



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
6300 Trinity Drive, Pine Bluff, Arkansas
Sunday, December 24, 2023
4th 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

PRELUDE

Organ/Piano: Young Ju Oh

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE & CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: O God, we light the fourth candle of Advent.

**People: We hear your angel Gabriel and witness the faith of Mary.
Fill us with your grace and light.**

**Pastor: Mary was a poor young girl. Even though her life was not easy,
she heard God's voice and said yes. In this time of Christmas, we
respond to God's calling to us as well.**

**People: Revealing God, visit us and fill us with your Spirit. Bring
your good news to life within us. Give us courage to carry your
light into the injustices and shadows of this world.**

**All: May Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love shine forth from us to the
world, through Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen!**

***OPENING HYMN # 123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (Ver 1, 2, 4, & 5)**

**1 It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious
King." The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.**

2 Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world; above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing, and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

4 And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow, look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing. O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

5 For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world gives back the song which now the angels sing.

CALL TO CONFESSION

In Jesus Christ, God seeks to smooth those places made rough by sin. With humility and hope, let us make our confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Great God, as we behold the birth of Jesus again, we are mindful of how we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story points us to your glory, yet we struggle to join in the song of praise and thanksgiving. We are distracted and confused, so focused on things that matter little that we overlook the good news of great joy that you have prepared. Tell us again that the Savior is born.

Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell us again that our lives can be abundant in faith, hope and love because of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. (Silent Prayer) Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON: "Lord, Have Mercy"

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: The angel tells Joseph that the child forming in Mary's womb is to be named Jesus. "Call him Jesus," the angel says, "For he will save the people from their sins." From his birth through his resurrection, from age to age, Jesus is about salvation. This is good news!

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, Amen!

***GLORIA PATRI**

"Glory Be to the Father"

Hymnal #581

**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.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

Rose VonTungeln

SCRIPTURE READING

Logan Mosley

Psalm 80:1–7 (NASB95)

**1 Oh, give ear, Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock;
You who are enthroned above the cherubim, shine forth! 2 Before
Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up Your power And come to
save us! 3 O God, restore us And cause Your face to shine upon us, and
we will be saved. 4 O Lord God of hosts, How long will You be angry
with the prayer of Your people? 5 You have fed them with the bread of
tears, And You have made them to drink tears in large measure. 6 You
make us an object of contention to our neighbors, And our enemies
laugh among themselves. 7 O God of hosts, restore us And cause Your
face to shine upon us, and we will be saved.**

Matthew 1:21–23 (NASB95)

**21 "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will
save His people from their sins." 22 Now all this took place to fulfill what
was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 23 "Behold, the virgin
shall be with child and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name
Immanuel," which translated means, "God with us."**

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Central Choir

Soprano: Laura Cosner, Jessica Munn, YoungJu Oh, Nina Reeves,
Pam Riegler, Rose Mary VonTungeln

Alto: Denise Mosley, Linda Sue VonTungeln **Tenor:** Jai D. Kwak

Narration: Logan Mosley, William Dale III (Bubba) VonTungeln

SONG LIST

Emmanuel With Glory Medley (Arr. Russel Mauldin): “Emmanuel, Emmanuel,” “Glory,” “Angels We Have Heard on High,” “Hark the Herald Angel Sing,” “O Come, Let Us Adore Him.”

O Holy Night (Arr. Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi): “O Holy Night.”

Sing We Now of Christmas (Arr. Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi): “Sing We Now of Christmas,” “The First Noel,” “O Come, All Ye Faithful.”

***A Joyful Gathering of Carol (Arr. Joseph M. Martin):** “Joy to the World,” “Infant Lowly, Infant Holy,” “Silent Night,” “The First Noel,” “Hark the Herald Angel Sing,”

(The congregation is encouraged to join in singing during the final musical piece)

Joy to the world the Lord is come. Let earth receive the king. Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth the savior reigns. Let all their songs employ: while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, and repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Infant holy, infant lowly for His bed a cattle stall; Oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the Babe is Lord all. Swift are winging, angels singing, noel ringing, tidings bringing” “Christ the Babe is Lord of all.”

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and Child. Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight. Glories stream from heaven afar. Heavenly host sing

Hallelujah! Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

The first Noel, the Angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the king of Israel.

