

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### The Peace

One: Peace on each one who comes in need.

**All: Peace on each one who comes in joy.**

One: Peace on each one who offers prayers.

**All: Peace on each one who offers song.**

One: Peace of the Maker, Peace of the Son.

**All: Peace of the Spirit, the Triune One.**

### \*Gathering Music #107 "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" *Rejoice Rejoice*

Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.

Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! The Child of our longing.

Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together,

He opens wide the heavenly door and lives now inside us forever.

### Call to Worship and Lighting the Advent Candle

*In December Darkness*, by Ann Weems

One: The whole world waits in December darkness

for a glimpse of the Light of God.

Even those who snarl, "Humbug!"

and chase away the carolers

have been seen looking toward the skies.

The one who declared he would never forgive has forgiven,

and those who left home have returned,

and even wars are halted, if briefly,

as the whole world looks starward.

One: Today we dare to look starward, allowing our conflicted, worried

Communities to be caught up in the radical hope of this Advent season:

that forgiveness is possible, that war is not the only way, that a Prince of

Peace is coming, in our every act of compassion and our every moment

of mercy.

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light these candles to remind us that,

when God comes, all the things that divide will pass away, and we will see

one another as sisters and brothers, no longer separated by history and

hatred, but shining with God's beautiful light, like stars that will never

go out. Let us pray:

**All: In communities plagued by racial tension, in places where separation and inequality rule, we pray: come, Lord Jesus. Come, not with perfected politics or strategies, but with the power of an extended hand and an open heart. Teach us to teach our children to forgive, in your name, amen.**

### \*Hymn of Praise #87 "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

*Genevan 42*

### Prayer of Brokenness

**All: God of peace, you came to dwell among us that we might be whole, yet we continue to live in brokenness. We fracture healing with anger, cleave hope with fear, disturb holy stillness with anxious mania, and shatter our world, our communities, our churches, even our own hearts with selfishness and greed.**

One: Let us consider in silence the brokenness within our community.

*(silence is kept for personal confession)*

As we wait for the advent of peace, lead us from death to life, from

falsehood to truth. Leads us from despair to hope, from fear to courage.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.

**All: Let peace fill our hearts, our church, our world, our universe.**

**We ask if for your own name's sake. Amen**

### Assurance of Pardon

One: The good news of the gospel is that while we were yet broken,

Christ came to make us whole. Christ is still coming - on the wings

of grace and truth, in the fullness of love and time - to bring shalom.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### Prayer Response #417 "Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

*Southwell*

Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin.

From earthborn passions set me free, and make me pure within.

## WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### The Word Spoken

In the beginning was the Word

**And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

*Romans 12:9-21*

**Pew Bible, NT, Page 162**

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### The Word with the Children

**Anthem** "Up to the Mountain (MLK Song)"

by Patty Griffin

**The Word Declared:** "A Whole Community"

Rev. Karen Ware Jackson

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\***Hymn of Response #88** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" v. 1, 2, 6,7 *Veni Emmanuel*

### SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*See Advent Communion bulletin, located in the pew.*

### Presentation of Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

**Offertory** "Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes"

Setting by Joel Raney

\***Doxology #110** "Love Has Come" v.1

*Bring A Torch*

Love has come: a light in the darkness!

Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.

See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;

Hear how their song of joy arises:

Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!

Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

### \*Prayer of Dedication

\***Closing Hymn #753** "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" *Prayer of St. Francis*

## WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

### \*Charge

### \*Benediction

### \*Postlude

*\* Please rise in body or spirit*

## INFORMATION AND PRAYER LISTS

### December 13 – 20

**Today:** 9:30 A.M. Sunday School  
10:15 A.M. Children's Choir Practice  
10:30 A.M. Coffee and Conversation  
11:00 A.M. Worship, Communion  
4:00 P.M. Session

**Monday:** 11:15 A.M. Staff Meeting

**Tuesday:** 6:30 P.M. Choir Practice

**Thursday:** 8:00 P.M. Narcotics Anonymous

**Friday:** 8:00 P.M. Narcotics Anonymous

**Sunday:** 9:30 A.M. Sunday School  
10:30 A.M. Coffee and Conversation  
11:00 A.M. Worship, Communion

### Announcements

- We're forming a children's choir for Christmas. **Children will sing a song in worship Sunday, December 20.** They will practice with Stephanie in the sanctuary at 10:15am on Dec. 13. Get a CD of the music and lyrics from Stephanie!
- **Bread and Wine with Jesus, Chair Exercise, and the mission group** will not meet in December.
- There will **NOT be a Fellowship Brunch** in December.
- Our **Christmas Eve service**, "The ABCs of Christmas: A Candlelight Service for All Ages," will be held at **4:30 p.m.** on Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>.

