

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2017

CALL TO REVERENCE

PRELUDE "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" Brahms

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* SUNG LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE #82

Sung One: Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;

**Sung All: from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.**

Sung One: Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;

**Sung All: dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.**

Spoken One: We light this candle of hope to remember that you
have promised to enter again into our midst...

Sung One: Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,

**Sung All: born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

Sung One: By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;

**Sung All: by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

Spoken One: Hear our prayers of waiting again this morning,
O God, and may they be music to your ears.

Spoken All: In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

* PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

One: God who is drawing near to us: we live in a world of violence,
which we do not condemn enough:

All: Come to us, with your peace.

One: We are filled with the best of intentions, but are unable to follow
through with action:

All: Come to us, with your will.

One: We are sinners, who are afraid to gaze into your mirror of grace:

All: Come to us, with your mercy.

One: Word of Flesh:

All: have mercy;

One: Friend of the poor:

All: have mercy;

One: Bridegroom of the faithful:

All: have mercy.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: In this season of waiting, the Good News is this: mercy, new life,
hope, and joy are the gifts we receive from our God.

**All: Thanks be to the God of Advent, who came in the Child, who
is with us in the Spirit, who will come again in glory! Amen.**

* SHARING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST

A GIFT FROM THE YOUNGER DISCIPLES

FIRST LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

One: This too is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

Mark 13:24-37

One: This too is the Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

A GIFT FROM THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

“A Shepherd’s Story”

* HYMN #527

“Eat This Bread”

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

OUR OFFERING

Offertory: “Still, Still, Still”

Manz

* Doxology:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer

* HYMN #93

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

* BENEDICTION

Congregational Response

#82, vs. 1

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;

from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.

* POSTLUDE

“Come, Thou Expected Jesus”

Page

*Those who are able, please stand.

Some resources used in today’s service from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com

VISITORS: We are delighted to welcome you today and hope your time here is a blessing. If you are not active in another church, we hope you will consider making Thyatira your church home. If you would like to find out more about us, please contact Pastor Stacey Steck at 704-245-8100.

LITURGIST: Today – Phares Sechler
Next Week – Janet Lambert

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP: All children are strongly encouraged to remain in worship following the Time with Young Disciples. The Nursery, located at the top of the stairs in the educational building, is available for infants and very young children.

This Sunday – Alice Sloop, Robin Luther

Next Sunday – Jada Ware-Guy, Karen Townsend

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS (2’s & 3’s and Preschool):

Today – Selena Bell, Klancy Deal

Next Sunday – Karen Townsend

GENEROSITY UPDATE: We finished the month of November at 77% of monthly goal. Let’s finish off the year with a bang.

FELLOWSHIP: Join us in Fellowship Hall following the service for a time of fellowship with punch and cookies.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THYATIRA PRAYER CONCERNS

<u>Lutheran Home:</u>	Mullie Varner
<u>C/O George Calhoun:</u>	Mary Alice Calhoun
<u>White Oak Manor, Charlotte:</u>	Ruby Erwin
<u>At Home:</u>	JoAnn Kerr Ted Deal

- The family of Millard Goodnight who passed away last week
- Kitty Harris, dealing with health issues
- Thelma Walton in rehab at Liberty Commons
- The family of former West High School Coach Scott Young
- Phares Sechler, recovering from surgery on her hand
- Barbara, in rehab at a nursing facility
- Carol King
- Bob Freeman's cousin Frank, recovering from colon cancer surgery
- Tom Long, friend of Charles Newsome, receiving treatment for cancer
- Evaun Bulman, friend of Sharry Davis, undergoing cancer treatment
- Bill Hall
- The situation in Puerto Rico following the hurricane
- A friend of Keith Townsend, being treated for cancer
- Families facing challenges
- Mary Deal's sister, Margaret, being treated for an infection
- Betty Morgan, sister of Ruth Albright, recovering after serious car accident
- Alice Sloop's friend, Nancy, under hospice care
- Mike Hawkins' mother, Elizabeth, now at Genesis
- Linda Gaylor's mother, Barbara
- Jay Foster, a nine-year-old with heart issues
- Ada Jo Sloop, serving in the Peace Corps
- OC Shoaf
- A friend of Phares, Cindy Pope, being treated for some serious health issues
- Bill Bergstrom is being treated for leukemia
- Sharry Davis is being treated for cancer
- Drema Clemens' mother, Bertha Warden
- Millicent Hoffner's brother, Joe Kerr
- Mike Hawkins who has RA
- Former member, Pat Hall
- Jimmy's mother and father, Ernestine & Bill Hoffner
- Paul Rogers' daughter and family in Pakistan
- The Raymer family serving in Africa

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

BIRTHDAYS: December 3 – David Kern
4 – Rachel Moss
6 – Ronald Goodnight, Matt Moore
9 – Connor Edwards

JOY GIFT PROGRAM AND OFFERING: Join us as we greet the Advent season today as our young disciples lead us toward Christmas with their musical program. We'll also celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and collect the Joy Gift Offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

RAYS ADDRESS: If you would like to send a card or note of encouragement to Jody, Rebecca, Issac, Josiah & Caleb Ray you may send them to:
Shikarpur Christian Hospital
c/o Ray Family
New Fajj Dori Road
Shikarpur Sindh, 78100
Pakistan

GIFT GIVING PROJECT: Be sure to check out the trees in the sanctuary and take an ornament today! There are gifts in every price range (check out presbyteriangifts.org for details). You can make purchases with a friend, with your family, or sponsor one with your Sunday School class. The possibilities are endless! When you have your money, please return the ornament and money to a member of the Lost Sheep class, return to the church office, or put in the offering plate. Help us meet this BIG goal and make a difference this holiday season!

BATTERY RECYCLING: You may bring used household batteries to the church office to be recycled. Please place batteries in the basket labeled for battery recycling. (Single use alkaline, lithium, nickel cadmium, nickel metal hydride, and small sealed lead acid batteries only.)

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Today	8:00am Men of the Church Breakfast 9:00am Deacon's Meeting 9:30am Children's Choir (Big Kids) & The Happy Place 10:00am Sunday School for All Ages 11:00am Worship – Joy Gift Program 5:00pm Youth Meeting 6:30pm Adult Choir
Monday	8:15am Preschool 6:30pm Boy & Cub Scouts 6:30pm Men's Bible Study
Tuesday	8:15am Preschool
Wednesday	8:15am Preschool 6:30 pm Prayer, Song and Study
Thursday	8:15am Preschool 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Finance Committee Meeting
Friday	7:15pm Book Club
Next Sunday	8:30am Session Stated Meeting 9:30am Children's Choir (Big Kids) & The Happy Place 10:00am Sunday School for All Ages 11:00am Worship – Big Music Sunday 4:30pm Officer Training 6:30pm Adult Choir