



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



**Sunday, December 14 2014**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> 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, He Comes!* Powell

**LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE** The Poss Family

**CALL TO WORSHIP** from Psalm 126

Jemmie: "The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced."

**People:** "Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb."

Jemmie: "May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy!"

**People:** "May those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves."

**All:** "Let us worship God!"

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #143** *Angels, From the Realms of Glory*

**FILLING THE BAPTISMAL FONT**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God, our plans are not yours and our ways are not yours, yet you choose us. You reveal your glory at Christmas and we have trouble seeing your light. You give us your Word and we pick and choose our words. Forgive us, Lord, for the sins we recognize. Save us, Lord, from the sins we ignore. (Silent Prayer) In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

**KYRIE ELEISON** ("Lord, Have Mercy")

*Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Jemmie: Friends, hear and believe the Good News!

**People:** In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen!

**\*GLORIA PATRI** ("Glory be to the Father") *Hymnal #581*

### PROCLAIMING THE WORD

**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.*

**ANTHEM** *A Star Will Soon Shine* Besig

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 61:1 - 4, 8 - 11

**EPISTLE READING** 1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 24

**GOSPEL READING** John 1:6 - 8, 19 - 28

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**SERMON** David S. King

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles' Creed (Traditional) see insert

**\*HYMN #123** *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** *Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan Kam* Bach

**\*DOXOLOGY** ("Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow") *Hymnal #607*

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

**SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS** (You are each encouraged to name those whom you love and for whom you pray.)

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER** (We use the wording “debts and debtors.”)

**FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN #119** *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE\*\*** *Away in a Manger* Brickman

**EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES**

*Go forth into the world rejoicing. Love and serve the Lord.*

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

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

**Usher: Connie and Bill Detmers Lay Reader: Jemmie Moseley**

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.

**Transitional Pastor**  
David S. King  
cell: 501-658-0944

**Secretary**  
Erin Shaw

**Choirmaster/Organist**  
Marty Shell

**Youth Sponsors**  
Marty Shell  
George Mosley  
Amber Poss

**Website:**  
[www.centralprespb.com](http://www.centralprespb.com)



**The Session (Board of Elders)**

<b><u>Class of 2014</u></b>	<b><u>Class of 2015</u></b>
Tommy Dunlap	Marty Shell
Bill Detmers	Betty Coles
Lan Kelley	Amanda Chandler
Pat Drewett	Jewelie Mills
	Laura Pierce (clerk)

**Standing Committee Moderators**

Jewelie Mills	Budget & Finance
Amanda Chandler	Building & Grounds
Amanda Chadler	
& Laura Pierce	Education
Tommy Dunlap	
& Lan Kelley	Fellowship & Nurture
Pat Drewett	Missions & Outreach
Bill Detmers	
& Marty Shell	Worship & Music

*Announcements*

**Today is the Deadline** to order Christmas Poinsettias. To place an order please fill out one of the forms located 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.

**Central's Choir Will Present** *The Christmas Story* by Tom Fettke and Thomas Grassi next Sunday, December 21, during morning worship. All are invited to share in this special presentation

**The Monthly Fellowship Luncheon Will Be Held** December 21, following morning worship. All are invited to join in this time of fellowship.

**The Deadline for the January Issue of the Central Scene** is Monday, December 22. Please turn in all articles, announcements, and meeting dates to the church office by the end of the day.

**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!

**The Church Office Will Be Closed** Thursday, December 25, in observance of Christmas Day.

**The Choir Will Not Meet** Wednesday, December 31.

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**  
The Apostles Creed (Traditional)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Notes on Today's Affirmation of Faith:**  
The Apostles Creed (Traditional)

Presbyterians are a "Confessing Church." We have adopted historic statements of faith such as "The Apostles Creed" and created others as a way of telling the world and reminding ourselves who we are, what we believe, and how we intend to live because of that. They do not take the place of the Bible and are intended to help us focus on the essentials of our faith made clear in the Bible. The Presbyterian Book of Confessions includes fourteen statements of faith, including familiar ones like "The Apostles Creed" and the "Longer" and "Shorter Catechisms."

The Apostles Creed was not written by the Apostles, as some thought in the very earliest days of the Christian movement. It developed as faithful followers of Christ tried to combat others whose teachings did not conform to the teachings of the Early church. An early form of it in Rome dates back to about 180 A.D. Few of the early members of the Church were able to read, so they had to memorize some of the basics of their faith to be admitted to the Church. Many of those statements were built on that early form and over the centuries other phrases were added as new issues arose. By the Eighth Century A.D. it had developed into the form we still use today. Some of the language of that time is still included, such as the word "catholic," which didn't refer to the Roman Catholic Church, but is a word used to mean "world-wide" or "universal."

**Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;

To proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

To provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

**John 1:6-8, 19-28**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing

**A Star Will Soon Shine**

Watch and wait, O people of God;  
This is no time for doubt and fear.  
Let your faith be steadfast and strong.  
Soon a sign will appear.

A star will soon shine O'er Bethlehem town.  
The prophets have said a child will come down  
From heaven above to bring God's love.  
Let us prepare for the King.

