn No. 132**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem, and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

The Offertory

Sanctuary Choir

For Unto Us

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For unto us a Son is given. For unto us a Child is born.
For unto us a Savior is living, for unto us salvation has come.
Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Prince of Peace.
Wonderful Counselor, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of peace.
For unto us a Son is given. For unto us a Child is born.
For unto us a Savior is living, for unto us salvation has come.

And of his kingdom, there will be no end.
And of his kingdom, there will be no end.
Christ is the Lord! O praise his name forever!
His power and glory ever more proclaim.

For unto us a Son is given. For unto us a Child is born.
For unto us a Savior is living, for unto us salvation has come.
Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Prince of peace.
Wonderful Counselor, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of peace.

For unto us a Son is given!

+The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Once in Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby in a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall:
With the poor, and mean, and lowly lived on earth, our Savior holy.

The Scripture**Matthew 1:18-25**

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

*²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel"*

(which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

The Sermon

Joseph the Skeptic
The Rev. Russ Hightower

Notes:**Knowing Jesus Changes Everything**

Greatest Commandment (Dt.6:5; Mk.12:30)
heart, soul, mind & strength – the whole person

Hearts (worship): falling in love with Jesus (Lk.24:32)

Minds (Bible study): thinking like Jesus (Rom.12:2)

Hands (missions): living like Jesus (Jn.13:14)

+The Hymn of Response

(stanzas 3 & 4) **Hymn No. 155**

Once in Royal David's City

Jesus is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew:
And He feeleth for our sadness, and He shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him thro' His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.

The Benediction

The Organ Postlude

Opportunities to Serve:

Sunday, December 10

Nursery:

Babies & Toddlers-

Karen Braden

2's & 3's-

Amanda Hightower

6PM Choir Christmas Program:

Tom & Lindsey Abdalla

Children's Church:

Mike & Rachel Powell

Wednesday, December 13

No Wednesday Activities

Sunday, December 17

Nursery:

Babies & Toddlers-

Anna Montgomery

2's & 3's-

Mike & Becky Taylor

Children's Church:

Mike & Rachel Powell

Wednesday, December 20

No Wednesday Activities

Special Needs Ministry

Sunday, December 10:

(No Wednesday Supper or Activities)

Kristen Dickey

Sunday, December 17:

(No Wednesday Supper or Activities)

Brandy Johnson

Sunday, December 24:

(No SS or Wednesday Activities)

Rachel Powell

Announcements:

Please join us this evening as our Sanctuary and Children's Choirs present **"FOR UNTO US"** at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. And, please stay after the program to join us for a Christmas Party in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome to join in the celebration!

FOOD PANTRY DELIVERY will be this **Tuesday, December 12th** at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to help, please meet in the fellowship hall.

LADIES... "2nd Cup" this **Tuesday, December 12th** at Georgia Blue Bakery beginning at 9:30 am. Drop by while you're out running errands, hang out, or just say hi as you grab your second (or 3rd or 4th?? ☺) cup of coffee! ~nursery will be provided at the church~

SENIOR SAINTS' CHRISTMAS PARTY – **Thursday, December 14th** at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Guests are welcome! *Be sure to RSVP by this Thursday.*

JOY CLUB BUS TRIP this **Friday, December 15th** to shop at the Renaissance! All ladies are invited... the bus leaves the church at 8:30 a.m.

DEACON INSTALLATION SERVICE next **Sunday, January 17th** during morning worship. Newly elected deacons are *Woody Breeland, Andy Montgomery, Joey Norton, Tommy Stewart, and Terry Reid.*

LOCAL OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY – We will be passing out turkey vouchers at Outreach Ministries on **Thursday, December 21**. If you would like to be involved in this "hands on" ministry, please be at Outreach Ministries (**new location: 216 W. Court St.**) by **12:30pm**. If you aren't able to join that day, another way to serve is to donate \$20 towards the purchase of turkeys for those in need in our community this Christmas season.

We hope you will join us for our **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE** on **Sunday, December 24** at 6:00 p.m.

FPK REGISTRATION is now open for K2-K5 for 2018. Please stop by the kindergarten office to register your child as soon as possible. Priority deadline for church members ends **January 31, 2018**.

FPK PRAYER REQUESTS: For the Lord to guide our registration process and send to us those whom He would have us serve and for the Lord to touch the hearts of those teachers He has called to FPK in 2018-2019.

MISSIONS UPDATE: Through December 3rd we have received \$86,882 of this year's \$119,353 Faith Promise. This means, in order for our 2017 budget to be met, we are hopeful that approximately \$32,500 will come in during these final weeks of the year. Please prayerfully consider your Faith Promise and continue to pray for our missionaries and ministries.

ANNUAL STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT - Each year at this time the congregation is asked to consider contributing toward a gift for the Faith Presbyterian Church staff. If you would like to give toward this year's staff Christmas gift, please make your check payable to the church and write in the memo "staff gift."

PCA MINISTERIAL RELIEF OFFERING - This offering goes to disabled PCA pastors and the widows of PCA pastors & missionaries who are in dire need of financial assistance from the Body of Christ. Please prayerfully consider giving a gift to this important ministry. Checks may be made payable to the church with "**Ministerial Relief Offering**" written in the memo area.

