

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Salvation Army, Major Steven Svenson
MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Dan and Naomi Emerson working with the Turkic peoples of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in Central Asia to develop small businesses and build relationships for the glory of God through Jesus Christ.

THANKS DINNER THANKS! Thank you to everyone who brought food, helped with set up and clean up and made our annual gathering another great success! -*Fellowship Committee*

WINTER SUNDAY SCHOOL: Winter quarter Sunday School classes for adults start Sunday, Dec. 6. Pastor Shane will be teaching on the Gospel of John and the other class will be the video-based course, The Family Project, from Focus on the Family. Sign up in the foyer today!

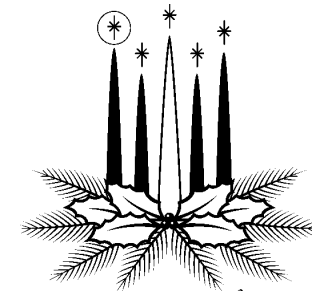
LADIES' CHRISTMAS LUNCH: Ladies 5 to 95 are invited to Christmas lunch Sunday Dec. 6, at 12:30 in the fellowship hall. We will enjoy lunch and assemble Christmas gift baskets for the Refuge so, if you're able, bring a small gift item (or several) to share. Please RSVP by signing up in the foyer.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN-FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve next Thursday, Dec. 10, at Central Christian Church. If you have questions, contact Joyce Schmautz (249-6370).

PRIME TIMERS POTLUCK: If you're 50 or older, you're invited to a Christmas potluck Sunday, Dec. 13 after the second service. Please bring one dish (main dish, salad or dessert) to share and an item for the Flathead Food Bank. We will visit and share favorite Christmas memories. Help with set up and clean up is appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there!



November 29, 2015



1ST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

SERVING: November Deacon - Mike Stahlberg

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Rik & Audrey Goodell/Ken & Terri Miller
Children's Church: Dar Wassink & Grace Anderson
Infant Nursery: Hearn/Jentz
Toddler Nursery: Russells/Andersons
Fellowship Hosts: Amy Bennett/Kate Anderson
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Carol Martin/Benni Tulloch

Next Sunday - December 6

Ushers: Nick & Hanni Hanson/Sandy & Gloria Johnson
Children's Church: Tamie Jentz & Annie Hill
Infant Nursery: Motley/Putzler
Toddler Nursery: Bennetts/Brown & Hernandez
Fellowship Hosts: Alyssa Hobus & Carolyn Duncan
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Amy Bennett/Lori Vander Ark

Worship Services

Sundays 8:15 & 11

Music Practice

Tuesdays 5:30 pm

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group

Wednesdays 7 pm

Trustees

1st Tuesdays 5:30 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

Elizabeth Women

2nd & 4th Tuesdays noon

Men's Fraternity

Tue. & Wed. 6 am

*“And the LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth,
and it grieved him to his heart ...*

But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.”

Genesis 6:6 & 8

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Advent

Our word "Advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus* which means "coming" or "arrival." Advent, then, is a time of preparation for the coming of Jesus. This is preparation not for his first coming (that has already happened), but a preparation for his second coming. Christmas is a time for us to meditate on the faithfulness of God to his promises – past, present, and future. Christ is the symbol and the substance of Christmas and we have the privilege to bring glory to him in our celebration.

*CALL TO WORSHIP: *Isaiah 9:6; 1 Timothy 3:16*

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

All: **He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, and was taken up in glory.**

Leader: Proclaim it among the nations. Sing of his greatness you people of God.

*O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL - *Hymn #194*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear

(Chorus)

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel*

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer, our spirits by Thine advent here
And drive away the shades of night, and pierce the clouds and bring us light

(Chorus)

O come, Desire of nations, bind, all people in one heart and mind
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease, fill all the world with heaven's peace

(Chorus)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear

(Chorus)

**Indicates when to stand.*

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*JOY TO THE WORLD

Joy to the world the Lord is come, let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns, let men their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

*BENEDICTION

Benediction

Just as worship begins with God's call, it ends with God sending us into the world with his word of grace. We go forth to live and serve by the power of his grace, not our own strength.

Leaders & Staff

Senior Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

Associate Pastor Shane Waldron & Pastor of Music Aaron Scott

Staff: Kristin Bay, Hanni Hanson, Carlynn Stahlberg, Kelly Brown

Elders: Grady Bennett, Tom Jentz, Duane Martin (emeritus), Don Olmsted, Matt Riley,
Micah Tinkham, Steve Thompson, Jan Wassink
Deacons: Buford Bennett, Doug Brown,
Ike Eisentraut, Bill Gamble, Micah Hill, Mike Stahlberg, Bruce Tulloch

To be added to church enews, and prayer lists, please contact us at office@faithcov.com.
For more about Faith Covenant and the Presbyterian Church in America, go to faithcov.com.

***WHAT CHILD IS THIS?**

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are
keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise a song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

**The Lord's
Supper**

The gospel is not only heard, but visibly seen as God invites us to commune with him at his table. In the Lord's Supper we remember and experience Jesus' saving work.

***JESUS MESSIAH**

He became sin who knew no sin,
that we might become his righteousness.
He humbled himself and carried the cross.
Love so amazing, love so amazing!

