



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



Sunday, December 7, 2014
2ND 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 *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* Genevan Psalter

LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE The Cosner Family

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 85

Jemmie: "Let us hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

People: "Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other."

Jemmie: "Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky."

People: "The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase."

All: "Let us worship God."

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #88** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (v. 1-4)

FILLING THE BAPTISMAL FONT

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, you promise us that the night is almost over and the day is at hand, but we are too comfortable and we have trouble hearing you.

Forgive us for not wanting to listen and obey. Strengthen our faith and our hope so we can welcome Christ to rule our lives. (Silent Prayer)

Forgive us, in the name of Jesus, the One who is coming. 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 *An Advent Alleluia* Poorman
In Memory of Marty Bryant

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 40:1 - 11

EPISTLE READING 1 Peter 3:8 - 15

GOSPEL READING Mark 1:1 - 8

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

David S. King

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Shorter Catechism see insert

***HYMN #393** *O Day of Rest and Gladness*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Shorter Catechism

Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

Q. 2. What rule has God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?

A. The Word of God which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.

Q. 3. What do the Scriptures principally teach?

A. The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

Q. 4. What is God?

A. God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable, in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.

Q. 5. Are there more Gods than one?

A. There is but one only, the living and true God.

Q. 6. How many Persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are three Persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Q. 7. What are the decrees of God?

A. The decrees of God are his eternal purpose, according to the counsel of his will, whereby, for his own glory, he has foreordained whatsoever comes to pass.

Q. 8. How does God execute his decrees?

A. God executes his decrees in the works of creation and providence.

Q. 9. What is the work of creation?

A. The work of creation is God's making all things of nothing, by the word of his power, in the space of six days, and all very good.

Q. 10. How did God create man?

A. God created man male and female, after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.



Notes on Today's Affirmation of Faith:

The Shorter Catechism

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 mid-1600s were a time of great upheaval in Great Britain and that also involved the Christian movement. Meetings were held in Westminster Abbey to find those areas where the Anglicans and our Reformed ancestors could agree, and soon the church of Scotland got involved. Those meetings produced the lengthy Westminster Standards, and as a device to teach them, they created a Longer Catechism for adults. In 1648 the British Parliament approved the Shorter Catechism for teaching children. Many of us learned parts of the Shorter Catechism when we prepared to make professionals of our faith.

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

2 Peter 3:8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given him.

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

An Advent Alleluia

CENTRAL PRAYER CONCERNS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 7, 2014

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, allelu,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

The glory of the Lord will shine on thee.
Thy heart will rejoice.
His light will guide thee to peace.

Prepare the way of the Lord, alleluia,
And make the road in the desert straight.
Prepare the way of the Lord, our God
The King of kings awaits.

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:

Perry Reynolds, friend of the Jane & David
Judkins
Betty Neal, mother-in-law of Dana Neal
The family of Carolyn Brown, mother of Laura
Cosner's co-worker
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:

Mountainburg Church, Mountainburg

Retired Ministers and Educators

OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD