

December 6, 2009

**Service of Worship**  
**The Second Sunday in Advent**

11:00 A.M.

WELCOME! Because they are evergreens, Christmas trees are a symbol of eternal life. Our Chrismon tree is perhaps the most appropriate Christmas tree, because it bears symbols, "Christ monograms" of the one who has opened the way to eternal life for us. *We extend a special welcome to our guests and request that they fill out the information card in the pew rack, and place it in the offering plate.*

**PRELUDE**

**STRIKING THE HOUR**

**GREETING**

**CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION**

Announcements

Prayer Concerns

**OPENING MUSIC**

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

*Adult Choir*

**CALL TO WORSHIP – CHRISMON INTERPRETATION**

L: This is the season of Advent, and our preparation for the celebration of Christmas continues.

**P: May our hearts and minds be led toward the true meaning of Christmas.**

L: To help us on this journey, we are interpreting the meaning of the ornaments on our Chrismon tree.

L: Many Chrismons are initials representing biblical names or early church slogans, like the monogram INRI. This stands for "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews." The four nouns in this phrase, in their original Latin spelling, begin with the letters INRI. As John tells us, this inscription was placed on Jesus' cross by Pilate, intended as both a charge and an insult. But God, who turns 'no' into 'yes,' turned Pilate's sign into a Christmas affirmation: Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of lords.

**P: Writing to the Galatians, Paul said, "at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."**

L: Another monogram is the Alpha and Omega, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. In the Bible, whenever two extremes are mentioned, such as the beginning and the end of the alphabet, not only are these two points meant, but also everything in between. The Alpha and Omega Chrismon reminds us that Jesus was born to be our Lord and Savior, and that every aspect of life is subject to his Lordship.

**P:** Jesus says, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life.”

## **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

**\*HYMN** “O Come, O come, Emanuel” CB 245

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Brief Statement of Faith *Insert*

## **SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

Old Testament: Isaiah 40: 1-5 *Pew Bible p. 619*

New Testament: Luke 1:67-79 *Pew Bible p. 889*

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

## **OFFERING**

Offertory

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

**\*HYMN** “Comfort, Comfort, You My People” PH 3

## **CONVERSING WITH CHILDREN**

**CHOIR SPECIAL** “People, Look East” *Adult Choir*

## **SHARING IN PRAYER**

Personal Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*use "debts"*)

**SERMON** “Prepare the Way” Dr. Williams

**\*HYMN** “Prepare the Way” PH 13

## **\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE** “Emmanuel” CB 243

(2 times) *w/congregation*

## **POSTLUDE**

\* Congregation please stand, if able

**CB** – *The Celebration Hymnal*; **PH** – *The Presbyterian Hymnal*

## THIS WEEK AT SECOND CHURCH

### Sunday, December 6, Second Sunday in Advent

- 9:30 AM Adult Bible Study Classes  
10:30 AM Adult Choir rehearsal- Choir Room  
11:00 AM Worship  
**Chrismons:** Jaidon & Kemper Snyder  
**Greeters:** Pat & Chuck Blackley  
**Ushers:** Jerry Fry (*Head Usher*), Linda Fry, Pat & Chuck Blackley  
**Flower Coordinator:** Darlene Mason

### Monday, December 7

- 11:00 AM Circle 4 - Rowe's Restaurant

### Tuesday, December 8

- 10:00 AM Morning Circle - Lucille Sanger Classroom - followed by lunch at American Cafe  
11:00 AM Bible Study - Fellowship Hall  
7:00 PM Bible Study - Lucille Sanger Classroom

### Thursday, December 10

- 5:45 PM JuBELLation - Handbell Room  
6:45 PM Adult Choir - Choir Room

---

### Next Sunday, December 13, Third Sunday in Advent

- 9:30 AM Adult Bible Study Classes  
10:30 AM Adult Choir rehearsal – Choir Room  
11:00 AM Worship  
**Chrismons:** TBA  
**Greeters:** Jerry Fry & Barbara Daugherty  
**Ushers:** Jerry Fry (*Head Usher*), Barbara Daugherty, Pat & Chuck Blackley  
**Flower Coordinator:** Darlene Mason  
6:00 PM Christmas Joy Gift Covered Dish Supper and Program - Fellowship Hall

---

**Attendance last Sunday:** 75

**Offering Last Sunday:** \$ 1,152.50

**Hunger Offering:** \$ 585.50

**Total Deposit:** \$ 2,211.00

**LARGE PRINT BULLETIN** As an aid to people who have trouble reading the regular sized type on the Sunday worship bulletin, a large print version is available. Simply request one from any usher

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Many, many thanks to each and everyone who remembered me while I was in the hospital and nursing home. It was a long stay but I was not forgotten. May each one of you have a blessed Christmas. I love you.

Virginia Brand

.....  
Thanks to all who remembered me with cards, calls, and visits.

Ruby Knibbs

.....  
❖ **The Morning Circle** will have their regular meeting Tuesday, December 8, at 10:00 a.m. here at the church to be followed by lunch at the American Cafe.

