

Worship for the Lord's Day

December 7, 2008 - 2nd Sunday of Advent
10:00 AM

*An asterisk * indicates standing, as you are able.
The congregation's responses are in **bold italics**.*

The Church is Gathered

Welcome The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

Announcements *Please see the bulletin insert for all announcements.*

Prelude *Arioso* J.S. Bach

In order to prepare for worship, you are invited to pray silently during the prelude.

Choral Introit *O Praise the Lord with Heart and Voice* Haydn

To Praise God's Name

Lighting of the Advent Wreath — *The Angel Candle*
The Shelton Family

Call to Worship from Whispers of God

The God of Peace meets us in this peaceful place,
offering pardon and comfort to those in distress

***We are hurting people, wounded and vulnerable,
in need of forgiveness and reassurance.***

Come to this place where valleys are lifted up
and mountains and hills are made low.

***We long for some evenness and stability amid
the upheavals of our lives.***

God brings salvation to the world's suffering ones,
and calls us to be bearers of good news.

***We who are not worthy to untie Christ's sandals
accept the challenge to prepare the way for this Advent.***

* **Hymn** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Hymnal #9

*The Presbyterian Two-Cents-a-Meal offering
will be collected at the communion table during the hymn.*

Unison Prayer of Confession from: Whispers of God

***Caring God, who wills that none of us should perish, we confess
our unreadiness for your rule in our midst. We live fragmented
lives with no center of value. Greed, ambition, and desire for
safety battle within us. We become content with withered grass
and fading flowers and neglect your Word, which is forever. Bring
a new day to disturb and remake us, that we may be ready to
accept your forgiveness. Amen.***

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

* **Song of Praise** *Gloria Patri* Hymnal #579

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. Amen.

Response Forgiveness is ours in Jesus Christ. ***Thanks be to God!***

Choral Anthem *Air for Advent* T. Fetteke

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

*As our Passing of the Peace ends, all children through fifth grade
are invited to depart for Children's Church.*

To Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 40:1-5* p.619

New Testament Reading *Mark 1:1-8* p.867

This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God!***

Sermon *A Tale of Two Times*

To Thank God

* **Profession of Faith** *Apostles' Creed* Hymnal p.14

Prayers of the People

Offering *In the Bleak Midwinter* Gustav Holst

During the offertory, you are invited to offer silent prayers of gratitude.

* **Song of Thanksgiving** *Doxology* **Hymnal #592**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* **Prayer of Dedication**

To See God's Word in Sacrament

* **Hymn** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* **Hymnal #5**

*During the hymn, children involved in Children's Church
will be returning to the sanctuary to rejoin their family.*

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayers of Thanksgiving ♦ The Lord's Prayer

Sharing in the Bread and the Cup

Prayer after the Meal

To Depart to Serve God

* **Hymn** *O Splendor of God's Glory Bright* **Hymnal #474**

* **Charge and Benediction**

* **Congregational Amen** **Hymnal #586**

Postlude *There's A Voice in the Wilderness Crying* Heins



Announcements

The **Lay Reader** today is **Jane Strebel**.

The **Organist** today is **Dot Hogan**.

We would like to say a special thanks to Mary Woodie for making the beautiful **Advent Wreath** in our sanctuary.

As is our tradition, our church will host a **Christmas Party** for the **Sheltered Workshop** this Tuesday at 1:30 PM in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to attend.

Please return **Angel Tree gifts** to the church by December 14, with the paper angel secured to the outside of the package.

Our annual **Christmas celebration** will take place on Sunday December 14th, following the Koinonia supper. Please plan to join us.

The **Session** will meet for its December stated meeting Sunday, December 21, immediately following worship.

The beautiful decorations in our sanctuary add so much to our worship during the **Advent and Christmas season**. If you would like to support this endeavor, and at the same time offer tribute or a memorial to someone special to you, you can do so for a \$10 donation. If you want to donate a poinsettia and take it with you after the service on Christmas Eve, please sign up on the bulletin board next to the office. We will need eight. Other donations will be used for the wreaths on the doors, the greenery, roping and the window decorations. All money should be turned in no later than Sunday, Dec. 14.

Our **Christmas Eve Candlelight service** will be at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, December 24. As always, your visiting friends and family are invited and encouraged to attend.

