

Providence Presbyterian Church
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT AND YOUTH SUNDAY
December 2, 2007

Prelude *Samuel, Hannah, and Daniel Stephenson*

Welcome and Announcements *Ryne Jones*

Lighting of the Advent Candle
Austin Benson, Jane Pickens, & Samuel Stephenson

Call to Worship *Psalm 33*

Leader: *The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.*

People: ***Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.***

Leader: *Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who hope in his steadfast love.*

People: ***Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and shield.***

Leader: *Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.*

ALL: ***Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.***

* Hymn 59 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Confession of Sin *(In Unison)*

O Gracious and Merciful God, we confess ours in and the sin of this world. You sent us the perfect gift in your only Son, Jesus Christ, to redeem us through Your perfect Grace. And yet we are a people divided against ourselves and we cling to the values of a broken world. We abuse your good gifts or imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us, open our eyes so that we may see that You have set us free through the glorious gift of Jesus Christ our Lord and Redeemer....

Silence for Personal Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: *The hope of the world through the Son of God is the good news of Jesus Christ in whom we are forgiven!*

People: ***God has given us the gift of eternal life, a baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger where our hope in God's immeasurable love became flesh. Praise God for Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.***

* Responsive Praise "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Hymn 154

* Greeting and Rites of Friendship

Children's Message *Lauren Langdon and Courtney Walton*

Offertory *Lauren Collier and Lauren Langdon*

Giving of His Tithes and Our Offerings

* Doxology and Prayer of Dedication Hymn 34

The Old Testament Isaiah 9:1-7 *Lauren Collier*

Anthem "Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming" Adult Choir

Musical Interlude:

Children exit with Carolyn Stevenson & Sandra Lordi to Children's Church

Morning Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

The New Testament Matthew 12:8-21 *Emily Langdon*

Youth Speaker *Ryne Jones*

Sermon "A Hopeful Christmas" Rev. Jim Davis

* Hymn 182 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

* Acolyte, Benediction and Postlude

** Signifies Congregation to Stand*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Cantata. The Providence Christmas Cantata is scheduled for Sunday, December 16 with performances at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Following the 6:00 p.m. performance a meal will be served in the Fellowship Hall. The meal is of no cost, but donations will be accepted to go towards the support of a needy family in our community for the holidays.

Congregational Meeting. The Session is calling a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, December 16, immediately following Worship, for the purpose of electing three elders for the Class of 2010. The Nominating Committee will present Sandra Lordi, Mark Nelms, and Atlee Roberts for nomination. Nominations may be made from the floor if the nominee has agreed ahead of time to be nominated.

Assisting in Worship this Sunday:

Ushers: Haley Jones and Kendall Nelms
Acolyte and Bell Ringer: Abigail Wood
Infant Nursery: Andrea Jones and Kristy Stephenson
Toddler Nursery: Richard Jones and Chris Stephenson

Assisting in Worship next Sunday, December 9:

Ushers: Kay Dry and Pam Nelms
Acolyte and Bell Ringer: Kendall Nelms
Children's Message: Carolyn Stevenson
Children's Church: Richard and Andrea Jones
Infant Nursery: Beth and Jane Pickens
Toddler Nursery: Christina Nelms and Jeffrey Wood

Today at Providence:

9:45 a.m.: Adult Sunday School Assembly; Children's Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m.: Sunday School for Adults, Youth & Children
11:00 a.m.: Youth Sunday during Worship Service

Events for the week:

Tuesday, Dec 4: Stated Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec 5: Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Sunday, Dec 9: Celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during
Worship; Children's Christmas Party at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Upcoming Events:

December 11. Presbyterian Women Christmas Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
December 16. Christmas Cantata at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. A meal will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the 6:00 p.m. performance. Everyone is invited to come!
December 24. Christmas Eve Communion Services at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

The Prayer List

The families of Vera Critcher, Justina Rodriguez, and Bobby Stone. Also, Jeff Anderson, Elaine Andrews, Velma Bost, Josephine Byrd, Stacy Byrd, Carol Clifton, Tony Docherty, Sheila Dupree, Bill Embrey, Valerie Ennis, Gene Glasgow, Sheila Ivey, Chris Johnson, Lacy and Marilyn Johnson, David Kopanski, Betty Lou Lee, Carolyn Lewis, Carol Mayben, Carol Nauquin, Jim Parrish, Jenny Parsons, Victor Phillips, Jonathan Pourron, Peyton Rodgers, Larry Ross, Alice Stephenson, Jimmy Stephenson, Paul Stephenson, Wayne Stephenson, David Stewart, Christine Wallace, and Rosemond and Ann Woodall.