

# The Service for the Lord's Day

## *Third Sunday of Advent*

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

December 11, 2011

### ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

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

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Minister: Let us prepare our hearts for worship.

**PRELUDE** Fanfare and Variations on *Noel Nouvelet* Raymond Haan

**WELCOME** Dr. William P. Wood

(Please sign and pass the Ministry of Friendship Pad.)

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Please remain seated to sing.)

(8:45) *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* STUTTGART

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.

(11:00) *Come, Come Emmanuel* Bailey/Mayo  
Sr. Choristers

### CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY

(8:45) Melissa, McCall, Page, and Mac Morehead

(11:00) Angie, Arthur, and Ava Jones and Vivian Kahrs

### UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God, we thank you for the joy that you give to every heart that trusts in you. As we watch and wait for you to return, help us to share your joy with each other in all that we say and do. Amen

† **HYMN 49:** (Blue) *Once in Royal David's City* IRBY

**ADVENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison) (8:45) Dr. William L. Arthur  
(11:00) Reverend Laura E. Palmer

Merciful God, in this Advent Season we pause to remember the gift of your son. We acknowledge that we are unworthy of your love. We have so often disobeyed your commandments and ignored the truth we hold dear. Forgive our sin. Forgive the love of self that too often eclipses our love of others. Cleanse us by your mercy that we may love you and serve you with all our hearts and lives. In Christ's name, we pray,

### SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Minister: Hear this Good News – Through the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has given us the gift of reconciliation!

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

† **RESPONSE TO PARDON** GLORIA PATRI

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.

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

Beth Burris

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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

## Reflections on *The Prince of Peace*

### DONA NOBIS PACEM

Z. Randall Stroope

Dona nobis pacem.

The wolf will lie with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the goat.

And the calf and the lion and yearling together. And the cow will feed with the bear, and the lion will feed with the ox.

And the young child will play near the nest of the viper.

A shoot will come from the stump of Jesse,  
from his roots a branch will bear fruit.

And in that day the root of Jesse will stand as a banner to all people,

And his place of rest will be glorious!

Dona nobis pacem.

### THE DREAM ISAIAH SAW

Glenn L. Rudolph

Lions and oxen will sleep in the hay,  
leopards will join with the lambs as they play,  
wolves will be pastured with cows in the glade,  
blood will not darken the earth that God made.

Little child whose bed is straw, take new lodgings in my heart.  
Bring the dream Isaiah saw: life redeemed from fang and claw.

Peace will pervade more than forest and field:

God will transfigure the violence concealed deep in the heart  
and in systems of gain, ripe for the judgment the Lord will ordain.

Little child who bed is straw, take new lodgings in my heart.  
Bring the dream Isaiah saw: justice purifying law.

Nature reordered to match God's intent, nations obeying the call to repent,  
all of creation completely restored,  
filled with the knowledge and love of the Lord.

Little child whose bed is straw, take new lodgings in my heart.  
Bring the dream Isaiah saw: knowledge, wisdom, worship, awe.

### SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 2:1-9

Pew Bible Page

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

### MEDITATION

*Seeing Jesus*

Dr. William P. Wood

*As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him.*

*But we see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels. . .*  
Hebrews 2:8b-9a

### HOPE FOR RESOLUTION

arr. Paul Caldwell/Sean Ivory

(with the Senior Choristers)

Of the Father's love begotten, e'er the worlds began to be.

He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending he.

Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
evermore and evermore.

Oh, that birth, forever blessed, when the virgin full of grace,  
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bare the Savior of our race.

And the babe, the world's redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,  
evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heaven adore him, angel hosts his praises sing,  
powers, dominions bow before him, and extol our God and King.

Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring  
evermore and evermore.

Translation of African:

*Nation, do not cry. Jehovah will protect us. We will attain freedom.*

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(8:45) Dr. William L. Arthur

(11:00) Reverend Ansley B. Page

### 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 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

*Fanfare of the King*

Z. Randall Stroope

### † ADVENT DOXOLOGY

REGENT SQUARE

**All creation, join in praising, God the Father, Spirit, Son,**

**Evermore your voices raising to the Eternal, Three in One;**

**Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the coming King.**

### † PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Almighty God, we acknowledge you as the giver of every good gift,

Above all, we acknowledge the great gifts of life and light

that you have given to us through Jesus your Son.

