



SEQUOYAH HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3700 Keowee Avenue • Knoxville, TN 37919

865-522-9804 • SequoyahChurch.org

WORSHIP SERVICE 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 29, 2019

GATHERING

WELCOME

Dr. Jay Howell

INTROIT

See Amid the Winter's Snow
Sarah Beegle, mezzo-soprano

John Gross

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

* HYMN #31

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

**O God, in the beginning you spoke,
and the creation was born, the object of your loving care.**

**In the fullness of time you spoke,
and the Word became flesh, Jesus, gift of your love.**

**We wonder at the miracle of creation;
we stand in awe before the mystery of the incarnation.**

**Forgive us earthbound creatures, feeble in faith,
empty of hope, lacking in love.**

This year let the miracle and mystery of Christmas happen for us again.

We wait upon you with ready hearts.

* SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* ACT OF PRAISE #9 (Congregation sings.)

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

* 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) Foster Arnett

(11:00) Carole Ayres

OLD TESTAMENT Exodus 19:3-6

Pew Bible, p. 65

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

"He Shall Feed His Flock" from Messiah
Sarah Beegle, mezzo-soprano

G. F. Händel

NEW TESTAMENT 1 Peter 1:10-16

Pew Bible, p. 232

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Hope: Holy and Hoping

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

How Far Is It to Bethlehem
Eunsuk Jung, organ, and Karen White, piano

Linda McKechnie

* 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 #56

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

Virginia Thomas

*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.*

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A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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)

MONDAY

- 10:00 A.M. - Staff Meeting (Fowler Conference Room)

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY — OFFICE CLOSED

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.

THE FLOWERS TODAY are given to the glory of God from Brownie and Pam Fritts in memory of their parents, George and Helen Fritts and Robert and Gayle Pfeiffer.

NEW SERMON SERIES: "Real" begins on January 5 and continues through January 26. What is true fellowship and what keeps us from it? What walls do we put up around ourselves that keep us from truly knowing the Lord and each other? Our pastors will lead us in exploring what Scripture has to say.

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.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: As John Compton shared on Commitment Sunday, "What difference can a difference make?" So far, 232 pledges have been received totaling \$1,741,320, 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. 41 households that pledged in 2019 have not yet pledged for 2020. 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!

THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED from noon on Tuesday, December 33 through Wednesday, January 1.

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.

YOGA CLASSES will resume on Monday, January 6, at 10:15 A.M. (note the new time) and Thursday, January 9, at 10:00 A.M. in The Loft.

WEDNESDAY DINNER AND PROGRAMMING RESUMES ON JANUARY 8.

THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY LUNCHEON on Thursday, January 9, at noon in Barron Hall with

speaker Jay Howell and the program "A Preacher's Life." Please call the church to make your reservation for a boxed lunch by Tuesday, January 7. The cost for lunch is \$5. Invite a friend to join us in the new year!

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 by Monday, January 6.

A NEW BIBLE STUDY FOR MEN in their 20s, 30s, and 40s begins on Thursday, January 9, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the Study Room at Chick-fil-A (Homburg). Curriculum options will be discussed at first gathering. Contact Mark Lampley via text at 771-5044 or email MLampley@sequoyahchurch.org.

THE SHPC WOMEN'S RETREAT is one of the highlights of the year! The 2020 Retreat is February 28 – March 1 at RT Lodge with guest speaker, Laura Strunk. Laura and her husband David live in Maryville with their three children ages 9, 6, and 3. Laura worked for 10 years with Young Life in Denver before moving to Tennessee. She is currently going through training in Spiritual Direction, a practice which helps people grow in awareness of God's presence in their everyday lives and invites them to live out of that awareness in ever deepening ways. Laura will be focusing on how we as women can truly thrive in the midst of the many transitions in our lives. Registration forms will be available on January 8, 2020.

SHPC YOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCK-IN begins on January 24 at 8:00 P.M. in The Loft. Play all night. Sleep all day. Cost \$45. Brochures are available on Laura's office door or check out the link on our website.

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.

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.

THE CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMITTEE encourages Sunday School class members to invite a friend to Sunday School in 2020. 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 – Cathy Henry; 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 Pattenon; Westmoreland – Betty Benson and Pat Gray.

Rev. Dr. Jay Howell, Senior Pastor

jhowell@sequoyahchurch.org

Rev. Mark Lampley, Associate Pastor

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Rev. Rachel Hamburger, Associate Pastor

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Andrew Skoog, Director of Music

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Dr. Eunsuk Jung, Organist/Pianist

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Mary Emily Morris, Director of Children's Ministries

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Laura Cutter, Director of Youth Ministries

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Laurette Beekman, Parish Nurse

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Katie McHargue, Business Manager

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Dr. William Barron, Pastor Emeritus