

The Order of Worship

The Second Sunday of Advent – December 7, 2008

Minister: Rev. James Adams

Organist/Pianist: Debbie Mink

Lay Leader: Clark Allison

Nursery: Phyllis Shepherd

Music/Worship Director: Rebecca Haywood

Secretary: Vickie Ellis

Bold Print indicates a congregational response * Indicates to stand, if able

Gathering Before God

Prelude & Lighting of the Candles

(As you prepare for worship, please take this time to register your attendance with us today. If you are visiting today, please know that you are welcome and we would like to get to know you better. If you have any questions about our church, please speak to Rev. Adams after the service.)

Choral Call to Worship

Rise, Shine, for Thy Light is A-Comin'

* Call to Worship

God is going to make all things work together!

All the valleys will be filled up and the mountains will be made a plain.

People will work together; there will be hope and peace.

The Lord is healing the hearts of the people.

Wait! The Lord is coming with hope and peace.

Lord, make us ready and put us on the right path to you. AMEN.

* Opening Hymn *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* No. 203

* The Lighting of the 2nd Advent Candle - *Hope*

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our hope.

May the light sent from God help us to prepare the way of salvation.

All Sing: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

* Opening Prayer Rev. Adams

* A Time of Personal Greetings

Hearing God's Word

(Children will be dismissed for Children's Church at this time)

Chorus of Preparation *Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet* (Chorus twice)

Scripture Lesson 2 Peter 3:8-15a Kathleen Smith

Gospel Lesson Mark 1:1-8

(after the Scripture is read, the following response)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Today's Message "Prep-Time"

Responding to God

* An Affirmation of Faith No. 881

Invitation to Holy Communion & Prayer of Confession

We are such an impatient people, O Lord. We want everything immediately. It is easy for us to overlook the tasks you have set before us,

to take care of those who are in need,

to be a listening presence to those who are troubled,

to reach out in kindness and compassion to all who hurt.

Forgive us for our need to speed through this season of Advent.

Slow us down and give us an appreciation for the Advent of your Son. In His Name, we pray. AMEN.

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Debbie Mink

* Doxology *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Thanksgiving and Communion - No. 15

The Lord's Prayer - The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Holy Communion is offered to all who love God. As you receive the bread and the cup, be reminded of the love of Jesus Christ for you. All persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion, regardless of church affiliation. If your heart so leads, come forward as the ushers direct and use this time begin or renew your relationship with God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Serving God in the World

* Benediction and Sending Forth

* Final Song "Blessed Be the God of Israel" No. 209 (vs. 1)

Tune: Lead On O King Eternal

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Today:

10:55 Morning Worship

5:00 Wesley Bells

Wednesday, December 10

6:00 Girl Scout Leaders

6:00 College Care Committee

Thursday, December 11

10:00 Sewing Circle

Friday, December 12

8:00 YMA to Huntington Mall

Nursery Volunteer for Today, Dec. 7 – Susan Holderby

Nursery Volunteer for Sunday, Dec. 14 – Julie Paxton

Children's Church for Today, Dec. 7 – Kristin Garrett

Children's Church for Sunday, Dec. 14 – Brad and Jenny Burchett

Ushers for December – Frank Fitzpatrick, Tom Hereford, Rob Herrick, Tom Smith

Greeters for Today, Dec. 7 – Ted and Brenda Miller

Greeters for Sunday, Dec. 14 – Joe and Amy Burchett

Record of our Faithfulness: Sunday, Nov. 30 Morning Worship –121, Sunday School-34. General Fund-\$7,774.00, needed weekly-\$4,798.00, General Fund Receipts as of 11/30/08- \$174,724.15; Budget as of 11/30/08-\$214,021.50 FLC Loan repayment-\$220.00, needed weekly-\$385.00, Thanksgiving offering - \$966.00; Amt. as of 12/01-\$5486.00; 2007 Apportionments- \$90.00, amount to date- \$7289.00

Praise to God and tremendous thanks to all who made our Hanging of the Greens a magnificent evening of worship. You helped in so many ways – preparation, participation, attendance, prayer, and more. God's family at work for His Glory is a blessing to all.

Friday, Dec. 12 the YMA will travel to the Huntington Mall for a day of shopping and fun. The church bus will be leaving at 8:30 am. If you would like to attend, be at the church by 8:15am.

God's Shepherds: At this most blessed time of the year we are asking for your help in providing Christmas for our children and mothers. Christ reminds us throughout His word to take care of his children. God has blessed us with this wonderful opportunity to do just that. With your help we can provide Christmas for our families who otherwise go without. Contact Julie Paxton, 886-6451, Betty Roberts, 886-2539 or Shyla Meece, 886-6650 for more info.

The Sewing Circle has pecans for sale again this year. The cost is \$8.00 per lb. Contact Phyllis Herrick or any member of the Sewing Circle.

Note: Mabel Jean Lemaster is now permanently living in New Jersey now. Her address is 2419 Mistletoe Lane, Millville, NJ 08332.