



PAW CREEK

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 15, 2024

7400 Mount Holly Road
Charlotte, NC 28214

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Paw Creek, NC 28130

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PAW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024

Eleven O'clock

Welcome into God's House (responsive)

Leader: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: **And also with you.**
Leader: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God now and forever.
In this place where God kindles in our hearts the longing for a Savior, we lift our ardent prayer.
Congregation: **Come Lord Jesus! Hallelujah!**

Chimes of the Trinity

Prelude "In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. J.B. White

Choral Introit "Prepare the Way of the Lord" Hymn 95

Call to Worship (Isaiah 9)

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light:
they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death,
upon them hath the light shined.
For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be called
Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end.

***Hymn 88** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
(verses 1, 4 & 7)

The Advent Wreath and the Creche

Prayer of the Day

Leader: By the light of three candles, let us follow the shepherds to Bethlehem.
All: **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, that our fears may be calmed and our courage kindled. Help us to hear the angel voices and to believe their message, even where we have not seen. Spur us also onward to find the gifts that await us in the most unlikely places. Through the one who is to come, even our Savior Christ. Amen.**

Response in Song:

“Canticle of the Turning”, Hymn 100

Based on *Mary’s Magnificat*, Luke 1 46-55

**From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas

The Bidding Prayer (concluding with *The Lord’s Prayer*)

Opening Anthem

“Gaudete”

Anon. 15th century

Translation: Rejoyce, rejoyce! Christ is born Of the virgin Mary, rejoyce!

The time of Grace has come, which we have waited for.
Let us devotedly render Him joyful songs.

God has become Man, and Nature is astounded.
The world has been renewed by the reigning Christ.

The closed gate of Hezechiel has been crossed.
From there the Light has risen, Salvation has come in.

Therefore, our congregation, praise Him in brightness!
Bless the Lord! Greeting to our King!

The First Lesson

Isaiah Foretells the Coming of God’s Peace

Isaiah 11: 1-9

The First Carol

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”
For the Congregation

Hymn 129

The Second Lesson

Isaiah Promises Comfort to God’s People

Isaiah 40: 1-5

The Second Carol

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Gustav Holst

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our Lord to earth descendeth our full home to demand.

King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of Lords, in human vesture in the Body and the Blood
He will give to all the faithful His own Self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way
As the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry.
Alleluya. Alleluya, Alleluya Lord most High. Amen.

The Third Lesson

Luke Tells of the Angel's Visit

Luke 1: 26-38

The Third Carol

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”
For the Congregation

Hymn 82

The Fourth Lesson

Luke Tells of the Birth of Jesus

Luke 2: 1-7

The Fourth Carol

“On This Day”

Piae Cantiones, 1582, arr. Mark Schweizer

On this day, earth shall ring With the song children sing To the Son, Christ the King,
Born on earth to save us; Him the Father gave us. Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

His the doom, ours the mirth, When he came down to earth; Bethlehem saw his birth;
Ox and ass beside him, From the cold would hide him. Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds hear and obey What the angels do say; Christ the Lord, born today;
They will see his glory, Telling all the story. Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

God's bright star, o'er his head, Wise men three to him led; Kneel they low by his bed,
Lay their gifts before him, Praise him and adore him. Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

The Fifth Lesson

Luke Tells of the Shepherd's Visit

Luke 2: 8-20

The Fifth Carol

“Gloria”

Antonio Vivaldi

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

The Sixth Lesson

Matthew Tells of the Wise Men

Matthew 2: 1-12

The Sixth Carol

"Three Kings From Persian Lands"

Gustav Holst

In Bethlehem, that noble place, of Virgin Mary, full of grace
within a stable all forlorn, the Savior of the world is born.
Be we merry in this feast, In which the Savior Christ is born.

Three kings from Persian lands afar, Following the distant star:
And this the quest of the travelers three, Where the newborn King may be.
Be we merry in this feast, In which the Savior Christ is born.

The star shines out with steadfast ray; The kings to Bethlehem make their way,
And there in worship, they bend the knee, unto the child they'd come to see.
Be we merry in this feast, In which the Savior Christ is born.

The star of mercy the star of grace, Shall lead thy heart to its resting place:
Gold, incense and myrrh thou cannot bring, So give thy heart unto the King!
Be we merry in this feast, In which the Savior Christ is born.

The Seventh Lesson

John Tells of the Word Made Flesh

John 1: 1-14

The Seventh Carol

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Piae Cantiones, 1582, arr. Robert Benson

Corde natus ex Parentis, Ante mundi exordium.
A et O cognominatus, Ipse fons et clausula
Omnium quad sunt, fuerunt, Quaeque post futura sunt
Saeculorum saeculis.

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source the ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.

Let the heights of heaven adore him, Angel hosts his praises sing,
Powers, Dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore.

Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost to thee,
hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be.
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore.

Concluding Anthem

“Christmas Day”

Gustav Holst

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“Love Came Down at Christmas”

arr. J.B. Taylor

* Doxology

Old Hundredth

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

Offertory Response

Leader: Blessed are you, God of all creation.

Congregation: **Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.**

Leader: Accept and use our offerings for your glory.

Congregation: **And for the service of your kingdom.**

All: **Amen.**

*Christmas Prayer of Adoration (in unison)

Great God of power, we praise you for Jesus Christ, who came to save us from our sins. We thank you for the hope of the prophets, the song of the angels, and the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. We thank you that in Jesus you became flesh and dwelt among us, sharing human hurts and pleasures. Glory to you, eternal God; through Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords forever. Amen.

