

Love



WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

Forth Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Worship

December 19, 2021

WELCOME AND GREETING

LIGHTING OF THE FORTH CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Congregational Response

One: God of hope, Prince of peace, Giver of Joy, and Lord of love, Your goodness is beyond our wildest imaginings. You give us more than we can think to ask, coming to us with impossible possibility in the Word made flesh. Teach us to love this world and all people as You love us in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: God of promise, God of love, into our darkness come.

Musical Response

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

(Hymn No. 85)

Light four candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. He is coming; tell the glad tidings. Let your light be shining.

PRELUDE

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of Love, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us. He is a sign of your love. Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent, as we wait and prepare for his coming. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

POURING OF THE WATER

Congregational Response: (Hymn 482 v. 1) *Baptized in Water*

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our King; heirs of salvation, trusting the promise, faithfully now God's praises we sing.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."

All: With Mary, our spirits rejoice, and we sing God's praise.

One: Let us honor God with our worship this fourth Sunday of Advent

*GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN

O Come All Ye Faithful

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we confess that we, like sheep, have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have offended your laws. We have done those things we ought not to have done, and we have left undone those things which we ought to have done. O God, have mercy on us. Restore us and show us the way home to you. Grant us, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, the wonderful Blessings of your forgiveness and the wonder of new life in You. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ as we offer our continuing confession in silence. (silent prayer of confession)

Sung Response: (Hymn No. 551)

Lord, Have Mercy

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Micah 5:4-5

One: "And he will stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace."

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri: (Hymn No. 584)

Glory Glory, Glory

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high! Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high!

And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased. And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased. Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high!

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

ANTHEM

Come Thou Fount

A TIME FOR OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND LESSON

Luke 1: 39-45

SERMON

“The Road Home”

Dr. Hartman

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

page 34

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through
Him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with
the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Musical Offering

King of King

*Advent Doxology 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye
heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH AND LORD’S PRAYER

SENDING

CLOSING HYMN

Go Tell it on the Mountain

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Let those who are able stand We thank Beti Strobeck for her gift of bulletin cover art for the Advent season

We'd Love to Have You Join Us . . .

To those newly worshipping with us we warmly welcome you to our congregation. You are invited to join us for any and all of the activities and opportunities we provide. Please let us know if we can serve you in any way. We also extend an invitation to unite with this church. Periodically we offer a series of Inquirer's Classes that explore the meaning of church membership in our Presbyterian tradition. Those interested in membership are encouraged to participate in these classes. If you are interested in conversation about membership, do not hesitate to call the church office at 882-2505 at any time.

Prayer Requests

Church Family: Nancy Allgood, Tracy Andrews, Priscilla Byars, Fynn DeHay, Sally Fortune, Karen Gomez, Kaki Harmon, Larry Josey, Judy Kellner, Maria Leitner, Janet May, Chet Palmer, Pep Seales, Beti Strobeck, Pat Williams and Nancy Wilson.

Extended Church Family: Eileen Andruszka (sister of Ken Andruszka,) Debbie Brewer (cousin of Charlotte McDonald), Carol Conger (Helen Kelly's sister), Bill Cullison (brother of Sally Fortune), Dave & Minnie (friends of Jean Reinking), Robert Doucet (brother-in-law of Paul LaRoche), Henry Gambrell (brother of Carla Honea), Scott Gawlik (son of Betty Gawlik), Donna Giudici (friend of Nancy & Jon Young), Evans Harris (husband of Pat Harris), Linda Kelly (cousin of Elaine Williams), ***Matthew Olech (nephew of Greg and Kathy Meyers)**, Sally Owen (former member), Adam Thomas (great nephew of Betty and Noel Lehner), Gary Whitehead (husband of Judy Whitehead), Bob Willard (Elaine Williams' nephew).

Note: Please let the church office know of updates to the prayer list.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE (12/19/21-12/25/21)

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Church School
	9:00 a.m.	Advent Study
	10:00 a.m.	Combined Worship
Monday	6:30 p.m.	Band/Choir
Tuesday	Vacation	Parish Nurse
Thursday	Vacation	Parish Nurse
	Noon	Advent Study
Friday	Church Office Closed	Christmas Holiday
	5:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
	7:30 p.m.	Lessons and Carols with Communion

Liturgist: Louis Holleman

Attention Grandparents don't forget that our Family Christmas pageant is at 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve. We would love to have your children join us for this amazing live presentation.

2022 Flower book is ready for everyone to sign – up for your special date. The book is in Knohl Hall/Gathering Room between the two chairs.

