

Welcome to



12 December 21

Third Sunday of Advent

May God who gathers us around Himself in the Word and Sacrament to bless us with His forgiveness this morning be your source of comfort, strength and renewal as you worship today. In the Name of Christ, we are all called to come and hear that the Lord is Good!

Prelude – *Preparing our Souls through silence, reading and reflection*

Announcements and Prayer Concerns– *Sharing our life together*

Congregational Prayer

Invocation and Confession – *Entering into the Presence of the Lord*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
(Matthew 28:19) C: **Amen**

P: Make us to know your ways, O Lord, and teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation; for whom we wait. (Psalm 25:4-5) C: **Amen**

P: If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:6-7)

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

C: According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. Amen (Psalm 51:1-2, 10-12)

P: Let it be known to you, that through Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. (1 John 1:6-7) He commanded us to preach and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. (Acts 10:42-43) C: **Amen**

Announcements and Schedule

Studies this Week:

Sunday Morning Worship Service – 10:00am

Wednesday – 7:00pm – Women’s Group – 169 Buxton Drive
7:00pm – Men's Group – 169 Buxton Drive

Thursday – 10:30am – Bible Study – 1517 Thomas Jefferson
6:30pm – Choir Practice

We have prayer cards for you to mail to anyone you lifted up at the Altar during Communion. Feel free to bless others with these.

Join us each Sunday morning from 9:15 until 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall below the Sanctuary. Besides coffee and light refreshments, this is a great opportunity to get to know each other better. There is a sign-up sheet for volunteers to set-up and do the light clean-up. Thanks.

Our Annual Congregational Meeting is immediately after the Service. Please stay if you are able. All are welcome.

Our Christmas Party will be December 22nd at 6:00pm at the Heritage at Wyndhurst Community Hall on Paulette Circle (right past Neighbor’s Place). Please bring a dessert or finger food to share.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be the 24th at 9:00pm.

Thanks to everyone for bringing the bags for Parkview. They can always use \$1.00 Laundry detergent or dish liquid. With it getting cold they can use blankets or socks. There are quite a few people who are homeless in Lynchburg.

Pastor Tom is challenging everyone to read through the entire Bible in 2022. It is far shorter than many modern novels and far more important! Please consider making this commitment which will only take about 15 minutes a day but is guaranteed to change your life. Pastor Tom will be taking everyone to dinner next January who successfully read through the Scriptures.

Lector – Sarah Dietrich

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Lighting of the Third Advent Candle - Joy

Call to Worship – Psalm 85

*Hymn – “The First Noel”

First Lesson – Zephaniah 3.14-20

Call to Prayer – “Away in the Manger”

Pastoral Prayer (followed by the Lord's Prayer in unison)

Second Lesson – Philippians 4.4-7

Offertory - Sarah Dietrich

(Please place your offering in one of the plates)

*Doxology – #95

*Gospel – Luke 7.18-28

Our response is, “**Praise be to thee, O Christ**”

Sermon - “Dealing with the Midday Demons”

*The Apostles’ Creed

Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Unending Hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the Highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the Highest.

The Mystery of Faith:

Christ has died; Christ is Risen; Christ will come again.

Receiving the Body and Blood of Christ

*Hymn – “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

*Benediction

*Dismissal and Recessional

Prayer List

Tom Langford, Bill Warman, Carolyn Ashwell, Liz Griffin, Harry Burns, Larry Shepley, Betty Mann, Katie Epley, Yvette Clark, Darby Atkins, Jean McCormick and persecuted Christians around the world.

Let us pray for all our elected Officials and our Country.

Gail Everett, knee replacement needed

Betsy Hoefer, balloon installed in artery, friend of Agnes

Mary Nell Harding Cravens, colon issues, friend of Agnes

Barbara Brown, health issues, friend of Agnes

Karen Hemmerlein’s mom recuperating from surgery.

Kristen Frasse, friend of Carey

Clark Pettyjohn, friend of Pr. Tom and Sherry

Nancy Turner, recuperating from surgery, friend of Martha’s

Jeff Anderson, friend of Carey’s, acute myeloid leukemia

Margaret Kihnley, sister of Sue Rossiter

Jean Moriety, friend of Carol Bryant

Fred Greene, friend of Katie Epley, metastatic prostate cancer

Starke Camden, breathing issues

Betty Smith, going on dialysis, friend of Carolyn’s

Mike Toney, friend of Web’s, cancer

Lexi, 10 year old with cancer, daughter of a friend of Sara Dietrich’s

Lydia Behnke, Andy’s mom, fractured back

Friend of Dave Gardner recovering from stomach surgery

Stephanie Garrett, friend of Web’s, cancer

Bob and Vivienne, friends of the Dietrich’s, health issues of Bob

Sally, friend of Jen’s, with cancer

Sylvia, Yvette’s daughter, Multiple Myeloma cancer

Donny Baker, friend of Glenn Harvey, in need of a liver transplant

Howard Dillon, friend of Glenn, recuperating from pneumonia

Leslie Hair, friend of Agnes, needs liver transplant

Elijah, Yvette Clarks’ great grandson, with seizures

Elwood Hutchins and his wife, with dementia, friends of Martha

Olivia Rowsey, Maggie’s friend, 16 yo with Leukemia

Lynn Ruppe, Gail’s sister, back issues

Camden Clark, Yvette’s grandson,

Remington Richmond, Pat Wheeler's great nephew

Dr. Jim and Sue Henry, Mona's parents

Melody Henry, Mona's sister a nurse and all health care givers

Betty Shepherd, friend of Martha Mahanes

Erik Blaum, PTSD, Dot Flanik's son

Sharon Powell, cancer, and Lisa Reynolds, Requested by the Harveys