

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

The Service for the Lord’s Day

First Sunday after Christmas

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

December 27, 2009

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

One: The grace and peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE “Prelude on a Luther Hymn” Gordon Young Sylvia Jennings, organ

WELCOME Please sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship Pad.

CALL TO WORSHIP (8:45) Dr. William L. Arthur (11:00) Dr. David A. Renwick

One: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. All: We have beheld his glory, Alleluia! One: Let us worship God.

† HYMN 163: (Red) “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN

† PRAYER OF ADORATION (Unison) All glory to you, great God, for the gift of your Son, whom you sent to save us. With singing angels let us praise your name, and tell the earth his story that all may believe, rejoice, and bow down, acknowledging your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

SILENT CONFESSION

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON One: Hear the good news that brightened the dark Judean night, “Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, for unto you is born this day a Savior who is Christ the Lord.” The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. All: And also with you.

† RESPONSE TO PARDON IN DULCI JUBILO Good Christians all, rejoice With heart, and soul, and voice; Now we need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls us one and calls us all To gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

FIRST READING Isaiah 40:9-12 Pew Bible Page 619

One: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

William Everett Brown Son of Helen Elizabeth and William Christopher Brown

Caroline Weston Bruner Daughter of Christine Roberts and Terrence Weston Bruner

At the 11:00 service, four- and five-year-olds and first graders will depart for Children’s Worship. Pick-up Location: Joseph’s Workshop (red door), Pathway2Truth hallway in the Clark Building – 2nd floor.

SECOND READING Matthew 2:1-5, 13-23 Pew Bible Page 835

One: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Bedlam in Bethlehem” Dr. William L. Arthur

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) (8:45) The Reverend L. Craig Foster (11:00) Dr. David A. Renwick

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. (He) proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. He is our Lord and our Redeemer. Thanks be to God. Amen. – adapted from A Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison) 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY (8:45) “Come Unto Him” Handel Carly Keiser, solo

Come unto Him all ye that labor, come unto Him all ye that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you and learn of Him, for He is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

(11:00) “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” J.S. Bach Chancel Choir

Jesu, joy of man’s desiring, Holy wisdom, Love most bright, Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring, Soar to uncreated light. Word of God our flesh that fashioned With the fire of life impassioned Striving still to Truth unknown, Soaring, dying, round Thy throne.

Through the way where Hope is guiding, Hark, what peaceful music rings, Where the flock in Thee confiding, Drink of joy from deathless springs. Theirs is beauty’s fairest pleasure, Theirs is wisdom’s holiest treasure. Thou dost ever lead Thine own, In the love of joys unknown.

† DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH

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

GO IN GOD’S NAME

† HYMN 171: (Red) “O Little Town of Bethlehem” ST. LOUIS

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE “Eternal Father” O Waly Waly Eternal Father, guide our way, Eternal Light, within us shine, Eternal Son, show us your peace, Eternal Spirit, make us thine.

POSTLUDE “Tidings of Joy” Alice Jordan

† Congregation will stand **** Ushers will seat latecomers.

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Nursery care is available on the first floor of the Clark Building for all services for children six weeks through three years old. Silent pagers are provided to parents in case one of our nursery staff needs to reach you. If your child becomes restless or needs to leave the sanctuary for any reason, an usher can direct you to the Church Parlor as a place to stay with your child and still hear the worship service through our sound system.

Rainbow worship bags are provided at the doors of the Sanctuary for your child to use during worship. Please return the crayons, book, puzzle game, and bag to the baskets at the conclusion of worship. The papers or leaflets are for your child to keep.

Hearing devices are available for your use. Please ask an usher for assistance before the service.

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

Sunday, December 27

8:45 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary
8:45 a.m. MorningSong – Fogartie Hall
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 29

9:15 a.m. Staff Meeting
8:15 a.m. Beginner Yoga

Wednesday, December 30

8:15 a.m. Beginner Yoga

Monday, December 28

Christmas Holiday
Church Facilities Closed

Friday, January 1, 2010

New Year's Day
Church Facilities Closed

Sunday School

December 27, 2009 - 9:45 a.m.

NURSERY and PRESCHOOL – First Floor Clark Bldg.

Infants – C108; **Toddlers** – C105; **Twos** – C106
Preschool – **3K** – C111, **4K** – C110, **5K** – C112

ELEMENTARY (1st – 5th Grades) “Good News”

Pathway2Truth – Second Floor Clark Building
(See bulletin boards on the Pathway2Truth hall
for specific room locations for each grade.)

YOUTH – Second Floor Family Life Center

6th-7th – Jr. High Room (F207)

Who Does Jesus Serve?

8th-9th – 9th Grade Room, (F205)

Mark: Is Jesus Really Divine?

10th-12th – Sr. High Room (F202)

Mark: Is Jesus Really Divine?

ADULTS

Agnus Dei – Room 2210

Magi Confirm Messiah's Birth Uniform Lesson Series

Bible Alive!