❖ **Circle 4**.....Please join us for our Christmas luncheon on Monday, Dec. 7, at 11:00 a.m. at Rowe's Restaurant. Please bring a \$5.00 gift to exchange.

Linda & Lois



❖ **Circle 5** will hold their meeting Tuesday, December 15, 6:30 p.m. at the Red Lobster. Plan to join us!

## December Display

Be sure to stop by the Display Cabinet in Fellowship Hall this month to see Beckie Sherwood's display of cross stitched Christmas Tree Ornaments. She made these over a period of a couple years while living on the Sherwood Farm outside of Millboro.

### **Please note:**

Proof sheets have been placed on the back tables in the Sanctuary this Sunday so you can check the information submitted for the poinsettia insert to be included in next week's bulletin. Please let us know if corrections need to be made. Thank you to all who helped provide the poinsettias this year in order to add to our Sanctuary's beauty this Christmas season!

## Upcoming Advent-Christmas Events:



**December 13, 6:00 p.m.** - Christmas Joy Gift Offering Covered Dish Supper and Program in Fellowship Hall.

**December 20, 11:00 a.m.** - The Christmas Cantata will be presented by the Adult Choir during worship.

**December 21, 6:00 p.m.** - Christmas Caroling, followed by refreshments in Fellowship Hall

**December 24, 7:30 p.m.** - Annual Christmas Eve Communion Service

---

There will be a Christmas Benefit Concert for SACRA on Monday, December 14, 7:00 p.m. at Memorial Baptist Church, 224 Taylor Street, Staunton. The concert will feature local musical artists: Chris Bono, organist, prelude music at 6:30; "The Faithful Men", 12 member men's group; Sonja Dillard, solo violinist; Covenant Presbyterian Choir; and "Sounds of Joy", Memorial Baptist, bell choir. Come and join us for a time of music, fellowship and an offering to SACRA!

---

Staunton Church Of the Brethren and Grubert Avenue Church of God Presents:

### **Community Caroling Night**

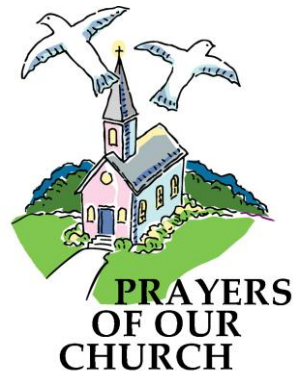
Come sing with us and learn the stories behind some of your favorite carols. Song sheets provided. Bring your flashlight.

Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

5:00 - 6:00 p.m. - SCOB led by David MacMillan, Director of Music at SCOB, Olivet Presbyterian Church and the Rockingham Male Chorus

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Grubert Avenue Church of God  
Gypsy hill Park, Staunton (at the Gazebo)

## PRAYER CONCERNS



- Health concerns: Kay Mader, Teri King, Virginia Brand, Marshall Ramsey, Geneva Smiley.
- Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Loretta Clemmer, who passed away this past Tuesday, December 1. Services for Loretta were held in the Sanctuary on Friday.
- Church concerns:
  - A meaningful Advent/Christmas
  - Circle Christmas gatherings this week and next
  - Our college students, as semester-ending exams approach: Pickle Nuckols (Bridgewater), Courtney Moyer (Shippensburg), Jon Williams (Mary Washington).
- Celebrating a birthday this week: Joanna Sheets (7); Betty Clemmer (8); Jim Wright (11).
- Persons connected to Second Church in the military:
  - Ian Hippeard (grandson of Talitha and Dick Hippeard)
  - Nathan Wade (grandson of Anita and Bill Haessly)
  - Ty Manson – Navy SEAL (Linda Lickliter’s niece’s husband)
  - Nick Dubyk – Army: Fort Bragg, NC (grandson of Betty/Willis Clemmer)
  - Heath Minnick: USAF, Sacramento, CA (son of Brenda Cason).
  - Wilmer Carl Varner III (Navy) – grandson of Betty Casiday
  - Chris Goodrow (Army, 173rd Airborne: Fort Benning, GA) – grandson of Ken and Lois Sensabaugh
  - Kevin Goodrow (Army Recruiter, Martinsburg, WV) – grandson of Ken and Lois Sensabaugh
  - Ben Carter (Coast Guard) – grand-nephew of Gennivee Carey
  - Patrick W. Brown (Air Force) – grandson of (the late) Marie Wiseman
  - Christopher Todd (USAF) – grandson of Ruth and Ralph Weller



Please call the Church Office (885-8159) if you or someone in your family goes into the hospital. This is the only sure way that we will know of your situation, so visits and other support can be given.



## **BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH**

In life and death we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The love of God,  
And the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.  
We trust in Jesus Christ,  
Fully human, fully God.  
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor  
and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed  
and blessing the children,  
healing the sick  
and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.  
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.  
God raised Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.

*Brief Statement of Faith, 1991  
The Book of Confessions  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

---