
ADVENT

— Hope. Peace. Love. Joy. —

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 15, 2019

GATHERING

WELCOME

Dr. Jay Howell

PRELUDE (8:30)

People, Look East

Wayne Kerr

INTROIT (11:00)

Prepare the Way
SHPC Chancel Choir

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Jim Kirksey

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: THE CANDLE OF LOVE

8:30 A.M. Johnson, Nancy, Kate, and Hannah Brownlow

11:00 A.M. Stephen, Chandra, Maleny, and Rhoades Becker

* HYMN #22

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

Rev. Mark Lampley

**God of salvation, you have done great things,
our hearts are filled with joy.**

**By your power you lifted us out of the wasteland of sin
and brought us with joy and laughter into your kingdom.**

Salvation is your gift to us, first announced to us by the angels.

**But we confess that often we try to replace your gift with our own efforts;
to add to what is already full; to earn what we already have.**

**Forgive us, Lord, and help us to worship with all our hearts
the newborn King!**

* SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* ACT OF PRAISE #9 (Congregation sings.)

VENI EMMANUEL

**O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

* PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME (11:00)

(Children are invited to come forward as we pass the peace. Following the Children's Time we will sing "Jesus Loves Me" as children ages four through first grade meet their greeters for Children & Worship. Children should be picked up below the Sanctuary after the service.)

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong, they are weak, but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

(8:30) Sally Harris

(11:00) Todd Stamper

NEW TESTAMENT Matthew 1:20-23

Pew Bible, p. 1

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

"Domine Deus" from Gloria in D Major

Antonio Vivaldi

Sarah Beegle, mezzo soprano, and Lydia Schoen, oboe

OLD TESTAMENT Psalm 74:1-12

Pew Bible, p. 535

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Hope: Ruins

Dr. Jay Howell

HYMN #322 (seated)

Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

RESPONDING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Rachel Hamburger

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE OFFERING

*Attendance registers are in the pews, next to the center aisle.
Please sign and pass them on to the person sitting next to you.*

OFFERTORY

Once in Royal David's City

arr. David Irby

Lydia Schoen, oboe

* DOXOLOGY (*Congregation sings.*)

**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.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The 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.

SENDING

* HYMN #38

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Gordon Phillips

*Prayer is available after worship at the front of the Sanctuary
and in the Chapel.*

Large-print bulletins, Bibles, hymnals, and assisted-listening devices (Bluetooth and t-coil compatible) are available upon request.

*Lightweight shawls are hanging on the coat rack for
anyone who would like a little extra warmth.*

*Ushers are available to assist you with these items.
Please let us know how we can further assist you.*

If you feel the Spirit of God moving you to affirm your faith in Jesus, please speak to a pastor following the Service or contact one this week at the church.

May applause resound in our hearts as we ascribe to the Lord the glory of His Name.

** Please stand if you are able.*

CALENDAR

TODAY

- 8:30 A.M. - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 A.M. - Sunday School
- 10:15 A.M. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 A.M. - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 2:00 P.M. - JOY Fellowship Open House (off site)
- 6:00 P.M. - Youth SNF Christmas Party (The Loft)

MONDAY

- 10:00 A.M. - Staff Meeting (Fowler Conference Room)
- Yoga Class (The Loft)

TUESDAY

- 9:00 A.M. - FISH (Barron Hall)

WEDNESDAY

- 10:30 A.M. - Wednesday Bible Study (Fowler Conference Room)

THURSDAY

- 12:00 P.M. - SHEEP program (Barron Hall)

FRIDAY

- 7:00 A.M. - Men's Bible Studies (various locations)
- 9:00 A.M. - Beginner's Tai Chi (Barron Hall)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARE YOU A VISITOR WITH US TODAY? We are delighted that you are here. If you would like more information about Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church, please speak to an usher or visit our website at www.sequoyahchurch.org.

WE WELCOME LYDIA SCHOEN, guest musician, to today's Services.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS are available in the Narthex, the church office, and online on the main page of the church website.

POINSETTIA AND CHRISTMAS FLOWERS BROCHURES are available in the pew racks.

JOY FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE at Pastor Rachel's new home (1302 Cherry Tree Lane, 37919) is today from 2:00 until 4:00 P.M. Come take a tour, taste some Christmas treats, and enjoy one another's company! For anyone who would like to carpool, meet Laurette Beekman in the parking lot by the church office at 1:30.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: As John Compton shared on Commitment Sunday, "What difference can a difference make?" So far, 223 pledges have been received totaling \$1,684,090, of which 98 are new or increased pledges over last year. Thank you and praise God! We are already ahead of last year's pace. If you have not yet pledged for 2020, please prayerfully discern how God is leading you to commit to our church's ministry in the coming year. Pledge cards are available in the pews and in the back of the Sanctuary, in addition to a confidential online option on the church website. Thank you for your generosity!

THERE ARE FOUR ROSES CREEK FAMILIES TO ADOPT! Please contact Margaret Ritchie at mritchie1004@gmail.com or the church office at 522-9804 for information on how to provide Christmas gifts for children from the Appalachian area of upper East Tennessee. Each gift should be wrapped, including the family number and the name of the family (first and last) on a tag on each gift, and returned to Barron Hall by Thursday, December 19. Gifts will be delivered on Friday. Two drivers are also needed to help with Friday's delivery.

FISH CHRISTMAS CARDS are now available in the church office (in the end table drawer beside the main door).

THE LOCAL MISSIONS COMMITTEE is accepting donations for hams and peanut butter that will be included in Pond Gap's student backpacks for their holiday break. Please make any donations by Tuesday.

ENJOY A LIVE CHRISTMAS DRAMA including all the Scripture readings of the whole Christmas story at Knoxville's Nativity Pageant free of charge today at 3:00 P.M. or tomorrow, Monday, December 16, at 7:00 P.M. Children are welcome; all performances are family friendly. Our congregation helped start this 50 years ago and we still have members involved.

LUNCH AT LENNYS WITH LAMPLEY: College-agers are invited to go out for lunch on Thursday, December 19, to Lenny's in Bearden covered by Mark Lampley. RSVP to 771-5044.

WE EXTEND OUR LOVE AND SYMPATHY to Bill Barron, whose brother, Hutton, entered the Church Triumphant on Monday, December 9.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP includes 4:30 P.M. Communion in the Chapel preceding the 5:00 Lessons and Carols Service in the Sanctuary, and the 9:00 Communion and Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary. At 5:00, children should come dressed as an angel, barn animal, shepherd, or wise man.

A NEW PROCESS FOR FISH DONATIONS: Beginning next year, every family will be asked to bring a monthly item for FISH. In January, those who are able are asked to bring a 4-pack of toilet paper (double roll) to the church office. Thank you for your help with our FISH ministry.

AN OVERVIEW OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, taught by the pastors, will be offered after Wednesday night suppers beginning January 8. The course is open to all ages and covers the highlights of the gospels, Paul's letters, epistles, and Revelation over 12 weeks. Curriculum is the Bible and a brief commentary guide. This Fast Track Disciple small group runs 6-7:00 P.M. in Spitzer Education Building, Room 322. RSVP to mlampley@sequoyahchurch.org

THANK YOU TO JOHN LUTTRELL AND KENT KOEBKE, who traveled on December 2 to observe another one of several 2019 water installations performed in middle Tennessee. Those interested in learning more about this type of installation are encouraged to sign up for a free training class being offered starting the evening of March 6 and the morning of March 7. Contact Merrill White at jcandpm@yahoo.com or Dan Gaubas at dangaubas@gmail.com to sign up, as space is limited.

INTERESTED IN JOINING SEQUOYAH HILLS PRESBYTERIAN? There will be a visitors class offered Sunday, January 19, between worship services. The class is not required, but it is encouraged.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WALK ALONE: Do you or someone you know need prayer? After worship, there is a Deacon both in the Chapel and at the front of the Sanctuary available to talk with you or to pray with you. All prayers are held in confidence. You may also fill out the "prayer request" form found in our pews and place it in the offering plate. You will be prayed for!

Stephen Ministers and Deacons also stand ready to offer support in any way. Call Sis Mitchell (584-8447) for Stephen Ministry or Cathy Henry (898-9131) for Deacons.

If you have a joy or concern you would like to add to our prayer list that goes out to many "Pray-ers" in our congregation, email Pam Fritts at fritts1971@gmail.com.

A GIFT WAS RECEIVED in honor of John Robert Dunlap III and Kathryn Forrest Dunlap to be used for a special project in 2020.

THE CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMITTEE encourages Sunday School class members to invite a friend to Sunday School from now through December. If you'd like to belong to a class or you'd like to reconnect with one, pew rack brochures give updates of offerings.

TRY A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS. You are welcome to attend any class at any time: (1) Chapel – The Book of Acts, (2) Room 232 – Christmas studies from Matthew and Luke, (3) Spitzer Room 317 – Message, Faith, and Spirit, (4) Spitzer Room 320 – The Book of 1 Peter, and (5) Spitzer Room 322 – Adam Hamilton's *Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White*.

THIS SUNDAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Greeter – Sheila White; Ushers – Ned Babb, Joe Bruner, Sandy Gillespie, Beau Hannifin, Lee Hyde, Vance Link, Jim Mitchell, Jerry Sinclair, Judd Spitzer, and Beth Sterchi. November Flowers – Helen Bruner, Kathryn Callaway, Cammy Glover, Florence Johnston, Cheryl Kershaw, Judy Luttrell, Adrienne McPeake, Linda Raulston, Tamara Warner, and Cathy Youmans.

IN THE NURSING HOMES AND ASSISTED-LIVING CENTERS: Arbor Terrace – Donna Stevens; Little Creek – Bobbie Congleton; NHC Farragut – Barbara Patterson; Northshore Senior Living – Phyllis Marks and Margaret Rodgers; Park Place of West Knoxville – Jim Patteson; Westmoreland – Betty Benson and Pat Gray.



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Rev. Dr. Jay Howell, Senior Pastor

Rev. Mark Lampley, Associate Pastor

Rev. Rachel Hamburger, Associate Pastor

Andrew Skoog, Director of Music

Dr. Eunsuk Jung, Organist/Pianist

Mary Emily Morris, Director of Children's Ministries

Laura Cutter, Director of Youth Ministries

Laurette Beekman, Parish Nurse

Katie McHargue, Business Manager

Dr. William Barron, Pastor Emeritus

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