Christmas Joy Offering will be collected this Sunday, December 19th.

A Presbyterian tradition for almost 70 years, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church to provide congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes that help those in need.

The receipts from the offering are distributed equally to the Board of Pensions for supplemental retirement and medical assistance for former clergy, missionaries, church workers and their families, and to the Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges supported by the Presbyterian Church to be used for scholarships and basic costs.

We need to schedule **ushers** for the next several months and we could use more volunteers to join us. This is a great way to meet the congregation and become more acquainted with your church family. Please look at your calendars and see what Sundays you would be available to assist us and then please call me call or send an email. Thank you for all your support. Blessings, Peggy Fouts

MISSION TRIP COMING! Our church is sending a group on a Mission Trip to Arkansas, mainly to help prepare disaster relief supplies. The trip will be March 6-12 of this next year. We already have several people interested in going but, it is not too late. Join us on Sunday, January 9th, right after the morning worship service (in Pastors Hall), to hear details about the trip – including the what, where and why as well as costs involved. For questions speak to or contact Richard or Susan Caldwell (882-7916).

Our **Tiny Library** is a wonderful resource for the parents/children in our community and the Deacons are asking if you have extra children's books you aren't still using, please consider donating them. Deliver them to the church office any time. Thank You!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Family Christmas Service – Come see all of our angels, shepherds, kings, sheep, and other animals as children of all ages re-enact the Nativity. This is a great service for grandchildren and neighbors with children. Every child who shows up and wants to participate becomes part of this marvelous impromptu telling of the Christmas story, complete with costumes. No rehearsals or notice necessary. You need bring nothing. Just come. There is plenty of singing by all who come as well. This service will begin at **5:00 p.m.**

A Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols with Communion – This traditional Christmas Eve service includes Scripture, hymns, special music, and the sacrament of Holy Communion, which all Christians and their children are invited to share. The service will end with a beautiful and meaningful candlelight service. This service will begin at **7:30 p.m.**

Our Health & Wellness Committee will present an Adult Mental Health Workshop

Saturday, January 29, 2022, from 9:00 am-4:00 pm in Pastors Hall. This course is for anyone age 18 or older who would like to learn more about mental health issues. Information about depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis, and addiction disorders will be presented in a format that enables the participant learners to respond in a helpful way to someone who may be developing a mental health issue or experiencing a crisis. Ways to de-escalate a crisis situation will be a helpful part of this course. Two certified instructors, Carrie Zimmerman LSW and Aleca Queen LPC, both local to Oconee County, will be able to provide local referral sources. A book, used in class, will be yours to take home as a reference in the future. Cost for the course, to include a manual and certificate of completion, is \$22 and due when you sign up. Lunch will be provided by H & W Committee. Attendance is limited to 15 people so please call SPC office soon to register. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Parish Nurse Ernie Lombard or Elizabeth Hartman.

We Want To Adopt A Highway and Need Volunteers!

The Men of The Church would like to involve our Church in the Adopt-a-Highway program. This is a great opportunity to serve our community and to bring attention to the Church as an integral part of the community. Our commitment would be 4 times a year for 2 years to pick up trash along South Walnut to Wells Highway, about 2.2 miles. Please email Chip White at chipwhite66@gmail.com (preferred) or call 843-709-0043 if you are interested in participating. So, let's go get some vitamin D and exercise while helping our community."

Christian Education Study Opportunities

We have one **Adult Class** that meets in the classroom #1 (Sara Davis' Classroom). The leaders, Dan Toole, and Betty Lehner, discuss various chapters of the Bible with good discussion from the attendees.

We have **Children's Sunday School** downstairs in the Education Building. We welcome the children to gather together each Sunday morning before worship for Sunday School lessons, stories, videos, music and time together exploring God's word for us! The three classes, Grade K-3, Grade 4-5, and Middle School meet in the downstairs classrooms. Come at 8:50 for a snack and enjoy time with your friends and teachers from 9:00 to 9:45.

Music for the church?

The children will have rehearsal **Sunday's, 11:15 AM** immediately following the worship service and will meet in the Choir Room. All children aged 5 through 12 are invited to come. AND any young person aged 13 and older is also invited to come to talk with our Music Director, Rosalie Hovencamp, about singing with the adult choir.

A young person need not be a member of SPC to come and sing with us. All are welcome.

Choir/Band meets every **Monday for practice at 6:30 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.**

If you have a young person who you will bring to this meeting / rehearsal OR have additional questions, please contact Rosalie Hovencamp by email at: rosencamp81@hotmail.com