



Central Presbyterian Church
6300 Trinity Drive, Pine Bluff, Arkansas
(870) 879-9074



Sunday, December 15, 2013
3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

GREET THOSE AROUND YOU IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

PRELUDE *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Geistiliche

LIGHTING THE SECOND & THIRD ADVENT CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: May we, the innkeepers, find a place for our Lord.

People: **May we be wise enough to follow a star.**

Leader: May we be shepherds and be open to the possibility of miracles.

People: **May we find a kneeling place in the stable.**

All: **O come, O come, Emmanuel**

***OPENING HYMN #22** *Angels, from the Realm of Glory*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of light, who shines in deepest darkness, we hear you calling us out of hopelessness into hope. But we are frightened by your call. We are afraid of taking chances; we are afraid of following your light because it leads us into the places where you need us. We don't want to see how your people hurt. We don't want to see your light shining in the eyes of our neighbor. Yet we know that in those places your grace shines. So help us seek your light. Guide us in your way, that we might be your children of day. Through the light of the world, we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

HYMN #44

O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 3)

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!

So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.

No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,

Where meek souls will receive Him still the dear Christ enters in.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The call to repentance was part of Christ's Advent.

People: **And now He is here. The will of the King who came is love; forgiveness is His way. We have seen what we prepare for again, and it is more than enough.**

All: **Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Thanks be to God!**

***GLORIA PATRI** ("Glory be to the Father") *Hymnal #579*

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Away in a Manger

Lund

Combined Adult & Youth Choirs

TIME WITH OUR YOUNG ONES

Preschool-aged children may go to the nursery after the children's message. Children of kindergarten age and above may remain in worship.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 11:1-10

NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans 15:4-13

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"You're Welcome!"

Rev. John Barklind

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Apostle's Creed (Traditional)

p.14 Hymnal

***HYMN #25**

Away in a Manger

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *O Jesulein süß, o Jesulein Mild* Bach

***DOXOLOGY** ("Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow") *Hymnal #592*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS (You are each encouraged to give voice to your concerns or to name those for whom you Love and pray.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER (We use debts and debtors.)

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***RECESSIONAL HYMN #38** *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE** *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* Traditional

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

Go forth into the world with rejoicing to love and serve the Lord.

*** Those who are able, please stand.**

**** Please be seated and remain for the postlude if you can.**

Ushers: Sue and Frank Merritt Lay Reader: Bill Detmers

Welcome to Central Presbyterian Church where we come together **to celebrate God’s love, nurture growth, share our faith and serve the needs of others.** This Congregation opens wide its doors and our hearts and offers welcome to all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Guest Pastor
Rev. John Barklind

Secretary
Erin Shaw

Choirmaster/Organist
Marty Shell

Nursery Attendant
Laura Cosner

Youth Sponsors
Marty Shell
George Mosley
Amber Poss

Website:
www.centralprespb.com
Member Login: cpcmember
Member Psswd: 6300trinity



The Session (Board of Elders)

Class of 2013

Lawrence Fikes
Steven Howsen
George Mosley
Dana Neal
Laura Pierce (Clerk)

Class of 2014

Tommy Dunlap
Jo Weaver
Lan Kelley
Pat Drewett
Bill Detmers

Standing Committee Moderators

Lawrence Fikes	Budget & Finance
Steven Howsen	Building & Grounds
George Mosley	
Dana Neal	Education
Tommy Dunlap	Fellowship & Nurture
Pat Drewett	
Jo Weaver	Missions & Outreach
Bill Detmers	
Lan Kelley	Worship & Music

Announcements

Today is the Deadline to order poinsettias. To place an order, please one of the forms on the round table in the Narthex, and return it to the church office by the end of the day. The cost is \$12.50.

There Will Be a Meeting of the Congregation today at the end of worship. The purpose will be to accept the Nominating Committee’s report for the Session Class of 2015.

The Session Will Meet this afternoon following morning worship, in the conference room

The Christmas Joy Offering Will Be Received next Sunday, December 22, during morning worship.

Central's Choir Will Present "Behold the Star" a Christmas Journey to the Light of Christ by Lloyd Larson on Sunday, December 22, during morning worship. All are invited to share in this special presentation.

The Monthly Fellowship Luncheon Has Been Moved to the 4th Sunday, December 22, following morning worship. It will be a regular potluck. All are invited to join in this time of fellowship.

