THE WORSHIP OF THE LORD

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

GATHERING MUSIC

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

Worship begins with the Voluntary. Please use this time to enjoy the sacred music and to prepare your heart and mind for an encounter with God.

VOLUNTARY

Lo, How A Rosearr. M. Mier Karen Sawyer

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Rev. J. Kenneth Byrd, Jr.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

In the middle of dark times, our Lord cries out:

"Comfort, comfort my people!"

When it seems as though we cannot see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Our Lord says to us, "Be at peace, for your time of difficulty has ended."

Lord, we await the time of comfort and peace!

Lord, we are thankful for your compassion and neverfailing love for us. AMEN.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Pam Bass & Brenda Brown

*RESPONSE

The Candle of Peace

*CAROL OF PRAISE NO. 76

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel......VENI EMMANUEL

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

Ross Strickland

INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

*OFFERTORY CAROL NO. 80

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence......PICARDY

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Linda Cooper

A SERVICE OF ORDINATION (SEE INSERT)

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Byrd

CONGREGATIONAL CHORUS NO. 82

EmmanuelMCGEE

JOYS/CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Byrd

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:1-8

A CALL TO PRAYER AND PASTORAL PRAYER

Into the stillness of a Bethlehem night, God came. Into the silence of verdant pastures, God spoke.

Restore us. O God.

The quietude of the past is broken by the crackle of weapons. To the peace of the past:

Restore us. O God.

God came so the lost might find hope; The despairing might find safety;

Restore us, O God.

God came so that love might win over hatred and revenge, That we might be restored to the ways of peace by the Prince of Peace.

Restore us. O God.

Undeserving, we kneel at the manger. New life is ours for the asking.

Restore us, O God.

A grace beyond comprehension is given. To the peace which passes all understanding:

Restore us, O God.

WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

Karen Sawyer

SHARING IN GOD'S WORD

Time in a Bottle: A God of Restoration! Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, (2 Peter 3:8-15a) Rev. Byrd

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 53

In His Time......IN HIS TIME

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

God is bringing light to our darkness. We are called to go into the world, confident in God's loving presence, to serve others in need. Go, bringing hope and peace to this darkened world. Go in God's love. **AMEN.**

*RESPONSE NO. 76

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel refrain...... VENI EMMANUEL

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*POSTLUDE

Come Thou Long Expected Jesusarr. Raymond Haan Clyde Patterson

All scripture readings are from The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version.

^{*}Congregation stands, who are able

The Ministry of Worship

Rev. J. Kenneth Byrd, Jr., Pastor Blaine Pittman, Director of Music & Education Clyde Patterson, Organist Karen Sawyer, Church Musician

Today

Deacons: Ross Strickland & Linda Cooper Children's Church: Brenda Griffin Nursery & Toddlers: Paula Strickland

2023 Financial Summary for 49 Weeks

Financial information is not shared online.

Member Prayer Request

Tim Bartholomew Herbert Hopkins Dot Morris
Patsy Carty Annie Jackson Donald Parker
Charlene Dunn Eric Jeffreys John Scheipers
Weedie Hayes Sue Jenkins Jeremy Winstead

Prayer on Behalf of Members

Ella Ames Veda Byrd
Harrison Barnett Brenda Caldwell
Mark Bruehl Annette Carrico
Gail Bunting John Chamblee
Gerald Butler Rudy Frazier
Pam Butler Gerald Hale
John Byrd Kevin Hinsdale

J.R. McPherson Maryanne Davis Powell Louise Ramsey David Sawyer Edith Skinner Janie Weaver Trudy Womack

Card Ministry to the Homebound

Linda Jernigan





Time in a Bottle