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies. With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald angel sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed)

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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on 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

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Hymnal #606

**"Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow"
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

(You each are 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

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

RECESSIONAL HYMN, #133 O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem! Come and behold him, born the King of angels.

**(Refrain) O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

2 True God from true God, Light from Light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes! Very God, begotten, not created! (Refrain)

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest: (Refrain)

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be all glory given! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: (Refrain)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

****POSTLUDE**

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.***

PRAYER CONCERNS

*Munn Family
Jemmie Moseley
Karen Perdue
Mike & Lan Kelly*

*Hester Insley
Emil & Carol Brown
Laura Hayes
Linda Vick*

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

<u>Name</u>		<u>Name</u>	
<i>Max Zeng</i>	<i>Mike and Lan Kelly's son</i>	<i>Rhett Lunningham</i>	<i>Nephew of David and Jane Judkins</i>
<i>Luis Sanchez</i>	<i>Father of Lizabeth Sanchez</i>	<i>Dr. Laura Festa</i>	<i>Wife of Dan Festa</i>
<i>Bernice Collins</i>	<i>Friend of the Church</i>	<i>Haley Chandler</i>	<i>Friend of the Church</i>
<i>Pat Mosley</i>	<i>Mother of George Mosley</i>	<i>Allie Cooper & Carol Taylor</i>	<i>Friends of Denise Mosley</i>
<i>Mary Owens</i>	<i>Co-worker of Rose VonTungeln</i>	<i>Casey Hardin</i>	<i>Relative of Bubba VonTungeln</i>

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:

First, Paragould

Church Custodians

PLEASE PRAY FOR 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 the Office know.

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 hearts and welcomes all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Announcements

Thanks to all the Central choir members for working hard to make today's Cantata happen. Your dedication and music help us praise and honor our mighty God.

Tonight, on December 24th, at 5:30 PM, we're hosting the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. During this service, we will be taking up the Christmas Joy Offering. The funds collected will be shared equally between the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, offering crucial financial aid to church workers and their families, and Presbyterian-affiliated schools and colleges that support communities of color. These educational institutions focus on both education and leadership development while preserving and celebrating diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds.

You will find a list of contributors who generously donated poinsettias in the Sanctuary to commemorate and pay tribute to their cherished individuals as an insert to this bulletin.

Pastor
Rev. Jai D. Kwak

Pianist/Organist
Young Ju Oh

Treasurer
Rose VonTungeln

Sound Board Operator
Zac Cosner

Email: Office@centralprespb.com

Phone: 870-879-9074

Website: <http://www.centralprespb.com>

Website Password: Trinity9074



Session

Class of 2023

Laura Cosner

Jane Judkins

Denise Mosley

Suzy VonTungeln

Class of 2024

George Mosley (Clerk)

Zac Cosner

Pat Drewett

Standing Committee Moderators:

George Mosley - Building & Ground

Zac Cosner - Budget & Finance

Suzy VonTungeln - Fellowship & Education

Denise Mosley - Missions & Outreach

Laura Cosner - Worship & Music



Christmas Poinsettias Placed in the Sanctuary



The Cosner Family

In Memory of Danleigh Joyce Cosner

In Memory of Cathy Cosner

In Memory of John & Janet Reeves

In Memory of Charles & Harrylene Moore

In Memory of McKenzie Kelley

Kay & Jay Cromwell

In Honor of The Cromwell Family

In Memory of Kay Cromwell's Mother

Lan & Mike Kelley

In Honor of Ruth & Luther Crannifeld

In Memory of Marty Bryant

The Mosley Family

In Memory of Bill Mosley

In Memory of Jerry Baxter

In Memory of Frank & Barbara Simpson

The Munn & Riegler Family

In Memory of JoAnne & Kenneth Cresswell

Linda Vick & Family

In Memory of Earl W. Vick

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Earl W. Vick Sr.

In Memory of Nell & Leon Horne

Rose & Suzy VonTungeln

In Memory of Billy & Nancy VonTungeln

William VonTungeln III

In Memory of Dora E. VonTungeln

In Memory of W. D. VonTungeln Sr.

In Memory of W. D. VonTungeln Jr.

In Memory of LeaAnn VonTungeln