

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

A day of great glory is forecast. The people are told to watch for it at all times. Signs will precede its coming, as trees in leaf declare that summer is near. Advent is a time of such expectancy; its sign is a babe full of promise and hope. Therefore, “look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please turn to your neighbor and exchange the greeting of peace.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE AND CALL TO WORSHIP BONNIE & BETSY

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light was shined.

We join with sisters and brothers around the world, lighting candles to mark our steps in this Advent journey.

Today, we light the candle of hope.

Even though the world seems dark and cold, we know that the light of Christ is coming. The face of our Lord will shine, and we shall be saved!

Testifying against all suffering and darkness, we kindle this light.

Together, we proclaim to the world that, in Christ, we have hope.

All Earth is Waiting

All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,

And open furrows await the seed of God.

All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;

It cries out for justice and searches for the truth.

To you, O Lord, we lift our souls, longing for you to come once again into our lives.

Surely, the Lord is our Salvation.

In you, O Lord, we would trust that goodness, wonder, and grace are drawing near.

Surely, the Lord is our Hope.

With you, O Lord, we would walk your paths of righteousness and justice.

Surely, the Lord is our Way.

WE PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

* HYMN OF PRAISE #2 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

PRAYERS OF THE DAY

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

How can we thank God for all the grace, the joy, the wonder which has been poured out upon us?

We will walk the paths of faithfulness and hope, bringing justice and righteousness to all people. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

*RESPONSE *Angels We Have Heard on High (refrain only)* GLORIA
Glo ----- ri-a in excelsis Deo;
Glo ----- ri-a in excelsis Deo;

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS, TITHES, AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

* **Doxology** (WITH ALLELUIAS) LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

* Prayer of Dedication

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #5 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* PICARDY
(Verse 1)

THE WORD SPOKEN

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Isaiah 2:1-5* PEW BIBLE, OT, PAGES 631-632

EPISTLE LESSON *Romans 13:11-14* PEW BIBLE, NT, PAGE 162

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 24:36-44* PEW BIBLE, NT, PAGES 27-28

For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us;

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD IN MUSIC

ANTHEM *Advent of Our Lord* ARR. DOUGLAS E. WAGNER

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: “EYES WIDE OPEN” BILL HAMILTON

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION #11** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*
VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

They will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread and blessed it and broke it, and gave it to them.

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

This is the Lord’s table.

Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

May the God of Advent be with you!

And also with you!

Now is the time to offer our hearts to God.

We lift them to the One who fills them with grace.

Here at the Table, God is closer to us than ever before.

We would sing glad praise to the One who is our peace.

You saw beyond seeing,
God of wonder and joy,
and so you spoke your Word...
... So with those who, in every time and place,
were glad to go to your sanctuary,
we sing your praises:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God who draws near.

All creation prays for your peace.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes when we least expect.

Hosanna in the highest!

You come to us in this season,
God of holiness and hope,
bearing the gift of your Child, Jesus...

... As we begin our Advent journey,
as we prepare to celebrate the Birth,
we are in the presence of Mystery:

Christ came, becoming flesh for us;
Christ died, becoming death for us;
Christ rose, bearing new life for us;
Christ will come to bring us into eternity.

We stand at the gates of your heart
giving thanks, as you pour the Spirit
upon the gifts of the bread and the cup,
and on your children gathered in this place.
As we eat of the bread which is broken,
may we know that it is time
to feed the hungry,
to pay attention to the lost,
to awaken to the heartache around us.
As we drink from the cup called grace,
may we know the opportunities
to bring healing to the broken,
to offer a hand to the fallen,
to speak peace and not quarrels
are closer to us than we know.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION BY THE PEOPLE

As you come forward to receive communion, you may bring your donations to the Greensboro Urban Ministry.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot

remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. In the name of Christ our living Lord, Amen.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * **CLOSING HYMN #14** *Savior of the Nation Come* NUN KOMM, DER HEIDN HEILAND
- * **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**
- * **BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *Be Watchful, Stand Firm in Your Faith* HAL HOPSON
- * **POSTLUDE**

* *You are invited to stand if you are able*

WELCOME TO FAITH PRESBYTERIAN

WELCOME to Faith Presbyterian Church. Whether you are a member or a visitor we are so glad that you are worshipping with us this morning and pray that this time of worship will be both renewing and rewarding for you. If you have an interest in joining Faith Presbyterian, please speak to the pastor or call the church at 336.292.5704. Please visit our website at www.faithpresgso.org or Facebook at www.facebook.com/faithpresgso.

The family of Bob Huffine would like to thank the congregation for the cards, and all their love and support during this difficult time. The reception after his service was so lovely; and we thank you for all your hard work. We love you all. – Ann Huffine & Family

Elders of the Month for December are Betsy Rule and Betty Rissmiller.

On the calendar for this week:

- Theology on Tap meets every other Monday and will meet on **December 2nd** at 7:30 pm at Elizabeth's Pizza, Guilford College Shopping Center. Beverages and hors d'oeuvres.
- Adult Sunday School. Join us each Sunday morning at one of our two adult classes. The Discussion Class meets at 9:30 in the parlor for engaging conversation and discussion as we begin our **Advent Study "Held in God's Grace"**. Sunday we begin Session 1. Also, you may want to attend our other adult class, **The Present Word**, which meets in the library. Using our denomination's curriculum, this class considers scripture and its interpretation for today.
- There are Sign-Up Sheets in the Narthex for Ushers, Flowers and Snacks for each Sunday. Please take a turn and sign up.

Information and Prayer List (Please Sign the Friendship Register)

Attendance: 34

	December 1-8, 2013	
Today:	9:30 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Coffee And Conversation
	11:00 A.M.	Worship and Communion
Monday:	7:30 P.M.	Theology on Tap
Tuesday:	9:30 A.M.	Parish Nurse
	5:30 P.M.	Session
Wednesday:	7:00 P.M.	Choir
Sunday:	9:30 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Coffee And Conversation
	11:00 A.M.	Worship

Prayer Lists

First Presbyterian Church, Pilot Mountain
Forest Park Church, Statesville
Oakview Church, Yanceyville

Faith Presbyterian Church Prayer List:

Peggy Pope	Cile Gorman
Dot Patat's Family	Maxine Heath
Fran Cuthbertson	Larry Murren
Pat Magnuson	Virginia Cornet
Erich Bordne	PNC
Bonnie Evans	
Melissa Burris' Father	Priscilla Christiansen
Dellaine Risley	Georgia Renfrow
Bob Phillips	Kelly Bottoms (Friend/Lindsey Brown)
Ed Price	Betsy Rule
Doris Claybrook (Betsy Rule's Mother)	Andy Moye
Dee McGhee	Jane Hogan
Bob Huffine's Family	Ann Huffine

Pastoral Team

Bill Hamilton, Interim Pastor
Jim Rissmiller, Pastoral Visitor
Libby Inman, Young Adult Ministries
Jeremy Corn, Music Director
Lois Bazhaw, RN, Congregational Nurse
Lynn Wright, Office Administrator



First Sunday of Advent



***We are a loving faith family,
worshipping and serving God,
and testifying in word and deed
as disciples of Jesus Christ.***

December 1, 2013
11:00 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day
First Sunday of Advent

www.faithpresgso.org ♦ www.facebook.com/faithpresgso ♦ [Twitter @faithpresgso](https://twitter.com/faithpresgso)
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