Welcome to



11 December 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

May God who gathers us around Himself in the Word and Sacrament to bless us with His forgiveness this morning be your source of comfort, strength and renewal as you worship today. In the Name of Christ, we are all called to come and hear that the Lord is Good!

Prelude – Preparing our Souls through silence, reading and reflection Announcements and Prayer Concerns – Sharing our life together Congregational Prayer

Invocation and Confession – Entering into the Presence of the Lord P: In the name of the Father, and of the \maltese Son, and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19) **C: Amen**

P: Make us to know your ways, O Lord, and teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation; for whom we wait. (Psalm 25:4-5) **C: Amen**

P: If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:6-7)

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

C: According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. Amen (Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12)

P: Let it be known to you, that through Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. (1 John 1:6-7) He commanded us to preach and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. (Acts 10:42-43) **C: Amen**

Announcements and Schedule

Studies this Week:

Wednesday - 7:00pm - Women's Group - 169 Buxton Drive 7:00pm - Men's Group - 169 Buxton Drive Thursday -10:30am - Bible Study - 1517 Thomas Jefferson Rd 7:30pm - Bible Study - 19 George St

We have prayer cards for you to mail to anyone you lifted up at the Altar during Communion. Feel free to bless others with these.

The Seventh Day Adventist Church invited us to be their guests at a gospel concert here on Dec 16th at 6:00pm. The Emmanuel Quartet will be in concert and it would be a great gesture for us to have a large showing. Please plan to come if you can.

The Winter Seminar, hosted by the Blue Ridge Institute of Theological Education, will be on the topic of the Trinity and will be held in Roanoke, January 19-21. The cost is only \$100. Informational shhets are on the table in the Narthex.

If you are interested in reading one of the Advent Candle Lighting please let Pastor Tom Know.

December 14 – Christmas Party at the Church – 7:00pm

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service – 7:00pm

Lector – Brandon Everett

The Rt. Rev Dr. Tom Bryant, Pastor

Mona Thomas, Choir Director and Accompanist
Dcn. Jennifer Reynolds, Eucharistic Minister
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Call to Worship – Psalm 146

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Gwen Miller

*Hymn # 199 "O Come All Ye Faithful""

First Lesson – Isaiah 35.1-10

Call to Prayer # 214 "Isn't He?"

Pastoral Prayer (followed by the Lord's Prayer in unison)

Second Lesson – James 5.7-11

Offertory -

"Ave Maria"

Jeanne Pribble

*Doxology - #668

*Gospel – Matthew 11.2-15 "Praise be to thee, O Christ"

Sermon – "Facing Today with the End in Focus"

*The Apostles' Creed

Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Unending Hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the Highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the Highest.

The Mystery of Faith:

Christ has died; Christ is Risen; Christ will come again.

Receiving the Body and Blood of Christ

*Hymn # 189 "Child in the Manger"

*Benediction

*Response

Jeanne Pribble

*Dismissal and Recessional

Prayer List

Tom Langford, Bill Warman, Carolyn Ashwell, Liz Griffin, Harry Burns, Larry Shepley, Diane Geiger, Gail Everett, Betty Mann, Katie Epley, Yvette Clark, Darby Atkins, Mike Toney, Jean Moriety, Heather Wright, Jimmy Gratto, Fred Greene, Starke Camden, Jean McCormick, Cyndy Williams, Nikki Vogt, Gwen Miller, Chip Brand, Helen Kinzer & those persecuted around the world.

Let us pray for all our elected Officials and our Country.

The situation in the Ukraine, the people of Moldova, esp. Dimitri, Stella and Lorina, friends of Andy's.

Glen Harvey

Pat Wheeler, broken wrist

Bea Gardner, recuperating from knee surgery

Wayne Williams regaining strength

Robert Wright, recuperating from a heart attack

Chris Griffin, Web's mom, general health issues

Kelly Osborne, daughter of friend of the Kinzer's with cancer

Betsy Hoefer, health issues

Charles and Lucinda Hougland

Sharon Powell, cancer, and Lisa Reynolds, Requested by the Harveys

Cayden Slayton, 11 yo, difficulties with COVID from last year

Dick Kihnley, Sue Rossiter's brother in law, cardiac concerns

Justice Ashwell, Carolyn's grandson

Katherine Stone, back surgery, friend Agnes

Leslie Hair, cancer

Kathy Van Clapdurp, health concerns

Duval McDaniel, Carey's uncle, recovering from a fall and surgery

Laura Cash, friend of Web's

Louanna Epley, lost her husband; Katie's sister in law

Sherry Marsh, starting dialysis, and her family

Debbie Reeves, cancer

Kevin Thomas Mele, on dialysis

Nancy Turner, treatment for cancer, friend of Martha's

Margaret Kihnley, sister of Sue Rossiter

Bob and Vivienne, friends of the Dietrich's, health issues of Bob

Elwood Hutchins and his wife, with dementia, friends of Martha

Dr. Jim and Sue Henry, Mona's parents

Melody Henry, Mona's sister a nurse and all health care givers

Betty Shepherd, friend of Martha Mahanes