



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



Sunday, December 6, 2015
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GREET THOSE AROUND YOU IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

CHORAL PRELUDE *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* Williams

LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE The Cosner Family

CALL TO WORSHIP from Isaiah 12: 2 - 6

Lawrence: "Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!"

People: "The LORD has taken away the judgments against you! God has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more."

Lawrence: "On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: 'Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, God will rejoice over you with gladness, God will renew you in his love; God will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.'"

People: "'I will remove disaster from you. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise, and renown in all the earth.'"

All: "Let us all rejoice with shouts of joy and singing!"

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #88** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

FILLING OF THE BAPTISMAL FONT

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

"Open our eyes, Lord. Sometimes they are half-shut because we are tired of looking, and sometimes they are half-open because we see so much that is painful. Give us a bigger vision of what you can do. Open our eyes, Lord, so we may see what you can do with hopeless causes and limited ability. Open our eyes, Lord." (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

Lawrence: "The mercy of The Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven."

People: "Thanks be to God. Amen!"

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Advent Message* How

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 Zephaniah 3:14 - 20

EPISTLE READING Philippians 4:4 - 7

GOSPEL READING Luke 3:7 - 18

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON David S. King

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles's Creed* see insert

***HYMN #129** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

The Monthly Fellowship Luncheon Will Be Held Sunday, December 20, following our Christmas Cantata. All are invited to join in this time of fellowship.

Lectinary Readings for Sunday, December 6- 2nd Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The Magi's Market



Welcome to the Magi's Market. The Missions Committee, in cooperation with all the other Presbyterian Churches in town, are again offering the opportunity for you to purchase gifts for family and friends while supporting important mission ministries in our church, our community, and around the world. Instead of the traditional tie or nightgown, you might choose to sponsor a Haitian child or provide utility assistance for the poor. Your friends and/or family members will receive a Christmas card acknowledging a gift in their honor from you, and the ministry you choose will receive 100% of your financial donation to use as you have specified.

This event will be held during the month of December. Booklets and order forms are available now on the round table in the Narthex with more specific information about the Magi's Market so that you can decide which gifts you would like to give. You can also contact the church office to order or for more information.

Please be in prayer for our successful participation in this unique occasion to give meaningful gifts in the true Spirit of Christmas.

Blue Christmas Worship Service

December 20, 2015 - 4:00 p.m.

Chapel of First Presbyterian Church

The Advent/Christmas season is one of wonder. For so many it is a time of hopeful anticipation. It is a season of promise. The longer nights and the gray clouds seem to provide the perfect background for the lights and the tinsel. The decorations are everywhere we turn. But for many of us, Christmas is a harsh reminder of life that once was. A Blue Christmas worship service provides the opportunity for us to gather to carve out a time of quiet reflection, to honor the emotions of the season that are not so joyful, and to be reminded that we are not alone in this season. We welcome you all to come and worship God with us in this special worship service.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

Advent Message

Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus,
Amen Come Lord Jesus
Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus,
Amen Come Lord Jesus
O come quickly, come Lord Jesus
O come quickly, come Lord come.

Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus,
Amen Come Lord Jesus

The voice of Him that crieth in the wilderness,
Prepare ye the way of the Lord,
Make straight in the desert,
A highway for our God.

Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus,
Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus,
Yea come quickly, Yea come quickly,
Come Lord come.

CENTRAL PRAYER CONCERNS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 6, 2015

MEMBERS:
Emil Brown
Valerie Reichen
Bernice and Gene Lackey
Mary Wooten
Donna McCaleb

Mildred Gaunt
Hester Insley
Mary Kientz
Bea Magee

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:
Shaundra Branscomb, friend of Erin Shaw
Judy Buchanan, wife of Nelson Buchanan
Audrey Brooks, mother-in-law of Nelson Buchanan
The family of Skylar Pickle, friend of Brianna Rodriguez
Steven Lee, uncle of Amber Poss
Maria Wells, daughter of Connie Detmers
Mary Ward, mother of Dana Neal
Cathy Risinger, sister of Kay Cromwell
Betty Seymore, aunt of Pat Drewett
Scott Howell, son of friend of Jemmie Moseley and Lynda Vick
Scott McGeorge, friend of Laurence Fikes
Jay Johnson, friend of Amanda Chandler
Jerry Conley, friend of the Shell family
Dorothy Soto, friend of Lynda Vick
Kevin Rushing, friend of Laura Pierce
Doris McCoy, mother of Kay Cromwell
Randy Shell, brother of Marty Shell
Lois Tucker, neighborhood friend of the Mosley family

Georgiana Burnside, daughter of Amanda Chandler’s co-worker
Jennifer Place, friend of Laura & Zac Cosner
Rhett Lunningham, nephew of David Judkins
Pam Panks, mother of Bubba VonTungeln’s friend
Rev. Jim Miller, friend of the church
Perry Reynolds, friend of the Jane & David Judkins
Lori Partridge, friend of Rose VonTungeln
Annette Knuckles, co-worker of Tommy Dunlap
Joshua Chambliss and family, nephew of Rose and Suzy VonTungeln
Juliet Walker, sister of Bubba VonTungeln’s co-worker
Ryker Cheek, nephew of Bubba VonTungeln
Mary McBee, friend of Karen & David Perdue
Wanda Vining, mother-in-law of Pat Drewett
Helen Gaunt, sister-in-law of Mildred Gaunt
Joe Ward, uncle of Dana Neal
Dan Loomis, former pastor
John Hensley, friend of Laura and Rick Pierce
Franklin Ward, uncle of Dana Neal
Cissy Bailey, sister-in-law of Betty Coles

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:
Mountainburg Church, Mountainburg

Retired Teaching Elder and Educators

OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

Help us keep our Prayer list up-to-date. If you have family or friends who need to be added or removed from the Prayer Concerns list, please let Erin know.

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."