*Hymn 119

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

“Carol of the Bells”

arr. Mark Hayes

*Those who are able, please stand

Christmas Events at Paw Creek

- **Churchwide Christmas Party:** **Today** after Lessons and Carols in the CFC. Lunch will be provided. This year will be Baked Spaghetti and Salad.
- **December 24: Christmas Eve Service—7:30 pm** Luke 2: 1-20 Candlelight and Christmas Carols
- **December 29:** Guest Preacher: Betsy Williamson—Luke 2: 41-52

***Sunday, December 29 - There will be no Sunday School. Prayer time will be in the chapel at 10:30am**



The Poinsettias in the Sanctuary Today are Given as Follows:

In Memory Of:

Joe Adkins
Grady Alexander
Frank & Faye Caldwell
Jillian Hope Cashion
Joshua Ray Cashion
Blair & Elizabeth Cathey
Harold & Margie Caudill
Patricia Echerd
Grover & Ruth Elliott
Susan Todd Gustafson
Andy & Doris Harrington
Evans & Lillie Johnston
Evans & Lillie Johnston
Jean Johnston
Melanie Johnston
Frank Kapelar
Robert Lamb
Kelley C. Longshore
Hannah McCord
Lily Sophia McCord
Paul & Hannah McCord
Betty Pinkston
Gene & Phyllis Ramsey
Ed & Reba Robinson
Will & Emma Rozzelle
Mary & Ed Rozzelle
Doris & Tim Sisk
Libby Stogner
Mitch Sutton
George & Betty Thomason
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Joel Todd, Sr.
Clyde, Juanita & Mateo & Bill Tyler
David Ullem
Howie Wall
Robert & Sue Whitlow

In Honor Of:

Mark Burlison
Andy Cumbow
Elliott Hipp & Nell Scudder
Victoria Krebs & Her Children
Hannah-Ashland McCord
Anna Rettew
Kim Whittington
Our Family

By:

Emily Adkins
Shelby & Stephanie Alexander
Tommy & Gloria Caldwell
Cashion & Longshore Families
Cashion & Longshore Families
Grady & Karen Cathey
Grady & Karen Cathey
Shelby & Stephanie Alexander
Phillip & Debbie McCord
Skip, Carolyn & Families
Peggy Harrington
Hoyt Johnston
Their Families
Hoyt Johnston
Hoyt Johnston
Larry Vicki Ramsey
Joy Tyler
Cashion & Longshore Families
Jim Pinkston
Phillip & Debbie McCord
The Family
The Family
Larry & Vicki Ramsey
Philip & Debbie McCord
The Family
The Family
Joy Tyler
Jim Stogner
George & Debbie Taylor
Teresa Smith
Skip, Carolyn & Families
Joy Tyler
Barbara Ullem
George & Debbie Taylor
Tommy & Gloria Caldwell

By:

Gene & Donna Hall
Gene & Donna Hall
Gene & Donna Hall
Tim & Celia Gray
Phillip & Debbie McCord
Shelby & Stephanie Alexander
Gene & Donna Hall
John & Linda Riggins

Welcome to Paw Creek Presbyterian Church!

We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA), two centuries young and committed to living out the Gospel today as we Seek, Serve, Praise and Love Christ. If you are a visitor today, we are especially glad that you are here. We hope that you will leave us a record of your visit by completing a visitor card and placing it in the offering plate. Feel free to contact our pastor, Elliott Hipp, with questions or prayer concerns: deh46@columbia.edu or 704-502-2143. Please come again soon.

Worshipping On-Line

Our worship service is also streamed live each week, and is available to watch later in the week as well. For Facebook and YouTube links, please visit pawcreekpc.org. When you worship with us from home, you can use an on-line version of our Glory to God hymnal so that you can sing along or follow the words to the hymns. For phone or tablet, search "Glory to God" in your app store. For computer, go to hymnary.org/hymnal/GG2013 and click on the hymn number. Most hymns are available, although there are a few that cannot be displayed due to copyright restriction.

Paw Creek Presbyterian Church Staff:

Pastor Elliott Hipp
Music Director Andrew Cumbow
Pianist..... Mark Burleson
Administrative Assistant / Webmaster Kim Whittington
Videography Coordinator Clint Shaw

Wednesday Bible Study

There will be **NO** Bible Study on **Dec. 25 and Jan. 1**
Merry Christmas!
We will meet again on Jan. 8.

Stitches for Missions

Stitches for Missions will not meet again until January 18th @ 10:30 in the parlor.

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 15

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship

Monday, December 16

12:00pm Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday, December 17

9:00am Cardio Fitness
6:30pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday, December 18

*Newsletter

10:00am Bible Study
12:00pm **Bulletin Deadline for 12/22, 12/24, 12/29 & 1/5**
5:30pm CCC

Thursday, December 19

6:30am Men's Bible Study
9:00am Cardio Fitness
6:30pm Choir Practice

Friday, December 20

Room in the Inn

Sunday, December 22

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship

Tuesday, December 24

9:00am Cardio Fitness
7:30pm Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 25

*Church Office Closed—Merry Christmas!

Thursday, December 26

*Church Office Closed

Friday, December 27

Room in the Inn

Sunday, December 29

11:30am Worship—Guest Preacher: Betsy Williamson

Monday, December 30

*Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 31

*Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 1

*Church Office Closed

Thursday, January 2

*Church Office Closed

Thursday, January 2

*Church Office Closed

Thursday, January 2

*Church Office Closed