LADIES' TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY resumes **January 9th** at 9:00 a.m. in the church library. The new study is *Joshua: All God's Good Promises* by Kathleen Buswell Nielson. If you would like one of the study books, please let Judith know as quickly as possible. Books need to be ordered by mid-December. Also, if you would like to order one of the *Transformed: Life-taker to Life-giver* books by Karen Hodge & Susan Hunt, please let Judith know. She will be placing that order mid-December, as well.

Events:

This Week

Sun. December 10	Second Sunday of Advent	
Sun. December 10 6:00PM	Choir Christmas Program <i>Sanctuary</i> Followed by a Christmas Party in the fellowship hall!	Worship
Tue. December 14 9:30AM	2nd Cup Tuesday <i>Georgia Blue Bakery</i>	Women of Faith
Tue. December 12 10:00AM	Food Pantry delivery <i>Fellowship hall</i>	Women of Faith
Thu. December 14 6:00PM	Sr. Saints' Christmas Banquet <i>Fellowship hall</i>	Helping Hands
Fri. December 15 8:30AM	Joy Club Bus Trip - Renaissance Shopping! <i>Church's south parking lot</i>	Women of Faith

Upcoming... Mark your calendars now!

Sun. December 17	Deacon Installation during the morning service	
Mon. December 18 3:30PM	Joy Club: Visiting Our Shut-ins More details to come!	Women of Faith
Thu. December 21 12:30PM	Christmas Turkey Outreach <i>Outreach Ministries</i> (<u>new location: 216 W. Court St.</u>)	Helping Hands/ Missions
Sun. December 24 10:00AM	Christmas Eve Morning Worship Service No Sunday School or Children's Church	Worship
Sun. December 24 6:00PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service <i>Church sanctuary</i>	Worship

Ministry of the Week:



THIRD MILLENNIUM

MINISTRIES

Biblical Education. For the World. For Free.

Please pray for:

- The group of over 100 men who recently met in the Congo to receive III Mill's material. One attendee stayed all night watching their courses and was moved to tears for this opportunity to study the Word of God in his own language.
- Praise the Lord that III Mill impacts the lives of Christians and church leaders all over the world. Many of our missionaries and leaders of church plants rely on the curriculum of III Mill.
- The group who studied God's Word in Kiev, Ukraine. The students received III Mill DVD's as resources for their further ministry.

Third Millennium continues to develop materials for Christian leaders all over the world.

2017 Christmas Poinsettias

The poinsettias in the sanctuary this morning have been placed in love, and are given to the glory of God ...

In memory of Lillian Gracie Hux and with thankfulness that He is making all things new.

In honor of Mrs. Warren Brown (Jean) by Mr. & Mrs. Mark Hollingsworth and family.

In honor of our military and all of those who take care of us.

In loving memory of my sweet mother, Dorothy Burns, by Linda Ainsworth.

In memory of Jerry Magee by Sue, girls, and grandchildren.

In memory of Faye Wallace, Mitzi & Clifford Wand, and Gary Wand by Joey, Janice, and Caleb Wallace.

In honor of Nora, Caroline, and Cole by Joey, Janice, and Caleb Wallace.

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Sherman Swalm by Peter & Kathy Swalm.

In memory of our parents: Bill & Sally Dumas, Ed Gross, and A.D. Whittington by Rick & Melissa Sullivan.

In celebration of our grandchildren: Liz, Archer, Adalia, Fulson, and William by Rick & Melissa Sullivan.

In memory of Dolly Kinsey by Peter & Sharon Kinsey.

In memory of Cy Kinsey by Peter & Sharon Kinsey.

In memory of Sarah Wright by Peter & Sharon Kinsey.

In honor of Keith McDaniel by Peter & Sharon Kinsey.

In memory of our parents by Terry & Pam Reid.

In loving memory of our parents: Ed & Doris Russell and Bruce & Delphine Boerner by Bill & Merrie Boerner.

In honor of our grandchildren: Elliott, Lydia and Sarah Rice Warren by Jim & Charlene Elliott.

In honor of our grandchildren: Maley and John Nordberg by Jim & Charlene Elliott.

In loving memory of my family: Dr. Louie Wilkins, Patsy Wilkins Pepper, and Lisa Wilkins Assink by Diana Wilkins.

In memory of Dr. J.J. Breeland (Pa) by Woody & Beth Breeland.

In memory of Margaret & John Sullivan, Robert Smith, Louise Doolittle McGahay, and T.E. Doolittle by Woody & Beth Breeland.

In honor of the Hightower family by Woody & Beth Breeland.

In memory of Joann Slay, beloved wife, mother and Nana.

In loving memory of Carol Massengill's parents, Bill and Ruth LaMon, by Carol and Bob.

In loving memory of Bob Massengill's parents, Bob and Virginia Massengill, by Carol and Bob.

In loving memory of Frank and Louise Massengill by Carol and Bob.

The Youth Informer



Verse of the Week

1 Peter 4:8

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

What's Next?

12.13.17 : No Youth Activities

12.17.17 : Sunday School 9:30am

12.17.17 : Sunday Night Small Groups

⇒ JR. & SR. High combined 7pm

What Are We Reading?

Sunday School 12.10.17: *Luke 2*

Q. What do you get when you cross a Snowman with a Vampire?

A. Frostbite!