Our Annual Christmas Eve Service Will Be Held December 24, at **5:30 p.m.** This promises to be a wonderful Christmas Eve service you won't want to miss. Come and sing with us as we celebrate together!

Isaiah 11:1-10

- 11:1 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- 11:2 The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- 11:3 His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;
- 11:4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- 11:5 Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- 11:6 The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.
- 11:7 The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- 11:8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- 11:9 They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.
- 11:10 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Romans 15:4-13

- 15:4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.
- 15:5 May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus,
- 15:6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- 15:7 Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.
- 15:8 For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,
- 15:9 and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name";
- 15:10 and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";
- 15:11 and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";
- 15:12 and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."
- 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Announcements (cont.)

The Church Office Will Be Closed and the Choir will not meet Wednesday, December 25, in observance of Christmas Day.

Central Will Lead Trinity Village Vespers Sunday, December 29, at 4 p.m., in the Trinity Village Great Hall. All are invited to attend

Is Your Pledge Up-to-Date? Member contribution reports are available by request from the church office.

2014 Offering Envelopes are available. They are located on the table in the Narthex

It Is Time for Wrap-it-Up!

Overwhelmed by the thought of holiday gift wrapping? Let us do the work! On Saturday, December 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., you can bring your items to the Youth/Activities building to have them wrapped. The price list is as follows:

Small Gifts-\$3.00

CD's, Books, jewelry, candles.

Medium Gifts-\$5.00

Shirt sized boxes, board games, dolls, calendars, and shoe boxes.

Large Gifts-\$10.00

Large clothes boxes, coats, small kitchen appliances.

Donations Needed:

Wrapping paper, wired ribbon (solid colors preferred), boxes (all sizes), Scotch tape

All benefits from Wrap-it-Up will benefit Central Presbyterian Women's Missions. For more information or to volunteer, contact **Laura Pierce (870-247-5392)**

PRAYER CONCERNS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 2013

MEMBERS:

Agnes Hughes
Mildred Turner
Bernice and Gene Lackey
Mary Wooten
Valerie Reichen

Jo Weaver
Bea Magee
Nell Horne
Hester Insley
Mildred Gaunt

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:

Scotty Douthit, brother-in-law of Nelson Buchanan, son-in-law of Bea Magee
The family of Jessie Mae Blevins, great-aunt of Erin Shaw
Marie Shell, mother of Marty Shell
Baby Landen Drye, friend of the Cosner family
Carolyn Mebane, former member
Orrin Robinson, friend of the church
Doris McCoy, mother of Kay Cromwell
Kathleen Martin, friend of the Mosley family
Pat Mosley, mother of George Mosley
Freddie Maxwell, friend of the Neal family
Joe Ward, uncle of Dana Neal
Mary Ward, mother of Dana Neal
Al Glover, former member
Dan Loomis, former pastor
Marlene Chambliss, mother-in-law of Suzy & Rose's younger sisters
Miranda Goldman, daughter of Suzy VonTungeln's coworker
Judy Feters, friend of Rose and Suzy VonTungeln

Matthew Stoddard, nephew of Amanda Chandler's co-worker
John Hensley, friend of Laura and Rick Pierce
Kristina Ward, friend of Amanda and Michael Chandler
Nancy Mugford, friend Laura and Dan
Judy Curry, Jo Weaver's hairdresser
Ray Nitcher, friend of Jo Weaver
Zach Towers, friend of Austin Howsen
Franklin Ward, uncle of Dana Neal
Brad Morris, nephew of Bernice Lackey
Kelly Robinson, friend of Karen & David Perdue
Marian Parks, aunt of Bill Detmers
Cissy Bailey, sister-in-law of Betty Coles
Anne Logan, friend of Jo Weaver
Tracy Robinson, friend of Karen & David Perdue
Carla Fenessee, friends of Laura & Rick Pierce
Brooke Wells, granddaughter of Connie & Bill Detmers
Helen Gaunt, sister-in-law of Mildred Gaunt

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:

Laotian Ministry, Fort Smith

First, Stuttgart

OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD:

Keith Camferdam, Air Force
Josh May, Army

Kyle Glover, Army

To share your joys and concerns or to update the information listed in this week's Joys & Concerns, contact the church office at 879-9074, fax 879-9076, or email the church at centralpc@cablelynx.com.