A star will soon shine alone in the night.  
The sky will be filled with glorious light,  
And a song will be heard through all the world.  
Let us prepare for the King.

Watch and wait, O people of hope,  
Love will come down from heaven on high.  
Trust your faith. Be patient and know  
God will send you a sign.

A star will soon shine to show us the way.  
The darkness we've known will soon be replaced  
By the light of God's Son, the Promised One.  
Let us prepare for the King.

**CENTRAL PRAYER CONCERNS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 2014**

*MEMBERS:*

**The friends and family of Mildred Turner**  
**Mary Wooten**  
**Logan Mosley**  
**Bernice and Gene Lackey**  
**Hester Insley**  
**Mary Kientz**

**Agnes Hughes**  
**Valerie Reichen**  
**Bea Magee**  
**Nell Horne**  
**Mildred Gaunt**

*FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:*

**The family of Marian Parks**, aunt of Bill Detmers  
**Ronnie Panks**, father of Bubba VonTungeln's friend  
**Rev. Jim Miller**, friend of the church  
**Perry Reynolds**, friend of the Jane & David Judkins  
**Betty Neal**, mother-in-law of Dana Neal  
**Lori Partridge**, friend of Rose VonTungeln  
**Carol Langley**, customer of Laura Cosner  
**Mary Ward**, mother of Dana Neal  
**Annette Knuckles**, co-worker of Tommy Dunlap  
**Cathryn Bennet and Rhonda Bennett**, customers of Laura Cosner  
**Joshua Chambliss and family**, nephew of Rose and Suzy VonTungeln  
**Juliet Walker**, sister of Bubba VonTungeln's co-worker  
**Judy and Larry Fetters**, friends of Rose VonTungeln  
**Rhett Lunningham**, nephew of David Judkins  
**Ryker Cheek**, nephew of Bubba VonTungeln  
**Dad and Stepmom of Vance and Jennifer Freeman**, cousins of Amanda Chandler

**Betty Seymore**, aunt of Pat Drewett  
**Mary McBee**, friend of Karen & David Perdue  
**Johnny & Ginger McCaleb**, son and daughter-law of Donna McCaleb  
**Brooke Wells**, granddaughter of Connie & Bill Detmers  
**Monica Milligan**, mother-in-law of Michael VonTungeln  
**Doris McCoy**, mother of Kay Cromwell  
**Wanda Vining**, mother-in-law of Pat Drewett  
**Cathy Risinger**, sister of Kay Cromwell  
**Helen Gaunt**, sister-in-law of Mildred Gaunt  
**Joe Ward**, uncle of Dana Neal  
**Dan Loomis**, former pastor  
**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  
**Judy Curry**, Jo Weaver's hairdresser  
**Ray Nitcher**, friend of Jo Weaver  
**Franklin Ward**, uncle of Dana Neal  
**Cissy Bailey**, sister-in-law of Betty Coles

*PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:*

**Laotian Ministry**, Fort Smith

**First**, Stuttgart

*OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD*

## ***Christmas Poinsettias Placed in the Sanctuary***

The (Bill) VonTungeln Family Mary Shannon & Lawrence Fikes Mary Kientz Jim & Elise Argue & Family	<i>In memory of Nancy VonTungeln For the Glory of God In memory of Sonny Kientz In honor of Betty Coles In memory of Ruby Orgain Carey and Oneida &amp; Bob Orgain In memory of Loved Ones</i>
Patsy & Dave King Valerie Reichen and Donna & Marlin Shipman Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Buchanan	<i>In memory of Murray Reichen In honor of Bea. Magee and Audry Brooks In memory of Mike Brooks, Grady Magee, and Linda &amp; Scotty Douthit</i>
Ms. Pat Drewett, Lee & Leslie Drewett Lainey, Luke, and Derik Drewett	<i>In honor of Wanda Vining and Betty Seymore In memory of Mike Drewett</i>
Bonnie Rauls Jemmie D. Moseley & Family	<i>In memory of Mr. &amp; Mrs. Bert Brown In memory of Martin Moseley, Sr., Mr. &amp; Mrs. B. Bryan Moseley, and Mr. &amp; Mrs. Bonner G. Davis, Sr. For the Glory of God</i>
Sheila & Jimmy Horn William D. “Bubba” VonTungeln, III & family	<i>In memory of Dora E. VonTungeln, W. D. VonTungeln, Sr., Lea Ann VonTungeln, and Danleigh J. Cosner</i>
Laura & Rick Pierce	<i>In memory of Bill &amp; Jane Mullikin, Mildred Turner, Jo Weaver, and Jim Smedley</i>
Lynda Vick and Family Nell Horne	<i>In memory of Leon Horne and Earl Wayne Vick</i>
Gary Johnson Jemmie D. Moseley Karen & David Perdue	<i>In honor of Cynthia, Matt, &amp; Anna Johnson In memory of John (Jack) Armer Perdue, III In memory of Ruby O. Carey and Mildred Turner</i>
Zac, Laura, & Langston Cosner	<i>In memory of Danleigh Joyce Cosner</i>

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