(Chorus)

*Jesus Messiah, name above all names;
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel.
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven,
Jesus Messiah, Lord of all.*

His body the bread, his blood the wine,
broken and poured out all for love.
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn.
Love so amazing, love so amazing!

(Chorus)

(Bridge)

*All our hope is in you, all our hope is in you.
All the glory to you, God, the Light of the world.
(Chorus)*

Jesus Messiah, Lord of all.

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

***O COME DIVINE MESSIAH, COME**

O come, divine Messiah, come! The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph, and sadness flee away.
O Come, O Come

Dear Savior haste; come to the earth, dispel the night and show your face,
Come take on flesh; behold the birth; full of truth and grace
O Come, O Come

You come in peace and meekness, and lowly will your cradle be;
All clothed in human weakness; shall we your Godhead see.
O Come, O Come

O Christ, for whom all nations cry; whom priest and prophet long foretold,
Crush the evil serpent's lie; redeem the long-lost fold.
O Come, O Come

Destroy sin's power; raise the dead; put death to death, And reign as head
Return in glory at the hour; and gather the saints with your great power
O Come, O come (x3)

Sermon Questions for Discussion

1. Sin had entered into the world through the sin of man. For the first time, God is doing something about it. What are the two poles that we are required to keep in tension here concerning who God is?
2. God's creation refused to be God's creation. How does Jer. 3:19-20 express this idea for Israel? How have you seen this in your own life?
3. We are called on to take the text on its own terms. We have gone from "It is good" in Gen. 1, to "I will blot out" in Gen. 6. We have a prophetic pronouncement of judgment on sinful humanity and with it we see mercy interlaced in the design. How do we see scripture continually bringing these themes together?
4. Why might God destroy the other creatures who are innocent along with humans?
5. In Gen. 3:16, God tells Eve that she will 'grieve' in child birth and here we see that God is the one 'grieving' over his creation. "The evil heart of humankind (v-5) troubles the heart of God (v-6)." Before we too quickly explain away the language as an anthropomorphism (speaking of God in human terms), what is the text making us wrestle with?
6. Consider: "Human sin is a matter of the deepest sorrow and disappointment to the living God. Unless we know that fact, how God feels about our sin, how he responds to it and reacts to it, we do not and cannot understand this world or human life in this world. Sin is not simply a problem; it is a tragedy, and the deepest reason for that is its effect on God himself."—Dr. Rayburn
6. How does Noah fit into this very personal story of the Lord grieving for human sinfulness? How is Jesus foreshadowed here in Noah? How does Jesus go beyond Noah?

Sermon

God addresses and speaks to us by the reading and preaching of his Word. Both Christians and non-Christians need to hear the good news of salvation and grow in it.

SERMON & TEXT
Advent - Help Is On The Way
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

A Crisis in Creation
Genesis 6:5-9 (ESV)

⁵ The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶ And the LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. ⁷ So the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them. ⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

⁹ These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God.

Sermon Notes

I. A Wounded Creator

II. A Worthy Creature

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *1 Samuel 15:22-23*

Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry.

All: Have mercy on us Lord. We often choose sacrifice over obedience. We presume upon your grace, and delight in our show of faith; yet our hearts can be far from you. Forgive us of our disobedience, when we have chosen to love our sin more than to love you. Forgive us of our rebellion, when we have willingly walked away from your commands, in order to pursue the sins of our flesh. Keep us from self-worship, disguised as true religion. Purify and cleanse us by the blood of our Savior-Jesus. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Hebrews 9:13-14*

For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

– *The Heidelberg Catechism (1563), Question 32*

Minister: Why are you called a Christian?

All: Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a good conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for all eternity.

Call to Confession

We all sin daily, in thought and word and deed. As we come into God's presence, we acknowledge how we have rebelled against our King and seek his forgiveness.

***O WHY SO HEAVY, O MY SOUL?**

Oh why so heavy, Oh my soul?
Thus to myself I've willed
Oh why so heavy, Oh my heart?
And so sorrow filled?

(Chorus)

*Hope thou in God, He still shall be
Thy Glory and thy endless praise
His saving grace shall comfort thee
Through everlasting days.*

His goodness made thee what thou art
And yet will he redeem
Oh be thou of a contrite heart
And put your trust in him

(Chorus 2x)

Oh why so heavy, Oh my soul?

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.

11 a.m. Service: Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church (downstairs in the Fellowship Hall)

GOD WITH US

The glory of God has come to the earth,
The glory of God in our Savior's birth,
Join with the angels to sing and proclaim
Glory to His name

(Chorus)

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God is with us
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God is with us now.*

Eternity's likeness has come into time,
A light in the darkness, now hope is alive,
Down from the heavens on this holy night,
Our God in a manger, our God as a child.

(Chorus)

Oh, let us bring Him more than our silver and gold
Oh, let us bring Him all our pain and joy
Oh, let us bring Him every fear untold
Oh, let us bring Him our sin to pay full

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God is with us (3x)
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God is with us now.*

Offering
We give back to
God a portion of
what he has given
us to use to
declare that he
is Lord of all.
(This is part of
our service as a
church family,
and visitors should
not feel obligated
to participate.)