

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2022

THE CHURCH GATHERS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

INTROIT

Fantasia On "Adeste Fidelis"

L. Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Quentin, Beth, Ford & Walt Bates

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Paul Herndon, Liturgist

Leader: Surely God is our salvation.

People: Secure in the Lord, we will have faith. We will not be afraid.

Leader: God's promise is certain. Look, the young woman is with child;

People: She will call him Emmanuel, for God is with us.

Leader: In Jesus Christ, we celebrate Emmanuel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we know that God is with us. All Glory be to God!

*HYMN #182

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

J. Montgomery/H. Smart

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior. (time for silent confession) Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, hear and believe the gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: As God in Christ forgives us, let us forgive one another.
The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share the Peace of Christ.

WE RESPOND TO GOD WITH OFFERINGS AND PRAISE

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Veni, Emmanuel”

G. Krapf

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

KID’S CHURCH *(5th grade and younger)*

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING:

Genesis 37:1-11

ANTHEM

“Sing Gloria!”

M. McDonald/ J. Raney

SECOND READING:

Matthew 1:18-25

SERMON

“What Dreams May Come”

Dr. Walker

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

From *The Scots Confession*, 1560

When the fullness of time came God sent his Son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world, who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, a virgin, by means of the Holy Ghost. And so was born the “just seed of David,” the “Angel of the great counsel of God,” the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, true God and true man, two perfect natures united and joined in one person.

... We acknowledge and confess that this wonderful union between the Godhead and the humanity in Christ Jesus did arise from the eternal and immutable decree of God from which all our salvation springs and depends.

***HYMN #180**

“What Child Is This?”

W.C. Dix/English melody

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Postlude on “Halifax”

G. F. Händel

(*) *We stand as we are able.*

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God
and in honor of our grandchildren*

*Joshua, Elizabeth, Katie, Nate, Cole, Taylor, Chastity, Lilly and BJ
from Grandma Shirley & Grandpa Dennis.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, December 18 at 5 p.m. YOUTH PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Monday, December 19 at 5:30 p.m. CORNERSTONES CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday, December 21 at 6 p.m. CHOICES/UPPER ROOM CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 24 at 6 p.m. CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Sunday, December 25 at 11 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

Monday, December 26 OFFICE CLOSED

Sunday Morning Classes will take a break Dec. 25th and Jan. 1st.

Please remember to submit your end-of-the-year donations by Wednesday, December 28.

WATCH SUPPER is suspended for a few weeks during the holidays.

Mark your calendars: Wednesday Suppers will resume January 11th.

CHOICES/UPPER ROOM CHRISTMAS PARTY

When: December 21 at 6 p.m.

Where: Bud Stringer's House, 12 Quiet Cove

Bring: Heavy appetizers and desserts

RSVP: Text Lisa Zeanah TODAY at 229-589-0895 so she can order enough meat.

Text last name and number coming to the party.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEACON OF THE MONTH: Beth Bates

ELDER OF THE MONTH: Richard Garcia

HELPING HANDS – FOOD BANK DONATIONS

The Helping Hands Box in the Fellowship Hall will benefit the Food Bank til the end of the year. As you might imagine, the Food Bank has experienced increase volume in the past year. Monetary donations are encouraged as they allow the Food Bank to purchase food in bulk from Second Harvest for pennies on the dollar. However, cereal and jelly in squeeze bottle are not currently available through Second Harvest. *During the next few weeks, please consider adding your donations of cereal and jelly to the Helping Hands box.*

JANUARY MEN'S BREAKFAST

Rod Howell, our Colquitt County Sheriff has agreed to be our speaker at our Jan. 8th Men's Fellowship Breakfast at 8:30 AM at First Presbyterian Church.

RSVP to Jim Soos 229-891-0612

CORNERSTONES SCHEDULE

Monday, December 19 at 5:30 p.m. CORNERSTONES CHRISTMAS PARTY

Monday, JANUARY 23 at Noon CORNERSTONES MEETING

Thursday, JANUARY 26 at 11 a.m. CORNERSTONES LUNCH ON THE ROAD

Monday, FEBRUARY 13 at Noon CORNERSTONES MEETING

2023 FLOWER CHART

Holly Beard is working on the 2023 flower chart.

If you are interested in a particular Sunday, please call or text her at 229-798-0669.

These dates are available: Jan. 29; Aug. 13 & 27; Sept. 3.