Joining Come One Come All – Social Hall

Christian Perspectives

Joining Come One Come All – Social Hall

Come One Come All – Social Hall

Friendship

Faith Builders – Social Hall

Joining Come One Come All

Fellowship Class – Social Hall

Joining Come One Come All

Horizons – Social Hall

Joining Come One Come All

Ladies Chapel Class – Social Hall

Joining Come One Come All

Men's Bible Class – Purnell Room

Magi Confirm messiah's Birth Uniform Lesson Series

OPEN Class – Room 2216

Faith Stories by Michael Curtis

Spiritual Life – Social Hall

Joining Come One Come All

Truth Seekers – Room 2208

Colossians: The Cosmic Christ

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

JANUARY 3, 2009

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING has been called for January 3 to be held after the 11:00 a.m. worship to receive and act upon a recommendation from the 2009-2010 Congregational Nominating Committee for the Officers of the Class of 2013.

Elder Nominations: *Vic Bailey, Billy Blackford, Carl Carlson, Paul Coté, Ann Crenshaw, Ken Darr, Mary Dixon, Kay Green, Janet Kuntz, Lynda Moore, Elford Morgan, Darwin Simpson, Pat Tatham, Betty Walpole, Margaret Young, Jerry Howe (2-year term).*

Deacon Nominations: *Martha Bean, Marty Cowan, Susie Dekle, Libba Glenn, Chris Groke, Pamela Heath, Steve Huntley, Tom Mahaffey, Valerie MacPhail, Kam Neely, Randy Orders, Richard Strasburger, Mary Stokes, Rob Usry, Phil Wilson.*

Mark Your Calendar!

New Welcome Class Begins January 10

Are you interested in

- joining First Presbyterian Church
- learning more about the Presbyterian Church
- starting the new year afresh after being away for a while?

You are warmly invited to a series of Welcome Classes beginning on Sunday, January 10, 2010 through February 28, 2010.

If you would like more information, please contact Cheryl Regets at 208-2129 cregets@fpcspartanburg.org.

Need Large Print Bulletin?

Please ask an usher for a copy.

Staff

Dr. David A. Renwick, Senior Pastor; **Reverend Susan E. Moorefield**, Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care; **Reverend L. Craig Foster**, Associate Pastor, Education/Discipleship; **Dr. William L. Arthur**, Parish Associate; **R. Holt Andrews**, Director of Music; **Marcia C. Andrews**, Assistant Director of Music and Organist; **Scott J. Neely**, Pastoral Executive; **Nan McDaniel**, Interim Director of Education; **Jeffrey S. Smith**, Director of Youth; **Carrie D. Williamson**, Assistant Director of Youth; **Bethany S. Cecil**, Parish Nurse; **J. Robert Bannan**, Director of Recreation; **Patricia L. Webster**, Church Hostess

Missionaries: *Salvador and Irma de la Torre, Kenya; John S. McCall, Taiwan; Frank and Nancy Dimmock, Lesotho; Mission Co-Workers Serving with Kurds; Mission Co-Workers Serving in the Middle East.*

First Presbyterian Church

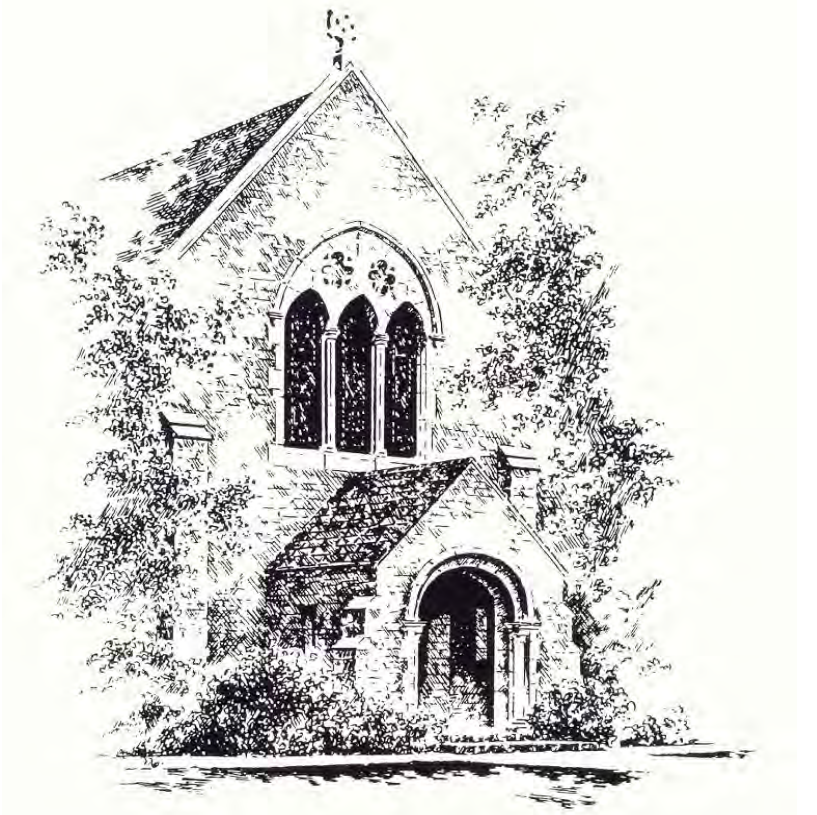
393 East Main Street

Spartanburg, SC

864/583-4531

www.fpcspartanburg.org

December 27, 2009



Welcome!

We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us.

First Presbyterian Church
is a community of believers committed to
“Glorifying God and Sharing Christ Together
through Word and Deed.”