A reminder that the annual Presbyterian **Christmas Joy Offering** will be received Dec. 21. If you would like contribute, please make checks payable to APC and indicate in the memo line that your gift is for the Christmas Joy Offering.

Next Committee Meeting Night: January 13, 7:00 PM.

Schedules

Ushers, December

Henry & Nancy Pittard,
Gary & Barbie Andrews

Greeters, December

Christine Oliver, Shirley Vuncannon

Lay Reader, December 14

Sally Sease

Lay Reader, December 21

Dolores Drumheller

Nursery, December 14

Anne Mabry

Nursery, December 21

David Mabry

Communion Servers, Today

Dennis & Linda Janiak, Sang-il Lee
Kelly deBernard, Anne Mabry
Doug Hecht, Bill Ferguson
Murrell Routon

Daily Scripture Readings

Theme of the week: **Getting Ready** Psalm of the week: **62**

MONDAY	Luke 1:5-25	THURSDAY	Isaiah 62:1-12
TUESDAY	Luke 1:57-80	FRIDAY	Luke 12:35-48
WEDNESDAY	Matthew 3:1-12	SATURDAY	Isaiah 51:1-8

Next Week's Sermon

“Witnesses to The Light”

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; I Thess. 5:15-24; John 1:6-8,19-28

The life of John the Baptist is unique. Chosen before his birth for a very special purpose. In compliance with God's will for his life, John did exactly what he was predestined to do. He did not have to follow the calling. At any point he could have followed his own desires, but his understanding of God's will drove him toward that one irrefutable destiny: proclaiming the coming of God's Son. Don't you wonder how you and I would stack up were we to be given such an important task? But then, isn't this exactly what we have been given the minute we adopt the name “Christian” for our own?

Joys and Concerns for Prayer

Speak to Elder Sang-il Lee to add a name or item to this weekly list.

- Praise: Bob and Ellen Ragsdale, Our new members
- Financial uncertainty
- Pastor Bob Button and his ministries
- The session and the staff
- Search for organist
- Health (Gary Alley, Mike Barker, Abbey Bogert, Rudy Burgess, Tim Coleman, Mary Crabtree, Eula Dillon, Dianne Emmett, Sue Ferguson, Dorothy Finn, Steve Graham, John Hawkins, Jim Hankins, William Hoffman, Ralph Liebchen, Darnell Moorman, Ruth Muehleisen, Alma Rountrey, Ben Towne, Heath Tuttle, Margaret Young, Ken Younkin)
- Newly elected government officials and the transition phase
- Leaders in the town, county, state, country and world.
- Military and their family (Jeremy Larkin, Grant Martin, Joshua Wright)
- Help to grow in the grace and knowledge of God, and to share the Good News with others.
- Our church mission projects.
- John and Beth Muehleisen (Their newsletters are posted on the bulletin board.)
- John Farmer with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at UNC.
- Residents in retirement homes and residential care (Thelma Blanchard, Tom & Emily Chappelle, Francis Harvey, Ruth Knight, Wilmoth McClelland, Martin Strebel)

People to Contact at APC

Session (Active Elders)

Ron Coleman
Ministry Beyond the Congregation

Kelly deBernard
Ministry Within the Congregation

Rob Gilliam
Ministry Support

Sang-il Lee
Prayer & Visitation

Anne Mabry
Worship & Discipleship

Jennifer McCrickard
*Ministry Within the Congregation,
Visitation*

Stephanie Moehlenkamp
Worship & Discipleship

Caroline Peerman
Home Communion & Pulpit Supplies

Chip Roark
*Visitation, New Membership,
Presbyterian Men*

Sandi Smith
Visitation & Nominating Committee

John Tucker
Visitation & Nominating Committee

Mark Younkin
Ministry Beyond the Congregation

Bob Button
Moderator of Session

Staff

Carolyn Doss
Church Secretary

Stephanie Moehlenkamp
Choir Director

Preston Andrews
Treasurer

John Erb
Clerk of Session, Presbytery Delegate

Shannon Moorman
Nursery Attendant

Other Contacts

Sue Ferguson
Link Newsletter Editor

Sally Sease
Women's Circles

Alline Rogers
Meal Coordinator

Anne Mabry
Nursery Coordinator

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