

The Order of Worship

November 29, 2009

9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the Worship of God.

PRELUDE Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland (from the *Orgelbüchlein*)
Come, Thou Savior of the Nations

J. S. Bach

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

(9:00) Bob and Ada Pfohl

(11:00) Michael and Ruth Yates

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples!

People: For great is God's steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

Leader: Let us worship the Lord God almighty, who is and who was and who is to come.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

***HYMN NO. 8** (blue hymnal) Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Coming Lord,

As we wait and watch and yearn and ache,

we look around for signs of your presence.

But what we see mostly are indications of our sinfulness.

The needy are overlooked.

Selfishness has the upper hand.

Hatred and violence triumph over peace and reconciliation.

Our commitments waver;

our resolve weakens;

and we find ourselves further away from the path for which you have marked in Christ.

We long for a word of forgiveness and direction,

and for a sense of purpose and meaning.

Come quickly, Lord.

With mercy and grace, come quickly, Lord. Amen.

***KYRIE ELEISON**

Healey Willan

(Congregation singing – music is found on the inside cover of the red hymnal)

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

(First part: women; second: men; third: all)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE** Refrain from "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Gloria

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 21:25-36

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00)

Cameron Sears

Children age 4 through 3rd grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Children's

Worship. A nursery is available during the entire service for infants through age 3.

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

SERMON

"Shoots From the Stump of a Stale Life"

Rev. John Linton Muntz

"The days are surely coming," says the Lord, "when I will fulfill the promise." – Jeremiah 33:14

***HYMN** Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

St. George's Windsor

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ... The Lord's Prayer

(During the Prayers of the People there will be a time of silence. You are invited to use this time for personal reflection, confession, thanksgiving, and prayer.)

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle. If you would like to receive more information about the church, include your address, phone number and email address. As many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Sing Forth, Rejoice! John Amner
Sing forth rejoice! Sing praise to God. Rejoice and sing! The Lord is God, God of heaven,
God of earth. Rejoice and sing! Let ev'ry voice sing forth: O praise the Lord.
paraphrase of Psalm 33

***AT THE PRESENTATION** Doxology No. 591 (blue hymnal) *Tallis' Canon*
(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 542 (blue hymnal))
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit
evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

***HYMN NO. 1** (blue hymnal) (11:00) Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus *Stuttgart*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Veni Emmanuel*
O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

***POSTLUDE** Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland Johann Gottfried Walther

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK are Leslie Rotella and Lee Ingram.

CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR DECEMBER: Georgann Byerley

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS are available from the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES (11:00): Jake Tidwell and Ryan Hammitt

GREETERS: Bill and Jane Beintema

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP:

(9:00) Nursery Staff

(11:00) Carolyn Greenwood, Cassie and Paula Savage

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Chancel Choir

SENIOR USHER: Tim Ryan

USHERS:

(9:00) David Woodall and Bill Wiesehuegel

(11:00) Larry DeLonge, Christie Dowling, Laura Dupper, Trish Groves and George Lane

J. S. BACH intended his *Orgelbüchlein*, dating from around 1714, to be a collection of chorale preludes covering the entire liturgical year. Of the nearly 200 preludes planned, Bach wrote only 46, but he did set many well known chorales for Advent and Christmas through Easter and Ascension, with one for Pentecost, and several for general use. This morning's chorale prelude is reminiscent of the unmeasured preludes of the French lutenists and early French harpsichordists. These preludes are notated entirely in whole notes, therefore with no indication of rhythm, except for the spatial layout of the notes and long, curled, and swirling lines meant to evoke gesture. Bach's figuration and accompaniment of the chorale melody contain similar motives and the latest thinking is that these can be interpreted in the same flexible manner.

THE TREE IN THE SCHILLING GALLERY has tags attached with gifts the residents at Lakeshore are requesting for their Christmas party. Please take a tag and return the unwrapped gift, with the tag attached, no later than Sunday, December 6. We will wrap the gifts and take them to the residents. The Community Service ministry team thanks you for your support.

WAMS AND SHOW:

We will meet Wednesday, December 2 at 5:45 p.m.. It's time to chat! Youth and parents are invited to gather for a spaghetti dinner and a meeting. We will discuss the goals and direction for the youth program in the coming year. Please RSVP to Pete Trofater.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS are needed for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign. Please sign up in the Schilling Gallery. Our dates are December 17, 18 and 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Dillard's West Town Mall Montvue entrance.

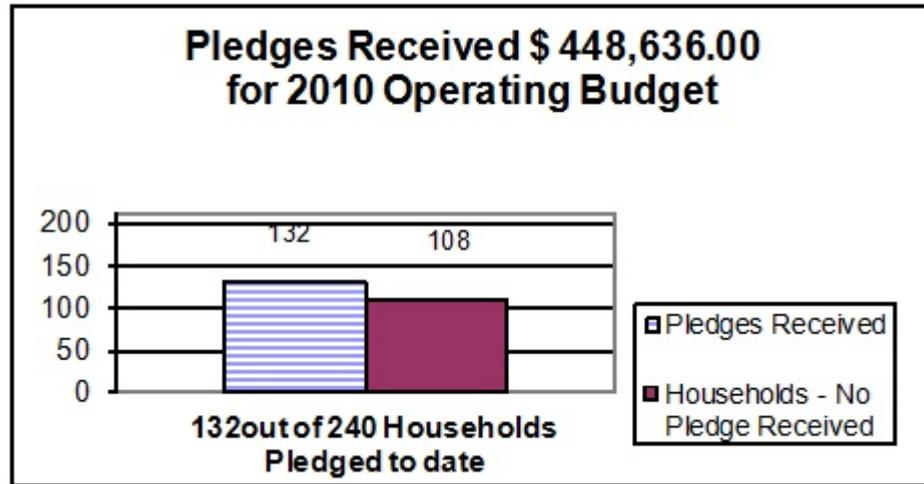
AN ADVENT RECITAL will be presented by Terrance McCracken, Meredith Mackay and friends Tuesday, December 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

THE 2010 FLOWER CHART has been posted in the Schilling Gallery. Please stop by and sign up for your flower dedications for next year. The cost is \$60, payable on the date of your dedication.

COMMUNITY CHEST THRIFT SHOP collects good used clothing and small household items to benefit local families in need. Donations will be accepted Saturday, December 5 between 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. at Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 800 Northshore Drive.

THE YOUTH CHRISTMAS DRAMA will be presented Sunday, December 6 at 6:00 p.m. Come celebrate the season and support our youth in their performance of *The Other Wiseman*.

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING is collected throughout the Advent season. Fifty percent of your gift goes to the Board of Pensions to support retired and active church workers and their spouses and families. The other fifty percent supports Presbyterian related racial ethnic education through the General Assembly Council. Please see the bulletin insert for more information.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

WOMEN IN TOUCH topic for today is "Step Away from the Computer: Using Technology Wisely." The class meets during the Sunday school hour in the Prayer Room.

BIBLE BASICS class is studying "Courage in Crisis: Moses, Elijah and Mary" in the library.

THE ADVENT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES will explain the history behind some of our favorite carols and help us encounter the rich wording anew. The four hymns examined in the study are:

November 29 – "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

December 6 – "Silent Night, Holy Night"

December 13 – "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

December 20 – "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Thanks to Terrance McCracken, Terry Crow, Ellen Anderson and Ibbie Muntz for their leadership in this study.

DONATIONS are being accepted for the Advent floral decorations. There is no set amount for each dedication. Donations for can be placed in the offering plate or brought to the office.



I would like to contribute to the Flower Guild for Advent:

\$ _____

In memory/honor (circle one) of:

Given by:
