

Service For The Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 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 "When I Think Upon Christmas" Matt Schinske

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

Call to Worship (Isaiah 12, *First Song of Isaiah*)

Give thanks and call upon the name of the LORD.
Make known among the nations what the LORD has done.
Sing praises, for the LORD has done great things;
let this be known in all the earth.
Shout, and sing for joy, O people of God,
for great in your midst is the Holy One.

***Carol 347** "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

The Advent Wreath and the Creche

Prayer of the Day

Leader: By the light of four candles, let us follow the Mary & Joseph to Bethlehem
All: **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, that we too may escape from fear to obedience. May we heed your call to meet you on our life's journey, confident that your Holy Spirit has gone before us to prepare a place, to give us a task, and to provide us the courage to be a part of your Kingdom. 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

**Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.
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

***Carol 110** "Love Has Come"

Scripture Lesson

A Reading from Prophecy **Zephaniah 3: 14-20**

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord

Reading from the Gospel **John 1: 1-14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth..

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.
Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

***Carol 133** "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Sermon *Light From Light Eternal*

*Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "The First Nowell" arr. Tracey Craig McKibben

*Doxology "Old Hundredth" (Hymn 606)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all 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.**

Prayers of God's People

Beginning with Joys and Concerns, and concluding with *The Lord's Prayer, in unison*

*** Carol 134** "Joy to the World"

*Charge and Benediction

*Response in Song "Song of Simeon" (Hymn 545, verse 2)
**This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light,
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel**

Postlude "Greensleeves" arr. Kenny G

*Those who are able, please stand

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.

Upcoming Sermon Titles & Scriptures

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:30pm
Luke 2: 1-20

Sunday, December 29

First Sunday of Christmas
Guest Preacher: Betsy Williamson
"Life in the Family"
Luke 2: 41-52

Pastor's Vacation

Elliott will be on vacation from **Thursday, December 26 through Friday, January 3**. We will welcome the Rev. Betsy Williamson as guest preacher next Sunday, December 29. If any pastoral needs arise during this time, please inform any member of the Church Session.

Bible Study

Wednesday Bible Study will not meet again until **January 8th**.

Prayer Garden

Honor your loved one in Paw Creek's Memorial Prayer Garden. Commemorate the life of someone special with a brick paver. You can personalize your message to honor or remember a loved one or celebrate a special anniversary, birthday or other life event. It will create a legacy that will last forever.

Each brick paver cost \$40.

Order forms available in the Narthex, Church Office, and website.

Church Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed for the Holidays from **December 24th until January 6th**.
Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Kim

Directory Update

We are in the process of updating our Online Directory. If you would like your photo updated, you may either upload a new one yourself or contact Tim Gray at tim@tcgracing.com -or- 704-907-0998 and he will be happy to assist you.

Paw Creek Presbyterian Church Staff:

PastorElliott Hipp
Director of Music..... Andrew Cumbow
PianistMark Burleson
Administrative Assistant / Webmaster Kim Whittington
Videography Coordinator.....Clint Shaw

The Session

Moderator: Elliott Hipp Clerk: Donna Hall General Treasurer: Danny McClure

Class of 2024

Gene Hall
Jim Pinkston
Jim Stogner
David Turner

Class of 2025

Donna Hall
Eddie McArver
Amy McGee
Joy Tyler

Class of 2026

Dickie Chapman
Debbie McCord
Ken Scott
Debbie Taylor

Committee Chairs

Mission Team: Debbie Taylor
Christian Education: Jim Pinkston
Congregational Care: Joy Tyler / Amy McGee
Fellowship: Donna Hall / Debbie McCord
Outreach: Ken Scott
Worship: David Turner / Debbie Taylor

Resource Team: Jim Pinkston
Administration: Eddie McArver
Finance: Gene Hall
Property: Dickie Chapman
Cemetery Superintendent: Phillip McCord

Strategic Planning Team: Paul Bradley

Sunday School Officers: Sarah Kendrick / Jim Stogner
Children's Ministry: Jan Chapman / Celia Gray / Barbara Ullem

Presbyterian Women

Moderator: Karen Turner

Secretary: Donna Hall Historian: Dina Salvo
Go & Grow Circle Moderator: Gerri Ann Shaw
Special Givings: Celia Gray Backpack Buddies: Teresa Painter, Belinda Springs, Jan & Carol Chapman
Treasurer: Vicki Ramsey Life Seekers Circle Moderator: Dina Salvo

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 22

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship

Tuesday, December 24

*Church Office Closed
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: 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

Sunday, January 5

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship / Lord's Supper / 10¢ Hunger

Tuesday, January 7

9:00am Cardio Fitness
10:00am PW Grow & Go Circle
7:00pm PW Life Seekers Circle

Wednesday, January 8

10:00am Bible Study
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
5:30pm CCC

Thursday, January 9

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

Sunday, January 12

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship / Ordination

Tuesday, January 14

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

Wednesday, January 15

10:00am Bible Study
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
5:30pm CCC

Thursday, January 16

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

Saturday, January 18

10:30am Stitches for Missions

Sunday, January 19

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship

Monday, January 20

12:00pm Newsletter Deadline



PAW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 22, 2024



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