



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Telephone: (336) 993-7358 • Fax: (336) 993-5526 • www.fpckernersville.org

December 10, 2017 — *Second Sunday of Advent*

Communion

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dee Barham, Marge Birmingham

Leader: In this season of Advent, we celebrate God's peace.

People: Jesus Christ, whose birth we await, calls our community to justice and leads us in the way of peace.

Leader: Our community is forgiving. We call one another to honesty and humility and respond to each other with abundant grace.

People: Our community values relationships. We live in harmony with one another even when we disagree, and strive to glorify God in everything we do.

Leader: Our community longs for unity. We work together with other churches and organizations, and live out God's reconciling love for all the world to see.

People: Together, we are a sign of God's peace in the world.

(THE LITURGISTS WILL NOW LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLES)

Leader: Let us pray:

People: God of all people and all nations, you break through the cynicism of our world and offer a vision of the lion and lamb lying down together. Open our eyes to see the signs of your coming kingdom and inspire us to participate in all you are doing in Jesus' name. Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

"Light a Candle for All to See" - Peace ~L. Larson

Please sing when directed

(Sing the echo)

Light a candle for all to see. *(Light a candle for all to see.)*

The King shall come for you and me. *(The King shall come for you and me.)*

Prince of peace: Emmanuel. *(Prince of peace: Emmanuel.)*

And with us He shall ever dwell. *(And with us He shall ever dwell.)*

(All sing)

Emmanuel: God with us, King of kings and Lord of lords!

Come fill our hearts with Your peace and reign forevermore.

*HYMN

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

No. 93

*Those who are able, please stand.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, we confess that we have not recognized you in our midst nor listened for your voice. Our faith is fragile, and our iniquity goes unrecognized amid our self-concern. We have lived as if we have no need to account for the life we have been given. Our church is focused more on our own survival than on its mission in the world. We come to you today with sincere repentance for our neglect. We have failed to prepare the way for Christ's entry into our everyday environment. Pardon and change us, we pray. Amen.

(The prayer continues in a time of silent, personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God speaks tenderly to us and assures us that our debt has been paid, our sins forgiven, our paths made straight. God's glory is waiting to burst into the midst of all who accept the good news. Surely our salvation is at hand. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. Friends, believe the good news...

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with others.

ANTHEM

"Bring Us Peace"

~ C. Courtney

THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Matthew 1:18-19

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Faith to Show Mercy"

Rev. John Pruitt

*Those who are able, please stand.

SENDING

***HYMN** *“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”* No. 96

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *“The Apostles’ Creed”* Hymnal p. 35

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The Words of Invitation

The Prayer of Thanksgiving - Lord’s Prayer

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 Words of Institution

The Sharing of God’s Gifts

The Communion Prayer

***HYMN** *“Angels We Have Heard on High”* No. 113

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Serving Today (Dec 10)—Communion

Greeters: Norman & Lynda Self

Ushers: Dale Watts, Faye Hodges

Lay Reader: Lorna Foster

Element Prep: Dottie Roudabush, Bernie Krecklow

Assisting Elders: Sam & Priscilla Henderson, Kerry Kerr, Lynda Self, Anne Waddell

Serving Today (Dec 17)

Greeters: Becky Collins, Burch Idol

Ushers: Dale Watts, Faye Hodges

Lay Reader: Dottie Roudabush

*Those who are able, please stand.