



Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

2nd Sunday in Advent

December 8, 2013

*Let all who enter enjoy the fellowship of friends until the bells call us to worship.
Let us then, in oneness of spirit, turn our reverent attention to the worship of God.*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

O Root of Jesse, O Peace, stir up your power within us, that in this time we may await with abundant expectation the fulfillment of your eternal presence in creation, for you live and reign among us, Maker, Savior, and Giver of Life, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* Johann Pachelbel

BRINGING THE LIGHT

ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING Ann Fayles, Jeff & AJ Roesel

Last Sunday we lit the first candle – the candle of hope. Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace. We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is almost completely absent. Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us. God is always preparing something new. And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities.

SONG *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* 88, v. 7

**Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning,
we thank you for the hope and peace you unfailingly offer us.
Show us the creative power of hope.
Teach us the peace that comes from justice.
Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,
that we may walk in the light of Christ.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome one another as Christ welcomes you;
let all together sing praise to the glory of God.

**Blessed be the God who brings us together,
whose amazing wonders fill the universe.**

We are greeted by a voice beyond our hearing,
welcomed by a presence far greater than we can know.

**All creation speaks to us of our Creator,
who calls us into this community of caring people.**

Listen, people of God, for a message of hope;
look around you for opportunities to share good news.

**The God of hope fills us with joy and peace;
the Holy Spirit empowers us to serve in humble trust.**

*SONG OF PRAISE

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

87

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

**Gracious and welcoming God,
have mercy on your people.**

We confess that we do not believe in your incarnation.

We do not heed your word each day in all that we say and do.

**We do not see our neighbors, families, and friends
as beloved children whom you have made.**

In your mercy, forgive us,

for we repent of our ways

and look to your power

to heal us and raise us up,

so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Glory Be to the Father

581

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

Page No. 595

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 3:1-12

Page No. 836

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Creation Will Be at Peace

MESSAGE

Turn Around

Tracy L. Evans

SONG OF FAITH

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

129

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(response) Hear us, O God; **Your mercy is great.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Michael Burkhardt

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

606

DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG

Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old

77

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

Take your encouragement from Christ,
that your joy may be complete.

We will share in the Spirit;

We will find consolation in love.

Practice a ministry of humility and compassion
For God is at work in you, empowering you.

We will welcome Christ into our hearts.

We will live lives worthy of the Gospel.

We will go forth in hope and in peace.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Song of Hope

*POSTLUDE

Prelude on "Jefferson"

Charles Ore

*Those who are able may stand.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the ushers.

Lectionary Readings for December 15: Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11.

The Urban Mission item of the month for December is **powdered milk**. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

Ushers for today's service are Trudy Beard and Rachel Bradley.

Our annual children's **Christmas Pageant** is this Wednesday, December 11. We will have a potluck dinner at 6:00 P.M. followed by the pageant at 7:00 P.M. Please join us.

You're invited to an **open house** at Rev. Tracy Evans' home on Tuesday, December 17, 5:00 to 7:00 P.M., 3918 Mayfair Drive.

Parents Helping Parents will meet on Thursday, December 12 at 7 P.M. at the Education Center at Norman Regional Hospital, 901 North Porter in Norman. For more information, call 278-1221 or go to the website: www.ParentsHelpingParents.info

SUNDAY**December 8**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service
- 12:00 P.M. – Worship & Music meeting
- 5:00 P.M. – Memorial Youth Group

TUESDAY**December 10**

- 7:00 P.M. – Christian Education meeting

WEDNESDAY**December 11**

- 3:15 P.M. – Kids' Club
- 6:00 P.M. – Potluck dinner
- 7:00 P.M. – Christmas Pageant
- 7:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

THURSDAY**December 12**

- 10:30 A.M. – Bible Study in Library

SUNDAY**December 15**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service
- 12:00 P.M. – Deacons meeting