

The Order of Worship
December 20, 2009 –Fourth Sunday of Advent

Minister: Rev. James Adams
Lay Leader: Gary Brown
Music/Worship Director: Rebecca Haywood

Organist/Pianist: Debbie Mink
Nursery: Phyllis Shepherd
Secretary: Vickie Ellis

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

Gathering Before God

Prelude Debbie Mink
* Call to Worship & Lighting of the Advent Candles
* Opening Hymn *O Come All Ye Faithful vs. 1-5* No. 234
* Opening Rev. Adams
* Songs of Praise *Emmanuel* No. 204
* A Time for Personal Greetings

Hearing God's Word

A Time for our Children
Chorus of Preparation *Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet* (Chorus twice)
Scripture Lesson Micah 5:1-6 Kathleen Smith
Gospel Lesson Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

(after the Gospel is read, the following response)

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Special Music *Glad Noel* Chancel Choir
Today's Message Rev. Adams
Special Music Dr. Gary Brown

Responding to God

* Affirmation of Faith

Prayer of Confession

It is so easy for us, Lord, to let the anger, frustration, and fear overshadow our lives. We can't seem to escape it. We feel the pressure to give, and resentment in giving. We feel the push to be present at every upcoming event, and want to run and hide. Help us, Lord.

Heal our wounded spirits. Free us again to look to you for Hope. Let us see the many ways in which you are present to us..... guiding, healing, loving, encouraging us. Forgive us for our fears and our stubbornness. Bring us again to your light, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Offertory Debbie Mink

* Doxology Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Serving God in the World

* Benediction and Sending Forth

* Final Song *Joy to the World* No. 246

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Today:

10:55 Worship

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve – office closed

Friday, December 25 – Merry Christmas!!!

Christmas Day – office closed

Nursery Volunteer for Dec. 20 – Amy Burchett
Children's Church for Dec. 20 – Christmas Party – all volunteers
Acolytes for Dec. 20 – Reece Hamilton, Owen Greene
Greeters for Dec.20 – Ann & David Brown
Ushers for December – Eddy Clark, Paul Honeycutt, Josh Turner, Neil Turner
Nursery Volunteer for Dec. 27 – Julie Paxton
Children's Church for Dec. 27 – No Children's Church
Acolytes for Dec. 27 – Andrew & Ben Burchett
Greeters for Dec.27 – Jim & Mary Carter

Record of our Faithfulness: Sun., Dec.13 Morning Worship-100, Sunday School-26
General Fund-\$1090.00, Building -FLC-\$80.00, Total Giving- \$3140.00

I would like to thank everyone who helped with the Pictorial Directory. I especially want to thank Jim, who worked many, many hours taking pictures off his computer and putting our special activities pages together. He did a great job! I also want to especially thank Roslyn Burchett who worked many hours getting all the names, addresses and telephone numbers together and typing it all up for our registry pages. She is amazing and did a wonder job. Hopefully, we will have our Directory sometime in the next six weeks. Barbara Burchett.

If you purchased a Poinsettia(s), you may take them home today.

The Sewing Circle has Schermer pecans for sale at \$8.00 for one- pound bag. See any member to the Sewing Circle to get yours for Christmas!

***Remember the Wall of Honor?** This project is up and running again! We have bricks that will be going up on the wall very soon and if you would like to purchase one in memory of, in honor of or for your family, contact the church office. The cost of each brick is \$500.00.*

***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.*

***December 24th**, 11:00 pm will be our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Please plan to join us for this special time of worship and fellowship.*

***On December 30**, 6:00 pm, there will be a church-wide leadership meeting.*