

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 4th, 2016

2nd Sunday of Advent

11:00 am

• *Please feel free to stand as you are able.*

Thank you for worshipping with us today. We consider your presence with us a blessing from God. You are encouraged to greet one another in friendship and love. When the prelude starts, you are invited to prepare yourself for the worship of God.

Prelude

Welcome *(please pass the friendship pad)*

Prayer of the Day

Preparation for the Word

The Call to Worship

Leader: We need to worship, Lord!

People: We need to get clean.

Leader: We need to get strong,

People: We need our emptiness filled,

Leader: Our dryness relieved,

People: Our deadness revived.

Leader: So we come here,

People: To this decisive hour,

Leader: With these fellow travelers,

People: To drink of these living waters,

Leader: And have our thirst quenched,

People: To have you bring order out of our chaos.

Leader: Come – let us worship and bow down

People: Before the Lord our God,

Leader: Our maker and our redeemer!

People: Amen.

• **Hymn 2** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

God of truth, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth and refuse your justice and peace.

In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

Moment of Silent Confession

Kyrie 572 “Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon *(Respond with Alleluia, Amen!)*

• **Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks #106** *(refrain)*

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to His Name.

• **The Peace**

Leader: . . . The peace of Christ be with you all!

People: And also with you.

• **Gloria Patri** (#579)

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.

Proclamation of the Word

“**The Advent Wreath**”

Scripture: Isaiah 2:4, 11:6

Lighting of the Advent Candle II “Candle of Peace”

Advent Prayer

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10 *(page 607)*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. 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. 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; 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. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. 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. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. 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. 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.

Children's Sermon

Anthem “Creation Will Be At Peace” Adult Choir

New Testament Lesson: Matthew 3:1-12 *(pages 2-3)*

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. “I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon “Why Would You Want to Hear John Preach?”
Rev. J. Malcolm Brownlee

Response to the Word

• **Apostles' Creed**

• **Hymn 392** “Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord”

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

Amen #583 - Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Offering of Tithes and Gifts
Offertory

- Doxology (#592)
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

•Prayer of Dedication

•Hymn 8 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

•Charge and Benediction

- Congregational Response
"Go, Tell It on the Mountain" #29 (refrain)
*Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!*

Postlude

Serving During The Worship
Service Today

<u>Greeters</u>	Ben & Faye Brown
<u>Offering</u>	Wade Cash Bob Olson Chris Schooley Joe F. Williams
<u>Nursery</u>	Briana Lawhorne; Libby Smith

*Oh come,
let us worship
and bow down
let us kneel
before the Lord,
our Maker!*
Psalm 95:6

Our Staff
and
Leaders

Adrienne Barker, Office Manager
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Office Days & Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Rhonda Johnson, Clerk of Session Harold Coiner, Adult Choir Director
JoAnn Pendley, Handbell Choir Director Sara Ann Lamb, Organist
Ken Wilkinson, Receiving Treasurer Lori Miller, Disbursing Treasurer

THE SESSION

<u>Class of 2016</u> Derek Almarode Laura Barmore Daniel Gano Thomas Whitaker	<u>Class of 2017</u> Kenneth Miller David Schooley Kathy Swisher Jill Webb	<u>Class of 2018</u> William Brubeck Rhonda Johnson Marion Simmers
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THE DEACONS

<u>Class of 2016</u> Tabby Moore Bob Olson Chris Schooley Dale Thompson	<u>Class of 2017</u> Tammy Barbour Barbara Gough Charlie Johnson Marty Simmers	<u>Class of 2018</u> Wade Cash Briana Lawhorne Brian Lee Joe F. Williams
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THE TRUSTEES

<u>Class of 2016</u> Daniel Gano Billy Wade	<u>Class of 2017</u> Kenny Olson Dale C. Smith	<u>Class of 2018</u> Guy D. Brooks Joe F. Williams
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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Cindy Almarode, Moderator Stephanie Rivers, Co-Moderator & Secretary
Sarah Frances Ralston, Treasurer

Circle Leaders

Afternoon Circle - Barbara Gough & Jackie Law
Evening Circle - Irene Elliott & Louise Hoy

MEN OF THE CHURCH

Mac Williams, President

Bethel Presbyterian Church supports the PCUSA worldwide missionaries.

Please pray for our missionaries:

Rev. Michael & Rachel Weller and the people of Ethiopia
www.pcusa.org/michael-and-rachel-weller



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Mission Statement

We strive to live peacefully with all and respect one another while loving and serving the Lord; our doors and mission are open to all.