

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

THE CHURCH GATHERS ...

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

PRELUDE Little Jesus, Sweetly Sleep Alec Wyton

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 148

- Leader: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights!
- People: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!**
- Leader: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him all you shining stars!
- People: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!**
- Leader: Young men and women alike, old and young together!
- People: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.**

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

*HYMN NO. 49 (blue hymnal) Once in Royal David’s City Irby

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Jesus Christ, light of the world, bearer of eternal dawn, we know well the darkness you have come to banish. Groping in the confusion of a starless night, we confess our isolation, aimlessness and fear of death. We confess the hostility we permit and the suffering we inflict. We confess our known and unknown prejudices and our failures to practice mercy. We acknowledge our desperate need of you. By your presence, dawn on our darkened day. By your steadfast love, draw us into the light of your new way.

*KYRIE ELEISON NO. 574 (blue hymnal) arr. David N. Johnson

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

- Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!
- People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*RESPONSE Gloria Patri No. 579 (blue hymnal) Henry W. Greatorex

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 63:7-9

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Ellen Anderson

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

Matthew 2:13-23

SERMON

“Three Shocking Discoveries of Joseph” Rev. John Linton Muntz

“Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.” — Matthew 1:19

*HYMN NO. 54 (blue hymnal) From Heaven Above Vom Himmel hoch

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

We give thanks and praise for the kingdom more powerful than all enemies, for power perfected in the vulnerability of love, and for the glory that seeks our well-being and that of the whole creation, both now and to eternity. We give thanks and praise to God as made known to us through Christ our Lord.

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 our newsletter or 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 What Is This Lovely Fragrance (Quelle est cette odeur agreable) Paul Manz

*AT THE PRESENTATION Doxology No. 514 (red hymnal) Old Hundredth

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

*HYMN NO. 256 (blue hymnal) Let the Whole Creation Cry Salzburg

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586 (blue hymnal) Amen Danish melody

*POSTLUDE From Heaven Above (Vom Himmel hoch) Wilbur Held

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

Barbara Adamcik, Youth Director

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP here today.

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK are Anna Rennich and Bill Farnham.

CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR DECEMBER: Janice Rawe

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES: Ethan Partelow, Daniel Clark

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Bruce, Irene, Nathan, and Lily Seidner

SENIOR USHER: Tom Byerley

USHERS: Bob Murrian, Ashley Porter, Scott Porter, Laura Dupper, Mark Potocik

OUR THANKS to Eileen Rudd for serving as organist this morning while Peter Van Eenam is away.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL RE-OPEN on December 31. Please make sure you get your 2010 contributions and any pre-paid pledges for 2011 in no later than 10:00 a.m. December 31.

JANUARY 2 WORSHIP SERVICE will be held at 11:00 a.m. (no early service).

RESERVE YOUR SPOT for next year's LeConte hike! Please send your \$50 deposit to the church office, noting "LeConte reservation" on your check. The hike will take place July 23, 2011.

FOYER GROUPS SHUFFLE in January. It is a great way to make new friends or renew old friendships at Westminster. New groups will be forming in January. Please call Sue Murrian (524-5638) or email her (suebobintn@aol.com) if you would like to join a group, drop out for a while, or with questions or requests.

WPC Adult Sunday School Classes for Winter 2011

Faith Topics (McKinnon Room)

Losses of Our Lives, by Dr. Nancy Copeland-Payton

"Based on her experience as a physician, hospital chaplain, and pastor, Dr. Nancy Copeland-Payton invites us to awaken to the losses of our lives – big and small – and embrace the wisdom each has to teach us about the deep mystery of God and the nature of living." In this 8 week course we will look at losses that come our way: leaving the womb as a child, leaving home, losses of loved ones, and many other losses, big and small, that are part of the human condition. Anne Dungan and Tim Crais will be the facilitators for the class and books may be purchased for \$10 at the church office starting on December 20.

Special Topics (Library)

What Kids Really Want That Money Can't Buy: Tips for Parenting in a Commercial World by Betsy Taylor.

"At a time when many parents worry that they are raising the 'I want' generation, this book offers a helping hand - and a remarkable dose of the truth. Drawing on the touching, honest words of thousands of children who were asked 'What do you want that money can't buy?' it helps parents peer into their kids' hearts, hear what really means the most to them, and learn to help them get it. Author Betsy Taylor shows us ways to reestablish a love of life's simple pleasures, teach the difference between friendships and popularity, build family rituals, appreciate nature, and find a quiet time together. This much needed book is a dynamic, real-world guide to reshaping our busy lives and giving our children more joy with less stuff - and plenty of what truly matters most." Linda Judge-McRae will be the facilitator for the class and the books will cost \$10 and will be available in the church office starting on December 20.

Bible Experience (Prayer Room)

Corinthians

We will look at St. Paul's advice to a globalized congregation in the ancient city of Corinth. Ellen Anderson and Scott Brunger will lead the class. All are welcome. Come join us.