### Salem Presbytery Church Prayer List

First Presbyterian Church, Eden

Parkway Church, Winston-Salem

Fifth Creek Church, Statesville

**FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRAYER LIST:**

Ann Adkins (Betsy Rule's friend)	Jo Anne Jennings
Margaret Avent (Rev. Larry Avent's wife)	Sara Kearns
Rick Barreau	Tommy Knight (Betsy Rule's cousin)
Lois Bazhaw and Family	Steve Ladds (Laura Maher's colleague)
Priscilla Christiansen	Marge Mack
Bertha Collins (Ralph Bazhaw's sister)	Gladys Maready (Bonnie Maready's mother-in-law)
Carolyn Cook (Betsy Rule's cousin)	Family of Keith McNeal
Family of Fran Cuthbertson	Family of Lisa Moran
Davidson Family (Friends of Karen Ware Jackson)	Andy Moye
Bonnie Evans	Garth Payne
Kem Gomo	Inky Payne
'Cile Gorman	Georgia Renfrow
Pat Greeson	Betty and Jim Rissmiller
Helen Hall	Karen Thomas (Helen Hall's daughter)
Harold Henderson	Stephen Ware (Karen Ware Jackson's father)
Judy Herron and Family	

**Bulletin Acknowledgements**

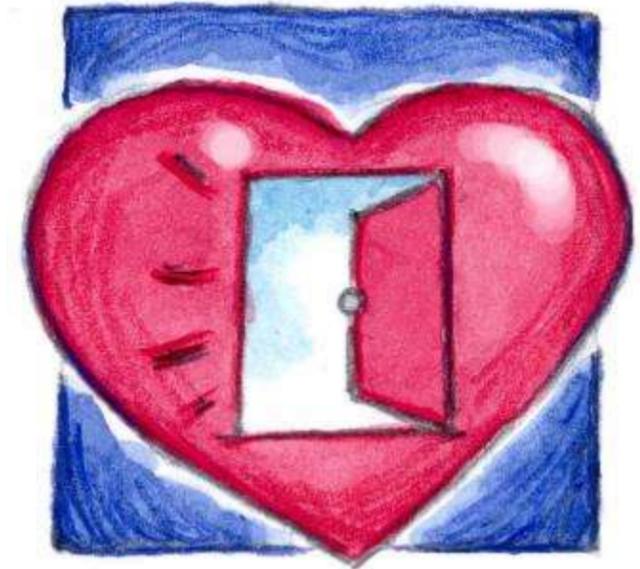
Flowers for the December 6<sup>th</sup> service were provided by Peggy McGuire in honor of Laura and Tim Maher. Flowers for December 13<sup>th</sup> were provided by Peggy McGuire in memory of her parents, Aubrey and Anne McGuire.

The Call to Worship is from Rev. Whitney Wilkinson, Poem: Ann Weems, *In December Darkness*. The Prayer of Brokenness is adapted from *Iona Abbey Worship Book*. The Communion liturgy is from *A Wee Worship Book: Fourth Incarnation*. Wild Goose Worship Group. The image on the bulletin cover is from <http://www.uaex.edu/health-living/>

**Pastoral Team**

Rev. Karen Ware Jackson, Pastor  
Rev. Jim Rissmiller, Pastoral Team  
Stephanie Lindley, Music Director  
Beverly Lucas, Office Administrator

**WELCOME TO FAITH PRESBYTERIAN**



*“A Whole Community”*

**We embrace inter-generational worship and welcome the giggles, questions, tears, and even shouts that enliven our oh-so-orderly service.** We do have a **professionally staffed nursery** available for babies and toddlers, but we encourage our youngest members to learn with and from us throughout the worship service.

There is a **“PrayGround”** available for children and adults at the front of the sanctuary. Feel free to join our young people in their interactive worship activities! **These experiences are great for active learners of all ages, and our children and their parents appreciate your engagement and support.**

We want to be a true family of faith and that means celebrating the gifts, questions, and talents of each of our members from young in age to young at heart!

December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
11:00 A.M.

Service for the Lord's Day  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

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