

ORDER OF WORSHIP

1st Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2007

*I'm going to lay down my sword and shield, I'm going to lay down my sword and shield
Down by the riverside*

*Ain't going to study war no more, ain't going to study war no more
Down by the riverside*

- *Negro Spiritual*

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Stacey Simpson Duke

VOLUNTARY

Savior of the Nations, Come

- *arr. Craig Phillips*

* INVOCATION

Jeanette Halliday

* HYMN 196

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

* THE PSALM

from Psalm 122

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

People: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem – to give
thanks to the name of the Lord.

Leader: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

People: Peace be within your walls and security within your gates.

ALL: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

* GLORIA

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

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Lindsay Ambridge, Gad Lim

Congregational Response:

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

DEDICATION OF ANDREW REDINGER

Craig and Cynthia Redinger, parents

Congregational Response:

With God's help we will seek to follow Christ
ourselves, that these parents may be strengthened
in faith, and these children, surrounded by love,
may be nurtured in the way that leads to life.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

Paul Simpson Duke

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth

- *arr. D. Willcocks*

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth, And manifest thy virgin birth:
Let every age adoring fall; Such birth befits the God of all!

Begotten of no human will, But of the Spirit, thou art still
The Word of God in flesh arrayed, The promised fruit to man displayed.

The virgin womb that burden gained with virgin honor all unstained;
The banners there of virtue glow; God in his temple dwells below.

All laud, eternal Son, to thee Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore and Holy Ghost forever more.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Stacey Simpson Duke

EPISTLE READING

Romans 13:11-14

Jeanette Halliday

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

TIME AS CHILDREN

Sue Ellen Glover

* HYMN 626

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

PICARDY

(Preschool - 3rd grade may leave for Children's Worship at this time.)

SERMON

A Mountain of Healing

Paul Simpson Duke

SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Choral Hymn

- *arr. H. Ley*

The Lord will come and not be slow, His footsteps cannot err;
Before Him righteousness shall go, His royal harbinger.
Truth from the earth, like to a flower, shall bud and blossom then;
and justice from her heavenly bower, look down on mortal men.
Rise, god, judge the earth in might, this wicked earth redress;
for Thou art He who shalt by right, the nations all possess.
The nations all whom Thou hast made, shall come and all shall frame
To bow them low before Thee Lord, and glorify Thy Name.
For great Thou art, and wonders great Thy strong hand done;
Thou in Thy everlasting seat remainest God alone.
Amen!

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Confession and the Lord's Prayer ("debts")

Assurance of Pardon

*Passing of the Peace

Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: **And also with you.**

The Bread and the Cup

Prayer after Communion

*HYMN OF FELLOWSHIP

(PG. 557)

Blest be the tie that binds

(1ST stanza)

DENNIS

BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

- arr. Craig Phillips

* If you are able, please stand

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
and the 65th wedding anniversary of Leslie and Doris George.*

The Prayer Concern Cards are for your use. If you have a prayer concern in addition to those listed here, please fill out a card and pass it to the end of the aisle during the first hymn. We pray for the Reed family in the death of John's son Randy, and we also pray for Liz Baker, Elizabeth Lee, Conrad Juchartz, John Moyer, Bonnie Jensen, Justin Kerns, Marian Carter, Tim Studer, Ruth Scott, Paul Wing, Mildred MacGregor, and Marjorie Shannon.

Today's Fellowship Offering will go towards the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering 2007, which will be received throughout the month of December. "Many recipients of Thank You checks and emergency financial assistance speak of the importance of being remembered by their American Baptist family. Our gift to the RMMO say: We have not forgotten you. We are grateful for your years of ministry. You are family." RMMO envelopes can be found at the end of each pew. Please give generously.

Please sign the Welcome Pad during the Offertory and pass it down the pew.

If you are a visitor, please also fill out a yellow "Welcome" slip and place it in the offering plate.

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers. Thank you.

Advent Devotionals and Resources

The time before Christmas can be stressful! To make this season more meaningful and more focused on the coming of Christ, the Board of Christian Education is offering Advent resources for all ages: fun activities and calendars for children and families to use in counting down the days to Jesus' birthday as well as daily devotionals for youth and adults. Treat yourself and your loved ones to times of wonder and joy as you reflect on the holiness of this season.

Website Survey

The Board of Evangelism is undergoing a thorough review of our church website and has put together a survey that is intended for non-church members/non-attendees who have never visited our website before. The surveys are due today. Please leave them at the Information Counter or hand them to a Board of Evangelism member.

Christmas-themed Storybooks

The Board of Christian Education's Family Resource Center has many Christmas-themed storybooks available for borrowing. They are located on a table in the classroom wing (middle level) and all you have to do is check out each book on the clipboard. Find time this season to curl up with your child or grandchild and enjoy the Christmas story.



Please order _____ poinsettia(s) for the Christmas services at \$15 each, and list as such in the bulletin:

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

From: _____

I have enclosed \$_____ as payment for the poinsettia(s).

**Please have paid orders to the office by
Sunday, December 16. Thank you!**

Announcements

We warmly welcome all those who have come to worship with us today! Everyone is invited to join the events listed in this insert. Immediately following the service, please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments.

