

DECEMBER 9, 2018



SECOND

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Seeking, Sharing, Serving



Lewis and Frederick Streets

P.O. Box 175

Staunton, VA 24402-0175

540-885-8159

Website: <http://www.secondstaunton.com>

The Rev. Evan R. Smith

Pastor

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Welcome to the house of the Lord! May God's grace and peace fill you.

PRELUDE

STRIKING THE HOUR

CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

Announcements

Prayer Concerns

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Jim and Linda Sargent

INTROIT

While We Are Waiting

Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We share in the grace of God together.

P: Let us prepare for a harvest of righteousness, and choose the ways of God, who refines us as pure silver.

L: We share in the tender mercies of our loving God.

P: Let us overflow with love for the Lord and for all those whom God has called to repentance.

L: We share in the righteous work of worshiping our God.

P: Let us serve the Lord our Savior without fear, our God who guides us in the way of peace.

L: Let us worship God!

HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads

PH 8

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Peace, you have called us to be a penitent people and to make way for your coming into our dry, desolate lives. Yet we forestall repentance, stubbornly refusing to change our ways, which are not your ways. We ask not only your abiding grace and mercy, already given in Jesus Christ, but we also ask the courage to practice the deep peace of turning to you, treasuring your very own Spirit within our hearts, so that we might serve you faithfully as have the saints before us. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: The good news of this Advent season is forgiveness of sin and new life.

P: Let us commit our lives to Christ's way of hope and peace.

L: Thanks be to the Advent God who comes among us,

P: The good news of this Advent season is forgiveness of sin and new life.

L: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**Holy Child of Bethlehem**

Holy Child of Bethlehem, come down to us we pray;
 Forgive our sin, and enter in; Be born in us today. A-men.

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.

OFFERING

Offertory

Doxology:

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

ANTHEM**Bethlehem Lullaby**

**Melissa Archer
 and Talitha Hippeard**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OT LESSON**Ruth 3:1-18**

Insert

SERMON**Midnight Confessions**

Rev. Evan R. Smith

HYMN**Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus**

PH 1

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**BENEDICTION****Dona Nobis Pacem**

Chancel Choir

PRAYERS

HEALTH CONCERNS

Hugh Swisher
Doug Sensabaugh
Vicky Fry
Scott Kelley – back surgery
Kay Moyer
Ralph Weller

MEMBER IN CARE FACILITIES

Linda Armstrong – Brookdale
Beth Ramsey - Legacy
Earl & Jean Flower – Legacy
Leatrice Gibson – Legacy

BIRTHDAYS

11 James Wright
11 Linda Sargent

ANNIVERSARIES

NONE

IN THE MILITARY

Cole A. Smiley, Army – Grandson of Nita & Woodie Wimer
Scott Dice – Son of Melissa and Harry Dice
Nick Dubyk – Grandson of Betty and the late Willis Clemmer
Christopher Todd – Grandson of Ralph and the late Ruth Weller
Matthew Witcofsky – Son of Janet and Joe Witcofsky

QUICK REMINDER

Please call the Church Office (885-8159) if you or someone in your family goes into the hospital. This is the only sure way that we will know of your situation, so visits and other support can be given.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

TODAY

DECEMBER 9

9:30 AM Bible Study – Lucille Sanger’s room

10 AM Chancel Choir – Choir Room

10:30 AM Worship

6 PM Covered Dish Dinner

Greeters & Ushers: Larry Brown and 3 **more needed**

Flower Coordinator: **Needed**

TUESDAY

DECEMBER 11

11 AM Friendship Circle at The Legacy

11 AM Bible Study

THURSDAY DECEMBER 13

5:45 PM JuBELLation Choir Practice

6:45 PM Chancel Choir

NEXT SUNDAY

DECEMBER 16

9:30 AM Bible Study – Lucille Sanger’s room

10 AM Chancel Choir – Choir Room

10:30 AM Worship

Greeters & Ushers: Jim Wright (Head Usher), Brenda Wright and **2 more needed**

Flower Coordinator: **Needed**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

USHERS

Sign-up sheet for greeters and ushers are needed for the month **December**, which is on the table in back.

The “Lunch Bunch” would like to invite you to the “Clock Tower” on Sunday, December 16 after the Cantata (Dutch Treat). Please let me know if you can make it so I can reserve enough seats for everyone. So looking forward to celebrating the Christmas Season. Please call Linda Lickliter @ 255-4793 if you can make it. Thank you.

Linda Lickliter

The Mission/Community Service Committee will be receiving the Christmas Joy Offering throughout December. We will host a covered dish supper **tonight, at 6 PM**. The committee will furnish beverages. Bring a covered dish and join the fun and fellowship. Pam Snyder will be presenting a Christmas program as usual. The Christmas Joy Offering is allocated 50% to current and retired church workers with critical financial needs, and 50% to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Please give generously.

SALVATION ARMY ACTIVITIES

Many thanks to everyone who rang the bell for the Salvation Army Saturday. Your hard work is much appreciated.

We do have one more Salvation Army activity coming up:

Monday, December 17 - Pack up Toy Store

Thanks in advance for your continued support of this worthy cause.

Chuck Blackley

The Chancel Choir will present the Cantata "Candles and Carols" next Sunday, **December 16**, during our worship service. The JuBELLation Handbell Choir will begin the service with special music for the Advent season. Plan to join us for this special worship service.

Pam Snyder

The Friendship Circle will meet at **The Legacy at 11 AM on Tuesday, December 11**. We will have lunch and fellowship with our residents from Second Church.

We will suspend **DOG CHURCH** in **December** (too much else going on) but will resume in **January 2019**.

Statement of appreciation during the loss of Mom.

To Evan, Session, members of the congregation, and the women of the church. We would like to take this opportunity to offer our sincere thank you, and heart felt appreciation for everything our church family has extended to Matt and I and in general, our entire family during the recent loss of our Mother (Maxine).

You will never know how much your Christian love and caring has meant to the both of us.

Sincerely,

Mark & Matt Robertson

YOUR LIBRARY

"The table in the church library is covered with some great Christmas books - both fiction and nonfiction.

Don't miss out on a chance to enjoy some wonderful stories centered around all the joys of Christmas. Stop in and check a few out! See what our library has to offer!"

Melissa Archer

Please pick-up your offering envelopes.

Thanks,

Darlene Mason

THE SESSION

Class of 2018

Jo Fields
Darlene Mason
Mary Rainey
Matthew Ramsey

Class of 2019

Mark Robertson
Nancy Swisher
Woodie Wimer

Class of 2020

Jerry Fry
Linda Lickliter
James Sargent
Pam Snyder

Evan R. Smith, Moderator

Nancy Swisher, Clerk

TRUSTEES

Class of 2018

Ralph Weller

Class of 2019

Dick Hippeard

Class of 2020

Paul Wolfe

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Moderator Mary Rainey
Vice-Moderator Pat Blackley
Secretary Talitha Hippeard
Treasurer..... Sue Gochenour
Historian Kay Mader

SESSION COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Christian Education/Worship Mary Rainey
Church Growth..... Jim Sargent
Membership & Outreach Linda Lickliter
Mission & Community Service..... Jerry Fry
Stewardship and Finance Darlene Mason
Property Matt Ramsey
Personnel..... Pam Snyder

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Evan R. Smith
Secretary Kay Waitier
Music Director Pam Snyder
Organist Allen Archer