

Christmas Sunday
December 23, 2012
8:30 & 11:00

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

‡ LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

We light the fourth candle of Advent as a sign of God's love. Advent means "coming," and we celebrate His coming with the promise:

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Advent Candle lighters:

Jack Brooks and Hank Livingstone (8:30)
Julia Semsick and Jill Walton (11:00)

* HYMN #41 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness.

We confess that often we have not welcomed the light, but have chosen to remain in the darkness of hurtful ways and destructive habits.

We have closed our eyes to the suffering in our midst, and have cared for ourselves instead of reaching out to others.

Forgive our self-centeredness, and rekindle our cold hearts that we may shine your Light into the world, that all may rejoice at your coming.

Now hear our silent, personal prayers of confession...

SILENT PRAYER

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* GLORIA PATRI Hymn #579

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE READING Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.

For unto us a child has been born, unto us a son has been given; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

ANTHEM (see insert) Christmas Carol Medley
Howard Scudder, trumpet

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Sacrament of Baptism (11:00) Claire Elizabeth Elden

ORGAN INTERLUDE (11:00)

Children ages four through first grade depart for children's worship

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 2:1-7

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON "The Innkeeper's Story"
"She gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* HYMN #49 "Once in Royal David's City"
(Katie Haase sings vs. 1 and congregation sings vs. 2-4)
* APOSTLES CREED Hymnal, pg. 14

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The Offertory "I Wonder as I Wander"

*I wonder as I wander out under the sky
how Jesus the Saviour did come for to die
for poor on'ry people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.*

Briana Larsen, solo

* The Doxology, Hymn #592

* Prayer of Dedication

* HYMN #40 "Joy to the World!"

* CHARGE

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

* POSTLUDE

WORSHIP NOTES

Diane Miner is the Elder of the Day. Ann Waddle is the liturgist.

We will receive the Christmas Joy Offering in worship today which supports racial ethnic education at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges, along with families of active and retired church workers.

We celebrate today the baptism of Claire Elizabeth Elden (born December 5, 2008), daughter of Wesley & Marjorie Orr Elden. Russ & Patty Orr are the grandparents.

Next week Mark Banasiak will be preaching and his sermon theme will be "The Presence of God," from John 1:1-18.

Sermons from December 16, "A Christmas Card from Mary" and today, "**The Innkeeper's Story**" are available in print on the table in the narthex and outside the office.

‡ **Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad** found at the end of your pew. Write prayer concerns and/or notes to the church office on the cards found in your pew and place in the offering plate.

* **If you are able, please stand.**

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Sunday, December 23

No Middle School or Senior High Youth group meeting.

Monday, December 24

4:30 & 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Candle-lighting Services will be held in the sanctuary. There will be special music, scripture readings, meditation, and candle-lighting.

Tuesday, December 25

Church office closed.

Wednesday, December 26

No Bible Study or Senior High meeting at Arby's.

MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias have been given to the Glory of God and in memory of :

EDGAR & SARAH FRANCES MILLS, by Sam Mills & Martha Richardson.

WILLIAM F. BANYAS, by Pixie-McCord Mills, Lori & Ryan McCord.

RALPH R. MATTADE, by Loretta Mattade.

BERT & WILMA SHUEY, by their family.

SCOTT W. HEDSTROM, by his daughters Karen, Heidi, and Sarah.

LEE MORRISON, by Hazel Morrison, Mike Morrison, Eddie & Patty Vaughn, and Ashley & Jeff Nastoff

HOWARD HIETT, JR., by Yvonne Hiett.

CINDY HARVEY, by the family.

SALLY & PAT HAMILTON, by Aubrey & Charlyne Harvey.

BUDDY & SHIELA FOUST, by the family.

AJAX & GERALDINE TURNER, by the family.

JOHN ROBERT KONKLE, by Charles and Linda Wall.

BILL MITCHELL, by Erika Mitchell.

BILL AND AILENE RAGAN and *CRESON BRIGGS*, by Carter, Pam, Emily & Grace Briggs.

JOHN LONG MARKS, by Emily & Grace Briggs.

HANK MILES, by the family.

SAM BAILEY, by the family.

HAYDEN JOLLY, by Charlotte Jolly and the family.

MARTIN MAPLES, by Maggie, Jack, Anna, & Molly Brown.

ANNE HAMILTON JACKSON, by Tracy Jackson.

EDWARD PATRICK "PAT" HAMILTON and *SALLY GILBERT*

HAMILTON, by Tracy Jackson.

SYLVIA ATKINS, by the family.

BILL NORRIS and *GLADYS & JESSE TAYLOR*, by Joyce & Gary Norris.

GEORGE GRACEY, by Annelle Gracey and Bob Gandy.

CECIL MORGAN, SR., *MARY S. MORGAN*, and *MARTHA B.*

MORGAN, by the children of Cecil Morgan, Sr.

SARAH GODER, by David, Lesa, Matthew, & Megan Goder.

JOHN R. & SADIE LONG and *JOHN LONG MARKS*, by Susan Marks and Ben Marks.

JOHN & MARY ARRINGTON, by the family.

WILLIAM & ELOISE DILLARD, by Suella & Tim Arrington.

LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY

We will Undecorate the church, on January 6 immediately following 11:00 worship. Volunteers are needed to help! A Committee Chair training session will be held on Tuesday, January 8, 5:30-6:30 pm. All Committee Chairs need to be present.

Planning Day will be on Saturday, January 26, beginning at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall. This is a time when all committees and the session come together to plan programs and events for 2013. We meet at 9 am for announcements and then split up into committees and go to individual meeting rooms. At 11:30 everyone returns to the fellowship hall for lunch which has been prepared by the Congregational Life Committee. This is a great time to join a committee! You do not have to be a member of the church to serve on a committee. Printed copies of what each Committee does is on the table outside the church office. More information will be in the January Newsletter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Dave is available for individual meetings with members of the congregation Monday-Friday, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, or on Saturdays when circumstances require it. Email him at david.stull.handley@gmail.com.

The Presbyterian Women Luncheon will be Monday, January 28, at 12:30 pm in the fellowship hall. The program will be on the "Habitat Mission" and will be given by Shelby Logsdon. We will begin collecting items for SafeHouse (winter hats, gloves and scarves; gently-used purses filled with travel size toiletries; and canned foods. The meal is catered (\$10) and the menu is BBQ pork sandwich, baked beans, cole slaw, fruit cobbler, iced tea, lemonade, and coffee. Reservations are required for your meal and/or child care so please sign up on the bulletin board.

The church office has re-chargeable gift cards from Kroger that support our youth programs with a 4% return to the church on all your Kroger purchases. To date we have received \$7,096.85.



First Presbyterian Church

*With Christ as our Savior and Guide,
We seek to know God's love and share it
With each other, our community, and the world.
We invite you to join us in this journey
of discipleship!*

Organized May 25, 1822
Rev. David Handley, Interim Pastor

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