



SOUTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 10, 2023

AN INCLUSIVE, WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF CHRISTIAN FAITH.
OUR MISSION IS TO MANIFEST CHRIST'S LOVE IN THE WORLD.

TODAY

Advent #2: Shaping Up



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Children's Pageant and Lunch
TODAY after Service
- The annual Christmas Water to Wine
gathering is TODAY at 2pm at the home of
Michael Hawkins and Dave Pierce.
- Secret Room Sunday,
December 17 at 10:30 am
- Choir Concert Sunday,
December 17 at 3:00 pm
- Christmas Trains December 20, 27, and 29
- Women's Annual (Christmas) Potluck
Friday, January 12 at 6:00 pm
at the home of Judy Widen
- Grief Support Group
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm



STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. Scott Dalgarno
Associate Pastor: Rev. Don Ludwig
Office Coordinator: Rayin Brown
Choir Director: Steven Schaefer
Pianist: Kenn Willson
Handbell Choir Director: Dan Anajovich
Technical Director: Moses Ram
Family Life Coordinators:
Children's Ministry: Rev. C. Bunny Oliver
Events & Nursery: Judith Foster
Middle School: Kathy Ludwig

HOW TO REACH US

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**We must accept finite disappointment,
but never lose infinite hope.**

~Martin Luther King, Jr.



PRELUDE

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
arr. by Mary McDonald

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Advent Trifold (Invite a friend or neighbor)
- The annual Christmas Water to Wine gathering is December 10th at 2pm at the home of Michael Hawkins and Dave Pierce.
- Women's Annual (Christmas) Potluck Friday, January 12 at 6:00 pm at the home of Judy Widen
- Grief Support Group Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
- Minute for Mission
- Christmas Joy Offering

LAY READER

Vicki March

CANDLE LIGHTING

Mullins Family

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

"As I get older I find it more and more easy to watch a pot until it boils."
~ Clifford Cohen

PROCESSION OF THE CRECHE

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, and set lights in the sky — sun and moon and stars.

By these stars, our ancestors charted their journeys.

By these stars, they knew God was with them.

Today we light two candles to bring the fire of the stars down from heaven to earth, to nestle among the greens.

We named the first candle, Hope. (Light the first candle.)

We name this second candle, Peace. (Light the second candle.)

We too are on a journey, and we do not always know the way.

But we chart our path by the star of peace. Even when violence and fear are raging and peace seems like a pipedream,

we set our face steadily towards the light.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us offer signs of Christ's peace to one another.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children and youth are dismissed.

OPENING HYMN

#82 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

GREEK TESTAMENT READING

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make God's paths straight,' " So John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

THEME READING

"The very least you can do in your life is figure out what you hope for. And the most you can do is live inside that hope. Not admire it from a distance but live right in it, under its roof."

~ Barbara Kingsolver, Animal Dreams

SPECIAL MUSIC

Et in terra pax (And Peace on Earth), Mvt. II from Gloria

Music by Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

Chancel Choir

Kenn Willson, piano

Steven Schaefer, conductor

SERMON

Advent #2: Shaping Up

Rev. Scott Dalgarno

RESPONSIVE HYMN

#129 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

CORPORATE PRAYER

by Fred F. Keip

Indwelling God,

infused throughout all existence,

we honor you with many names.

Your realm is within the human heart.

We accept life for all that it can be,

on earth as throughout all creation.

May we continue to draw sustenance from

this earth,

and may we receive forgiveness equal to our own.

May we ever move from separation toward

union,

to live in grace, with love in our hearts,

forever and ever.

Amen.

OFFERTORY

Winter Carol (In the Bleak Midwinter)

by Sherri Porterfield

Denise Kangas- Soprano

Sandy Ruff- Flute

Kenn Willson- Piano

DOXOLOGY

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.

Good works of service are for offering.

When we are giving, or when receiving,

We belong to God.

We belong to God.

We belong to God.

We belong to God

CLOSING HYMN

#100 My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout

(vs 1,2,3 only)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

What Child is This?

arr. by Patricia Lou Harris

FELLOWSHIP

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT AND LUNCH IN SANCTUARY