Use these gifts that we now offer in your service,

and help us to reflect your life and light

in all we think and say and do. Amen.

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

† **HYMN 31:** (Blue)

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Mendelssohn

### † CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*

arr. Raymond Haan

† Congregation will stand.

\*\*\*\* Ushers will seat latecomers.

**Sacred Silence:** Our children's choirs are learning how their music sung in worship is truly an offering to God. Worship is a setting unlike others in their school and extra-curricular activities. When the children finish singing in worship, we encourage them to "Listen to hear God smiling," which God surely is when God hears their beautiful songs. Help us to create this sacred silence following children's choir anthems so that we all may hear God's smile!

**The Advent greens** in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Linda Corley Harris by Juli and Reel Robertson and Lucy, Harris, and Christian Robertson.

**The Advent wreath** this Sunday is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of L. A. "Brooks" McCall and Carolyn Heriot McCall by their families.

**Thanks to our instrumentalists:** Thomas Cotter, Craig Davis, Jim Kilgus, Jason Ray, *trumpet*; Kaci Cotter, Matthew MacPhail, *horn*; Jeff Kuntz, Alice Welchel, John McCallister, *trombone*; John Holloway, *tuba*; Adena McDaniel, Kevin Mavis, *percussion*

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**PARENTS . . .**

**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 share in the worship service through our live video and audio.**

**For Nursing Mothers:** There are two locations that nursing mothers can use while they are here on Sunday mornings. The nursery in the Family Life Center (off the gym playroom) is open before and during MorningSong for nursing mothers. Room C103 on the first floor of the Clark Building is open from 8:15 a.m. through the end of the 11:00 service. Please follow the instructions in the room with respect to use of the changing tables and disposal of diapers.

**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, bookmarks, and bag to the baskets at the conclusion of worship. The papers or leaflets are for your child to keep as a reminder of today's scripture and message.

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Service of  
Healing and Wholeness  
This Wednesday, December 14

*Light in the Darkness*  
5:15 – 5:45 ~ Chapel

This service offers the opportunity to pray for the healing of oneself and others, reflect on the components of healing, receive communion, and experience God's blessing.

Moravian Love Feast  
Sunday, December 18



Music Provided by  
The Chamber Singers  
5:00 and 7:00 p.m. ~ Chapel

The Moravian Love Feast is a lovely Christmas service of music, candlelighting, and the serving of the "feast" of special Moravian buns and coffee.

- ❖ This service is a joint effort between First Presbyterian Church and the Palmetto Moravian Fellowship here in Spartanburg, whose members will serve the feast dressed in period costumes.
- ❖ Because of large crowds, this service will be offered at 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ A nursery will be provided (ages 6 weeks to 3 years).

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**A hearing loop has been installed in the Sanctuary.** *If your hearing aid or cochlear device is equipped with T-coil technology, please switch it to the "T", T-Coil, or telephone position for improved hearing during the service. Thank you!*

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**Staff**

**Dr. William P. Wood**, Interim Senior Pastor; **Reverend L. Craig Foster**, Associate Pastor, Education/Discipleship; **Dr. William L. Arthur**, Supply Pastor; **Reverend Ansley B. Page**, Supply Pastor; **Reverend Laura E. Palmer**, Interim Associate Pastor; **R. Holt Andrews**, Director of Music; **Marcia C. Andrews**, Assistant Director of Music and Organist; **Beth Burris**, Director of Children's Ministries; **Scott J. Neely**, Pastoral Executive; **Carrie D. Williamson**, Director of Youth Ministry; **Michael W. Koster**, Assistant Director of Youth Ministry; **Bethany S. Cecil**, Parish Nurse; **J. Robert Bannan**, Director of Recreation; **Patricia L. Webster**, Church Hostess

**Missionaries:** *Frank and Nancy Dimmock, Lesotho; Jo Ella Holman, Cuba and Dominican Republic; Mark Hare, Haiti; Mission Co-Workers Serving with Kurds; Mission Co-Workers Serving in the Middle East.*

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First Presbyterian Church

December 11, 2011



*Welcome!*

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