

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

This Year, by Ann Weems

One: I wonder if God comes to the edge of heaven each Advent
and flings the Star into the December sky,
laughing with joy as it lights the darkness of the earth;
and the angels, hearing the laughter of God,
begin to congregate in some celestial chamber
to practice their alleluias.
Perhaps when God calls, perhaps they just come,
the multitude of heavenly hosts.
Perhaps they come,
winging through the winds of time
full of expectancy
full of hope
that this year
perhaps this year (perhaps)
the earth will fall to its knees
in a whisper of "Peace."

One: Today we listen for the laughter of God, drawing ever closer, as the shouts
of anger and violence fall silent. We wait for the renewal of the earth, and
for God's wholeness to come, not with raised voices and clenched fists, but
with laughter of joy and whispers of peace.

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light these candles to remind us that,
as we draw closer to the Prince of Peace, he draws closer to us, filling all
the world with hushed awe, as we dare to believe that anything is possible,
even peace. Let us pray.

**All: In a world of fear and retribution, of terror and threat, we pray: come,
Lord Jesus. Let mighty whispers of your peace deafen us to ways of
violence and revenge, that the whole world might be filled with heaven's
peace, in your name, amen.**

*Hymn of Praise #123 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

Carol

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 the world.

(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.

Isaiah 9:2-7

Pew Bible, OT, Page 638

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem "The Whole World is Waiting for Love" by Marianne Misetich

The Word Declared: "A Whole World" Rev. Karen Ware Jackson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

The Church in Mission – Charles and Melissa Johnson
PCUSA Mission Co-workers to Zambia

***Hymn of Response #105** "People, Look East" *Besançon*

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

See Advent Communion bulletin, located in the pew.

Presentation of Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

Offertory "Sing Joy: A Medley of Carols" Arranged by Jay Althouse

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

French Carol

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*

Announcements

- **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 24th.

INFORMATION AND PRAYER LISTS

December 20 – 27

Today:	9:30 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Coffee and Conversation
	11:00 A.M.	Worship, Communion
Monday:	11:15 A.M.	Staff Meeting
Tuesday:	6:30 P.M.	Choir Practice
Thursday:	4:30 P.M.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
	8:00 P.M.	Narcotics Anonymous
Friday:	Office Closed	Christmas Day
	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, Pennies for Hunger

Salem Presbytery Church Prayer List

Sedgefield Church, Greensboro
Grace Church, Winston-Salem

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	Karen Thomas (Helen Hall’s daughter)
Helen Hall	Stephen Ware (Karen Ware Jackson’s father)
Harold Henderson	
Judy Herron and Family	

Bulletin Acknowledgements

Flowers for December 20th were provided by Peggy McGuire in honor of Faith Presbyterian Church.
The Call to Worship is from Rev. Whitney Wilkinson, Poem: Ann Weems, *This Year*.
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 by Nicholas Markell, courtesy of Eyekons.com

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 World”

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 20th, 2015
11:00 A.M.

Service for the Lord’s Day
4th Sunday of Advent

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