TODAY, December 2	9:30 a.m. - Prayer Group (Room 108)
	10:00 a.m. - Worship Service – Communion
	2:00 p.m. - Alternative Fair (Fell. Hall, Lounge)
Tuesday, Dec. 4	5:30 p.m. - Vespers (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00 p.m. - Budget Meeting (Lounge)
Wednesday, Dec. 5	1:30 p.m. - Bible Study (Lounge)
	5:30 p.m. - The Gathering (Campus Center)
	7:30 p.m. - Executive Committee (Lounge)
Thursday, Dec. 6	6:15 p.m. - Handbell Practice (Sanctuary)
	7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice (Room 102B)
Saturday, Dec. 8	10:30 a.m. - ABWM set-up - Christmas Celebration
Sunday, Dec. 9	9:30 a.m. - Prayer Group (Room 108)
	10:00 a.m. - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	11:30 a.m. - ABWM Christmas Celebration (Newsletter & January Calendar deadline)

Christmas Celebration – next Sunday

Bazaar items for the Christmas Celebration, which will take place next Sunday, December 9th, can be brought to the Information Counter Sunday mornings or to the church office during the week (9-5 Mon-Thurs, 9-1 Fridays). Please be sure to have your name and suggested price on the items. The baked goods can be brought to the Fellowship Hall or kitchen next Saturday morning, December 8th, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. or on Sunday morning (December 9th) before church. Again, please have your name and suggested price on the baked goods. Also, do not bring in any items which need refrigeration.

Children's Choirs Carol Sing

On Sunday, December 16, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., all ages are invited to join in a carol sing, led by the Grace Notes and Jr. Choir in the Sanctuary. Each choir will perform special pieces and lead the group in singing of favorite carols.

Children and Youth Christian Education

Nursery 9:30 – 12:30 Room 307

All children are welcome to worship with their families. After the Time as Children portion of the worship service, children in kindergarten – 3rd grade are invited to Children's Worship (in 202A).

3 and 4 year-olds

10:00 – 10:45 Childcare in nursery
10:45 – 11:00 Tiny Grace Notes Choir (Room 305)
11:00 – 12:30 Church School (Room 306)

K – 2nd grade

10:00 – 10:30 Worship
10:30 – 11:00 Children's Worship (Room 202A)

Today: K – 6th grade Combined Church School Classes

11:00 – 11:50 and 12:00 Room 202A and B

7th grade – high school

10:00 – 11:00 Worship
11:00 – 12:30 Room 107

Children's Music and Arts Ministry

Jr. Handbells	9:15 – 9:45	Room 305, upper level
Tiny Grace Notes (preschool)	10:45 – 11:00	Room 305, upper level
Grace Notes (K-3rd grade)	12:00 – 12:30	Room 202A, mid-level
Jr. Choir (4th grade and older)	11:50 – 12:30	Sanctuary

Calendar Sale

Once more, the children and youth church school classes are selling *God's Creation Calendars* to raise funds for school scholarships for the children in Nandasmo. These heavyweight and beautifully photographed calendars include a scripture verse for inspiration. At \$7 they are great gifts! The children will sell them before and after worship, or you may call Sue Ellen and we will mail you a calendar (or two or three)!

Texts for next Sunday, December 9:

Isaiah 11:1-10 · Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 · Romans 15:4-13 · Matthew 3:1-12

Adult Christian Education (Sundays, 11:30 – 12:30)

This is the last session for these classes until January 6:

The Jesus Class (Memorial Lounge) **Ron Gregg & Sue Ellen Glover, leaders**
In recent decades there have been new conversations, speculations, questions, and convictions - - among scholars and in churches - - about Jesus. There has been new dialogue about his identity and his mission, a re-visioning of traditional understandings of what we mean when we say "God is in Christ." This class is examining the issues and questions that are currently being raised. It is a safe place to think, ask questions, and exchange views about important theological and spiritual issues. We don't expect everyone to agree on one theological position, but we will thoughtfully engage each other on the issues. This Week – Jesus' Ministry of Compassion

Young Adult Bible Study (Campus Center) **Marlene & Arthur Francis, leaders**
We are undertaking a study of the books of the Hebrew Bible known as "The Minor Prophets." The name speaks to the relative length of the books and not to their importance. In these often-overlooked writings are to be found some of the earliest articulations of the principles of justice and compassion which today are essential elements of the Christian Gospel. We will begin by considering how the moral and ethical decay which began soon after Solomon's kingdom was divided led not only to the prophetic calls for repentance, but also to the eventual conquest and exile of the peoples of both Israel and Judah. A brief manual, giving dates, some historical and biographical background and a summary of the basic message of each book, will be available.

Other Adult Learning Opportunities

Wednesday Bible Study (Memorial Lounge, 1:30-2:30 p.m.)
Rev. Paul Simpson Duke leads a study of the Gospel of John, chapters 12-21. Join us for fellowship, learning and great snacks!

Small Groups (ChristCare) – Centered on Bible study, fellowship, mission, prayer and worship, we currently have two groups: one which meets monthly and the other which meets every other week. Please see Stacey, Paul or Sue Ellen for more information about joining a group.

November 28th Newsletter

If you opted to pick up your copies of the newsletter, the latest edition is available at the Information Counter or in the literature racks. Thank you!