

December 20, 2009

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

11:00 A.M.

WELCOME! Our Chrismon tree contains many symbols that help tell the story of Jesus' birth. Many Chrismons are true "Christ monograms," letters from Greek and Latin words that tell the name or of the saving work of Jesus. Others are symbols which either further describe that work, or come from the Christmas story, and the Easter event that is never far removed from Christmas. *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**

"Let's Worship and Adore Him"

*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**

“Joy to the Word!”

CB 270

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Westminster Confession,  
Chapter 8: Of Christ the Mediator*

*Insert*

**OFFERING**

Offertory

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

**\*HYMN**

“How Great Our Joy”

CB 269

**CONVERSING WITH CHILDREN**

**SHARING IN PRAYER**

Personal Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

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

**CANTATA: “Rise Up! A New Light A-Comin”**

Rise Up, Go Tell It! (Overture)

O Come, Little Children

Narration 1: John the Baptist Sent to “Prepare the Way”

*(based on Isaiah 60:1; Malachi 3:1; John 1:6-9)*

Rise Up! A New Light A-Comin'

Narration 2: The Angel Sent to Mary *(based on Luke 1:26-38)*

The Promise

Narration 3: Mary and Joseph Sent to Bethlehem *(based on Luke 2:1-7)*

Manger Songs

Narration 4: The Angel Sent to the Shepherds; The Shepherds Sent  
to the Manger *(based on Luke 2:8-17)*

Rise Up, Shepherd, Rise Up!

Narration 5: The Magi Sent to Bethlehem *(based on Matthew 2:1-3, 7-12)*

Led by a Star

Narration 6: The Community of Believers Sent into the World  
*(based on Luke 4:18; John 20:21; Mark 16:15; Isaiah 52:7)*

Children, Go Tell It!

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

“The First Noel”

CB 265

Verse 6

*w/congregation*

**POSTLUDE**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

### **Westminster Confession, Chapter 8: Of Christ the Mediator**

The Son of God, the second Person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance, and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon him man's nature, with all the essential properties and common infirmities thereof; yet without sin: being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, of her substance. So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. Which person is very God and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man.

The Lord Jesus in his human nature thus united to the divine, was sanctified and anointed with the Holy Spirit above measure; having in him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, in whom it pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell: to the end that being holy, harmless, undefiled, and full of grace and truth, he might be thoroughly furnished to execute the office of a Mediator and Surety. Which office he took not unto himself, but was thereunto called by his Father; who put all power and judgment into his hand, and gave him commandment to execute the same.

### **CANTATA: Rise Up! A New Light A-Comin'**

By Lloyd Larson and Pamela Martin

Special thanks to the Adult Choir, Pam Snyder (Director) and Allen Archer (Accompanist) for all of the hard work in preparing today's cantata, as well as the inspiring special music all year long.

Today's cantata is a story told around the phrase "Children, go where I send you." That powerful call – that sending out of a people to share the Christmas story – is the inspiration and the ultimate message of this stirring telling of the gospel tale, highlighting all those who were sent: prophets, angels, Mary and Joseph, shepherds, wise men, and, finally, Christians sent into the world to proclaim the gospel message that a new light is comin'.

**Sopranos** ..... Jo Fields, Talitha Hippeard, Linda Lickliter, Darlene Mason

**Altos** ..... Melissa Archer, Patsy Easley, Kathy Holsinger

**Tenors** ..... Richard Beard, Willis Clemmer, Mark Robertson

**Basses** ..... D.W. Sensabaugh, Dan Williams, Paul Wolfe

**Narrator** ..... Bob Ridle

## THIS WEEK AT SECOND CHURCH

### Sunday, December 20, Fourth Sunday in Advent

- 9:30 AM Adult Bible Study Classes  
10:30 AM Adult Choir rehearsal- Choir Room  
11:00 AM Worship

**Chrismons:** Michelle Nuckols & Michael "Pickle" Nuckols

**Greeters:** Linda Fry & Barbara Daugherty

**Ushers:** Chuck Blackley (*Head Usher*), Pat Blackley,  
Barbara Daugherty & Linda Fry

**Flower Coordinator:** Darlene Mason

### Monday, December 21

- 6:00 PM Christmas Caroling - gather in Fellowship Hall  
7:00 PM Stonewall Brigade Band - St. Paul's United Methodist Church

### Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve

Office Closed

- 7:30 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

### Friday, December 25

Office Closed

---

### Next Sunday, December 27

- 9:30 AM Adult Bible Study Classes  
10:30 AM Adult Choir rehearsal – Choir Room  
11:00 AM Worship

**Lay Reader:** Pat Blackley

**Greeters:** Jerry & Linda Fry

**Ushers:** Chuck Blackley (*Head Usher*), Jerry Fry, Linda Fry, &  
Barbara Daugherty

**Flower Coordinator:** Jean Flower

---

**Attendance last Sunday:** 58

**Offering Last Sunday:** \$2,390.00

**Joy Gift:** \$ 333.00

**Total Deposit:** \$3,176.00

**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

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 21**

**6:00 p.m. -- meet in Fellowship Hall**

Come on out and share the joy of Christmas as we visit some of our home-bound members and members in care facilities. Refreshments will be served afterwards in Fellowship Hall.



The 85-member Stonewall Brigade Band will present a Christmas Concert on Monday evening December 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 2000 Shutterlee Mill Road, Staunton VA. Joining the band on several selections will be the 30-voice professional choral group "The Staunton Ovation Singers." Admission is free. **An offering will be received to benefit The Valley Mission, Staunton's homeless shelter.**



**CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

***THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24***

***7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary***

Start the celebration of Christmas with our annual Candlelight Christmas Eve Communion service. This service begins with a series of Scripture Lessons and Carols that tell the story of Jesus' birth from Luke 2. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is celebrated, which concludes with a candlelight singing of familiar Christmas carols.

There will be no Handbell or Adult Choir practice on Thursdays again until February 4, 2010.



***Just a  
Reminder...***

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual **Baja Mission Trip** will be July 25-31, 2010. This is one week later than the past two years. Most participants travel on the Saturday before (July 24) and the Sunday following (August 1). Registrations are due by Friday, January 15, to Rhonda Richie. The required forms are available on the Shenandoah Presbytery web site, on the Highland Augusta Mission Community (HAMC) page. (<http://www.shenpres.org/mc/mce1.html>) Despite what the one form says, no registration payment is required, as that payment is made by HAMC. See the pastor for more details or for the registration forms, if you cannot access them on the



---

**In The  
Mailbag**



We have received Christmas greetings from Florida:  
*Merry Christmas to my church family (from FL). May you all have a  
blest and healthy Christmas.*  
*Pat Shiflett*

---

**Please Note:** 2010 Offering Envelopes have been placed on the table in the vestibule. Please let us know if you are unable to locate your envelopes.



---

## 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.

---

## PRAYER CONCERNS



### PRAYER CONCERNS

- Health concerns: Evelyn Cain; Marshall Ramsey, Kay Mader, Geneva Smiley.
- Church concerns:
  - Remembering our members in their homes who are unable to be present: Libby Davies; Geneva Smiley; Florence Pfeiffer; Marshall Ramsey; Evelyn Cain; Virginia Brand.
  - A meaningful Christmas Eve service and Christmas Day
- Traveling mercies to all who will travel during the upcoming holiday season.
- Celebrating a birthday this week: Hazel Cason (20); Bill Haessly (20); Betty Ramsey (22); Martha Wilkerson (24); Linda Fry (24).
- Celebrating an anniversary this week: Nita and Woody Wimer (23).
- 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 Licklitter’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.